

German Center Immunotherapy (DZI)

Speakers

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Aims and structure

The German Center Immunotherapy (DZI) pursues three central tasks:

1. The development and application of targeted immunotherapies
2. The establishment of new diagnostic procedures for disease detection and therapy monitoring
3. The use of advanced digital health technologies

By combining these three synergistic fields of activity, the DZI aims to enable individually targeted immunotherapy for cancer patients and patients with chronic inflammatory diseases.

Research

The development of the DZI is based on the long-standing research focus of the Faculty of Medicine of the FAU in the field of immune research in inflammatory and cancer diseases. Based on the pioneering work of Prof. Dr. A. Kussmaul, the first describer of panarteriitis nodosa, and Nobel Prize winner Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. H. zur Hausen, the pioneer of vaccine development against cervical cancer, an intensive interest in translational immunology and immunotherapy has emerged in Erlangen, which was continued by Erlangen scientists Prof. Dr. M. Röllinghoff, Prof. Dr. B. Fleckenstein and Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. J. Kalden.

Based on this preliminary work, the DZI is sustainably expanding its clinical and scientific research work in the field of immunotherapy for inflammation and cancer. Here the main interest of the DZI lies in the development of new diagnostic and immunotherapy procedures for chronic inflammatory and neoplastic diseases. This development is also reflected in numerous acquisitions by research alliances in Erlangen as well as outstanding publications. These include, for example, work on the establishment of immune imaging and non-invasive diagnostic pro-

cedures for inflammatory and cancer diseases as well as the discovery of genetic changes, key signaling pathways, and new immune therapies for chronic inflammations and oncological diseases. In addition, DZI scientists conduct groundbreaking early clinical trials and regulatory studies in inflammation and cancer medicine.



The Dean, Prof. Dr. h.c. J. Schüttler, Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. H. zur Hausen, both speakers (Prof. Dr. G. Schett, Prof. Dr. M.F. Neurath), the President of FAU, Prof. Dr. J. Hornegger and the Medical Director, Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. H. Iro, at the ribbon-cutting ceremony. (from left to right; photo: M. Rabenstein/UK Erlangen)

