

13:00 – 14:00 | Lunch Podium Discussion

Greta Leonore Balmer, Khaled Abdelrahman, Annika Reher,
Karoline Klasbrummel, Felix Nebeling, Tizian Kaiser

14:00 – 16:45 | Poster Session

Sebastian Bruno Frank

Age-related changes in sialic acid, polysialic acid and total protein levels
in the human vitreous body

Institute for Reconstructive Neurobiology

Elisa Keller

Integrating organoid-based drug sensitivity testing into molecular
tumor board workflows for therapeutic stratification of cancers with
variants of uncertain significance

Department of Pathology

Leonhard Maximilian Holz

The Role of NRP2 in Osteogenic Differentiation

Department of Pathology

Lara Marie Kievel

Establishment and characterization of patient derived organoids from
lung cancer brain metastases

Department of Pathology

Johanna Steinke

Characterization of the role of taurine and taurine transporter TAUT in
mice on high-fat diet

Institute for Cardiovascular Sciences

Carla Louisa Meyer

Quantitative analysis of photoreceptors using innovative optical
coherence tomography with improved axial resolution in the
healthy retina

University Eye Clinic

Leticia Ussem

Uveal melanoma air-liquid interface patient-derived organoids preserve
the overall histone modification landscape of the primary tumor and
serve as a platform for drug testing

University Eye Clinic

Bengisu Pinar Acat

Crosstalk between astrocytes and neutrophils in a neonatal model of
oxygen-glucose deprivation

Department of Neonatology and Pediatric Intensive Care Medicine

Kristina Nordlohne

Neuroprotective effects of caffeine in a model of neonatal
hypoxic-ischemic brain injury

Department of Neonatology and Pediatric Intensive Care Medicine

Charlotte Dorothea Liselotte von Grünberg

Local Gs-protein-mediated activation of enteric glial cells via
opto-genetics in a transgenic mouse model

*Clinic and Polyclinic for General, Visceral, Vascular, and Transplant
Surgery*

Lasse Sieberth

The role of BBS proteins in T-cell differentiation and function
Institute for Innate Immunity

Sophie-Marie Kirch

Positioning mLOY as a predictor of relapse and altered proinflammatory
signaling in giant cell arteritis

*Section of Rheumatology and Clinical Immunology, Medical Clinic and
Polyclinic III*

Nazli Altuntas

AYLoP: Autoimmunity and Loss of Y – Investigating mosaic loss of the Y
chromosome in autoimmune rheumatologic and pulmonary diseases

*Section of Rheumatology and Clinical Immunology, Medical Clinic and
Polyclinic III*

Elina Looke

Dissecting the CXCL13-CXCR5 axis in rheumatoid arthritis patient-derived
immune organoids

Medical Clinic and Polyclinic III for Hematology and Oncology

Marian Justen

Effect of MTSS1 on blood-cerebrospinal fluid barrier function and
development

Department of Anatomy

Sebastian Louis Logemann

Establishing a gene therapy approach for BAG3 P209L myofibrillar
myopathy

Institute of Physiology I

Henrik Neutgens

The effects of e-cigarette aerosol exposure on pulmonary cells

*Clinic and Polyclinic for Anesthesiology and Operative Intensive Care
Medicine*

Marie Yatou Diop

Activation of the AIM2 inflammasome in melanoma

Clinic and Polyclinic for Ear, Nose, and Throat Diseases

Anja Eßmann

Autobiographical memory in congenital and late blind people in
comparison to Aphantasia

Clinic for Geriatric Psychiatry and Cognitive Disorders

Anja Rizzuto

Investigating glioblastoma vulnerabilities using advanced preclinical
models and agents targeting intercellular networks

Clinic for Neuro-Oncology

Tizian Kaiser

Menin inhibitors suppress human T-cell activation by and cellular functions
of dendritic cells

Medical Clinic and Polyclinic III

Paul Hein

Targeting connectivity: A network-centric drug screening to overcome
temozolomide resistance

Department of Neurosurgery

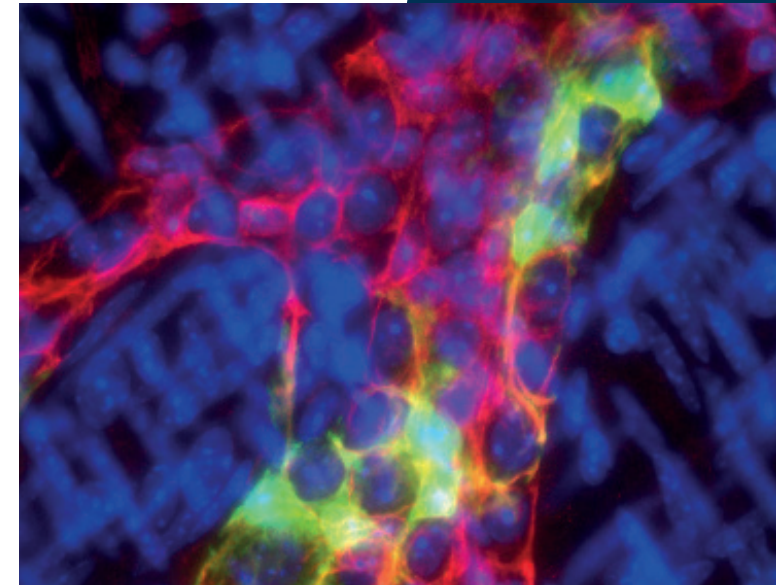
Daniel Fritzen

Investigating the effect of genetic factors on phenotypic heterogeneity of
SCN2A related neurodevelopmental disorders

Department of Neuropediatrics and Social Pediatrics Center

16:45 – 17:00 | Break

17:00 – 17:15 | Final Words & Award Ceremony



24th BONFOR- SYMPOSIUM

Tuesday, 16.06.2026
09:00 – 17:00

University Hospital Bonn
BMZ I | Lecture Hall
Building B 13, Venusberg-Campus 1



We are delighted to invite you to the 24th BONFOR Symposium, celebrating the successes of the BONFOR funding program at the Medical Faculty of the Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelm-Universität. BONFOR provides start up grants for outstanding young scientists and has become a proven springboard for many aspiring researchers.

Programme highlights:

- > **Neuro-aCSis** – a joint DFG and faculty funded Clinician Scientist Program for residents in the middle of their specialist training, focusing on neurological diseases and their systemic connections.
- > **ACCENT** – the BMFTR sponsored Advanced Clinician Scientist Programme for fully qualified physicians with an established research record. It guarantees 50% protected research time for six years to promote clinical basic research translation.

What you can look forward to:

- > Presentations: Inspirational talks by early career scientists about projects funded through our various grant schemes.
- > Poster Session: Meet the SciMed fellows and explore their work up close.
- > BONFOR Research Award: Celebrate the best talks and posters of the day.
- > Transfer Award: The Transfer Award is hereby presented to honour the three posters with the highest potential for real-world impact. This award recognizes outstanding research that bridges science and bench-to-bedside applications. Join us in celebrating innovation that makes a difference.
- > Doctoral Promotion Fair (Promotionbörse): A lunchtime panel discussion followed by a poster session networking opportunity, designed to help medical students find a thesis topic and a suitable research group.

Who should attend?

- > Students, doctoral candidates, early career researchers, and faculty members.

Why you should join

- > Expand your network and establish scientific collaborations.
- > Get an overview of the latest research from the Medical Faculty at the University of Bonn.
- > Support and get inspired by the next generation of medical researchers.

We look forward to welcoming you!

Hosts

Medical Faculty of the University of Bonn

BONFOR-Commission Chair

Prof. Dr. Sven Wehner
Prof. Dr. Anja Schneider

BONFOR SciMed-Commission Chair

Prof. Dr. Michael Hölzel
Prof. Dr. Albert J. Becker

Neuro-aCSis-Commission Chair

Prof. Dr. Gabor Petzold
Prof. Dr. Anja Schneider

ACCENT-Commission Chair

Prof. Dr. Anja Schneider

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Fachschaft Medizin

Organisation

Greta Balmer
<https://fachschaftmedizin.uni-bonn.de/>

Program

9:00 – 09:10 | Welcome

Prof. Sven Wehner, Prof. Anja Schneider
BONFOR

Prof Michael Hölzel, Prof Albert Becker
SciMed

9:10 – 09:55 | Project Presentations

9:10 – 9:25 **Lennart Wild**
Inflammasome caspase-1 activation is associated with infections in postoperative SIRS following cardiac surgery
Clinic and Polyclinic for Anesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine

9:25 – 9:40 **Thomas Zeyen**
Diagnostic potential of Amide Proton Transfer-Weighted (APT_w) MRI in glioblastoma
Clinic for Neuro-Oncology

9:40 – 9:55

Aditya Rastogi

Image super-resolution algorithm for scan-time reduction and quality enhancement of magnetic resonance imaging
Clinic for Diagnostic and Interventional Radiology

9:55 – 10:30 | Coffee Break

10:30 – 11:15 | Project Presentations

10:30 – 10:45

Nicola Diny

Heterogeneity of intestinal eosinophils
Institute for Clinical Chemistry and Clinical Pharmacology

10:45 – 11:00

Katharina Wall

Structure-function correlation in diabetic retinal disease using innovative high-resolution imaging and lesion-specific microperimetry
University Eye Clinic

11:00 – 11:15

Florian Windler

Pharmacodynamic models in sustainable anaesthesia: from theory to clinical application
Clinic and Polyclinic for Anesthesiology and Operative Intensive Care Medicine

11:15 – 11:30 | Break

11:30 – 12:30 | Project Presentations of Neuro-aCSis and ACCENT Fellows

11:30 – 11:45

Narine Mesropyan

Diagnostic and prognostic value of the comprehensive multiparametric magnetic resonance imaging of the “Brain-Heart-Axis” in patients after acute ischemic stroke
Clinic for Diagnostic and Interventional Radiology

11:45 – 12:00

Omid Shirvani

Functional outcome prediction in large vessel occlusion stroke
German Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases Department of Vascular Neurology

12:00 – 12:15

Johanna Knöferle

Mapping adaptive immune responses in Alzheimer's through single-cell multi-omics
Clinic for Geriatric Psychiatry and Cognitive Disorders

12:15 – 12:30

Niklas Klümper

NECTIN4 amplification as a therapeutically relevant biomarker – implications for precision oncology in urothelial carcinoma
Institute for Experimental Oncology Urology and Pediatric Urology

12:30 – 14:15 | Lunch Break

