

iSTAR Newsletter, November 2024

1. Welcome to the program, **Dr. Christian Schmidt-Lauber**
2. Award of the German Society of Nephrology 2024, **PD Dr. Nicola M. Tomas**
3. **Rosenkranz lab**: Open PhD position
4. **CRC 1648**: „Emerging Viruses: Pathogenesis, Structure, Immunity“
5. Significant publications by iSTARs
6. **(A)CS Retreat 2024** – Registration now open!

1. Welcome to iSTAR



Christian Schmidt-Lauber is the head of the research group for epidemiology and clinical nephrology at the III. Department of Medicine. He joined the iSTAR program in July 2024. His research focuses on “Inflammaging in the Complex Burden of Progressive Kidney Disease”.

Please scan the QR Code for further information on his work:



2. Congratulations to Nicola M. Tomas!

Nicola M. Tomas was awarded the honorary scientific prize for promoting and honoring outstanding scientists in the field of kidney research at this year's annual meeting of the German Society of Nephrology.

Nicola M. Tomas is the head of the laboratory for “antigen-specific disease targeting” at the III. Department of Medicine.

Please scan the QR Code to get to his website:



September 2024

3. Rosenkranz lab: Open PhD position



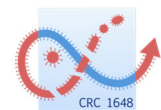
The **Rosenkranz lab** aims at deciphering the neuronal energy deficiency in multiple sclerosis and its modulation by pharmacological and behavioral interventions (e.g. exercise or hypoxia) to ameliorate progressive neuronal loss in multiple sclerosis patients.

Open PhD position within the newly funded DFG FOR5705 NEUROFLAME starting in July 2025.

Please contact s.rosenkranz@uke.de for further information.
QR code to the website:



4. CRC 1648 Emerging Viruses: Pathogenesis, Structure, Immunity



Emerging viral infections pose a major threat to global health, as demonstrated by the COVID-19 pandemic and the recent outbreaks of Ebola. In the future, too, viruses will be able to spread from animals to humans, who usually have no immune defence against them. For this reason, the WHO has drawn up a list of diseases that can be triggered by emerging viral infections and have the potential to spread rapidly. The **CRC Emerging Viruses: Pathogenesis, Structure, Immunity** aims to address four critical areas of research in connection with these viral infections: pathogenesis, structural characterisation of cellular targets, immunity and intervention. (University of Hamburg, Spokesperson: Professor Dr. Marylyn Martina Addo) - DFG press release No. 23



M. M. Addo



A. Hölzemer

Dr. **Angelique Hölzemer**, PhD is part of the board members of the CRC as well as the C01 project leader with the title "Protective early response patterns of innate cellular immune crosstalk in hemorrhagic fever virus infection".

Please scan the QR code for the DFG Press Release No. 23 | May 31, 2024.



5. Significant publications by iSTARs

Sina Rosenkranz

van der Ven E, Patra S, Riemann-Lorenz K, Kauschke K, Freese-Schwarz K, Welsch G, Krause N, Heesen C, [Rosenkranz SC](#). **Individualized activity recommendation based on a physical fitness assessment increases short- and long-term regular physical activity in people with multiple sclerosis in a retrospective cohort study.** *Front Neurol.* 2024 Aug 23;15:1428712. doi: [10.3389/fneur.2024.1428712](https://doi.org/10.3389/fneur.2024.1428712). PMID: 39268074; PMCID: PMC11391639.

Woo MS, Mayer C, Binkle-Ladisch L, Sonner JK, [Rosenkranz SC](#), Shaposhnykov A, Rothhammer N, Tsvilovskyy V, Lorenz SM, Raich L, Bal LC, Vieira V, Wagner I, Bauer S, Glatzel M, Conrad M, Merkler D, Freichel M, Friese MA. **STING orchestrates the neuronal inflammatory stress response in multiple sclerosis.** *Cell.* 2024 Jul 25;187(15):4043-4060.e30. doi: [10.1016/j.cell.2024.05.031](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cell.2024.05.031). Epub 2024 Jun 14. PMID: 38878778.

Tilo Freiwald

Dreher L, Bode M, Ehnert N, Meyer-Schwesinger C, Wiech T, Köhl J, Huber TB, Freiwald T, Herrnstadt GR, Wenzel UO. **Role of the Anaphylatoxin Receptor C5aR2 in Angiotensin II-Induced Hypertension and Hypertensive End-Organ Damage.** *Am J Hypertens.* 2024 Sep 16;37(10):810-825. doi: [10.1093/ajh/hpae082](https://doi.org/10.1093/ajh/hpae082). PMID: 38934290.

Johannes Hartl

Weltzsch JP, Bartel CF, Waldmann M, Renné T, Schulze S, Terziroli Beretta-Piccoli B, Papp M, Oo YH, Ronca V, Sebode M, Lohse AW, Schramm C, Hartl J. **Optimizing thiopurine therapy in autoimmune hepatitis: A multicenter study on monitoring metabolite profiles and co-therapy with allopurinol.** *Hepatology.* 2024 Nov 1;80(5):1026-1040. doi: [10.1097/HEP.0000000000000940](https://doi.org/10.1097/HEP.0000000000000940). Epub 2024 May 29. PMID: 39162583.

Saggau C, Bacher P, Esser D, Rasa M, Meise S, Mohr N, Kohlstedt N, Hutloff A, Schacht SS, Dargvainiene J, Martini GR, Stürner KH, Schröder I, Markewitz R, Hartl J, Hastermann M, Duchow A, Schindler P, Becker M, Bautista C, Gottfreund J, Walter J, Polansky JK, Yang M, Naghavian R, Wendorff M, Schuster EM, Dahl A, Petzold A, Reinhardt S, Franke A, Wiczorek M, Henschel L, Berger D, Heine G, Holtsche M, Häußler V, Peters C, Schmidt E, Fillatreau S, Busch DH, Wandinger KP, Schober K, Martin R, Paul F, Leyboldt F, Scheffold A. **Autoantigen-specific CD4⁺ T cells acquire an exhausted phenotype and persist in human anti-gen-specific autoimmune diseases.** *Immunity.* 2024 Oct 8;57(10):2416-2432.e8. doi: [10.1016/j.immuni.2024.08.005](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.immuni.2024.08.005). Epub 2024 Sep 2. PMID: 39226901.

Johannes H, Laura B, Bernd L, Anne T, Christoph S. **Fatigue is a symptom of clinical importance in patients with Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis (SOMA.LIV).** *J Hepatol.* 2024 Jul 29:S0168-8278(24)02421-8. doi: [10.1016/j.jhep.2024.07.014](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhep.2024.07.014). Epub ahead of print. PMID: 39084468.

Fabian Braun

Gerischer L, Mainert M, Wohmann N, Kubisch I, Stölzel U, Stauch T, von Wegerer S, Braun F, Weiler-Normann C, Blaschke S, Frank J, Somasundaram R, Diehl-Wiesenecker E. **German Porphyria Registry (PoReGer)-Background and Setup.** *Healthcare (Basel).* 2024 Jan 3;12(1):111. doi: [10.3390/healthcare12010111](https://doi.org/10.3390/healthcare12010111). PMID: 38201016; PMCID: PMC10779132.

Rozenfeld P, Feriozzi S, Braun F. **The role of tubular cells in the pathogenesis of Fabry nephropathy.** *Front Cardiovasc Med.* 2024 Apr 5;11:1386042. doi: [10.3389/fcvm.2024.1386042](https://doi.org/10.3389/fcvm.2024.1386042). PMID: 38646152; PMCID: PMC11027898.

Gies SE, Hänzelmann S, Kylies D, Lassé M, Lagies S, Hausmann F, Khatri R, Zolotarev N, Poets M, Zhang T, Demir F, Billing AM, Quaas J, Meister E, Engesser J, Mühlhig AK, Lu S, Liu S, Chilla S, Edenhofer I, Czogalla J, Braun F, Kammerer B, Puelles VG, Bonn S, Rinschen MM, Lindenmeyer M, Huber TB. **Optimized protocol for the multi-omics processing of cryopreserved human kidney tissue.** *Am J Physiol Renal Physiol.* 2024 Oct 3. doi: [10.1152/ajprenal.00404.2023](https://doi.org/10.1152/ajprenal.00404.2023). Epub ahead of print. PMID: 39361723.

Johann von Felden

Fulgenzi CAM, Scheiner B, D'Alessio A, Mehan A, Manfredi GF, Celsa C, Nishida N, Ang C, Marron TU, Wu L, Saeed A, Wietharn B, Cammarota A, Pressiani T, Pinter M, Sharma R, Cheon J, Huang YH, Lee PC, Phen S, Gampa A, Pillai A, Napolitano A, Vivaldi C, Salani F, Masi G, Silletta M, Lo Prinzi F, Di Giacomo E, Vincenzi B, Bettinger D, Thimme R, Vogel A, Schönlein M, von Felden J, Schulze K, Wege H, Galle PR, Pirisi M, Park JW, Kudo M, Rimassa L, Singal AG, El Tomb P, Ulahannan S, Parisi A, Chon HJ, Hsu WF, Ghittoni G, Cammà C, Stefanini B, Trevisani F, Giannini EG, Cortellini A, Pinato DJ. **Immunotherapy vs Best Supportive Care for Patients With Hepatocellular Cancer With Child-Pugh B Dysfunction.** *JAMA Oncol.* 2024 Sep 1;10(9):1253-1258. doi: [10.1001/jamaoncol.2024.2166](https://doi.org/10.1001/jamaoncol.2024.2166). Erratum in: *JAMA Oncol.* 2024 Sep 1;10(9):1294. doi: [10.1001/jamaoncol.2024.3947](https://doi.org/10.1001/jamaoncol.2024.3947). PMID: 39023864; PMCID: PMC11258634.

Stern L, Schmidt C, Kocheise L, Joerg V, Casar C, Walter A, Drenth JPH, Papp M, Gatselis NK, Zachou K, Pinter M, Scheiner B, Vogel A, Kirstein MM, Finkelmeier F, Waidmann O, Weinmann A, Milkiewicz P, Thorburn D, Halliday N, Lleo A, Huber S, Dalekos GN, Lohse AW, Wege H, von Felden J, Schulze K. **Efficacy and safety of palliative treatment in patients with autoimmune liver disease-associated hepatocellular carcinoma.** *Ann Hepatol.* 2024 Aug 13;29(6):101534. doi: [10.1016/j.aohep.2024.101534](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aohep.2024.101534). Epub ahead of print. PMID: 39147132.

Schmidt C, Zapf A, Ozga AK, Canbay A, Denzer U, De Toni EN, Lohse AW, Schulze K, Rösch T, Stein A, Wege H, von Felden J. **Radiofrequency ablation via catheter and transpapillary access in patients with cholangiocarcinoma (ACTICCA-2 trial) - a multicenter, randomized, controlled, open-label investigator-initiated trial.** *BMC Cancer.* 2024 Aug 1;24(1):931. doi: [10.1186/s12885-024-12693-w](https://doi.org/10.1186/s12885-024-12693-w). PMID: 39090600; PMCID: PMC11293169.

Angelique Hölzemer

Aziz UBA, Saoud A, Bermudez M, Mieth M, Atef A, Rudolf T, Arkona C, Trenkner T, Böttcher C, Ludwig K, [Hoelzemer A](#), Hocke AC, Wolber G, Rademann J. **Targeted small molecule inhibitors blocking the cytolytic effects of pneumolysin and homologous toxins.** *Nat Commun.* 2024 Apr 26;15(1):3537. doi: [10.1038/s41467-024-47741-3](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-024-47741-3). Erratum in: *Nat Commun.* 2024 May 21;15(1):4323. doi: [10.1038/s41467-024-48642-1](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-024-48642-1). PMID: 38670939; PMCID: PMC11053136.

Hartmann JA, Cardoso MR, Talarico MCR, Kenney DJ, Leone MR, Reese DC, Turcinovic J, O'Connell AK, Gertje HP, Marino C, Ojeda PE, De Paula EV, Orsi FA, Velloso LA, Cafiero TR, Connor JH, Ploss A, [Hoelzemer A](#), Carrington M, Barczak AK, Crossland NA, Douam F, Boucau J, Garcia-Beltran WF. **Evasion of NKG2D-mediated cytotoxic immunity by sarbecoviruses.** *Cell.* 2024 May 9;187(10):2393-2410.e14. doi: [10.1016/j.cell.2024.03.026](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cell.2024.03.026). Epub 2024 Apr 22. PMID: 38653235; PMCID: PMC11088510.

6. (A)CS Retreat 2024

The next Advanced Clinician Scientist Retreat will take place on the **5th December** in Hamburg. This year, all members of the iSTAR, iDfellows, and iPRIME-CS programs will take part in a joint retreat. On the agenda will be flash talks, coaching sessions, and opportunities to interact with mentors.

Please register for the event until **November 10th** by following the link or by using the QR code:

https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/A_CS_Retreat_2024

**(ADVANCED) CLINICIAN SCIENTIST RETREAT
2024**

(A)CS Retreat 2024: iSTAR, iDfellows & iPRIME-CS
Date: 5th of December 2024
Location: Elsa Brändström Haus (www.ebh-hamburg.de)

MODERATION
 Prof. Marylyn M. Addo
 Prof. Samuel M. Huber
 Prof. Tobias B. Huber
 Prof. Ansgar W. Lohse



Sponsored by



Deutsche
Forschungsgemeinschaft



Elsa
Kröner
Frésenius
Stiftung

SPONSORED BY THE



Federal Ministry
of Education
and Research



iSTAR
Integrative Advanced Clinician Scientists Targeting
Inflammatory and Infectious Diseases



iPRIME-CS
Clinician scientist



iDfellows

Please register until November 10th:



Please do not hesitate to contact Sonja Hiekmann (iSTAR@uke.de) if you have comments or questions regarding the iSTAR program. If you do not wish to receive any further iSTAR newsletters, please reply to this email with "Unsubscribe" in the reference line.