

8th Annual Meeting of the Upper Rhine Immunology (URI) Group

October 24, 2025

Albert-Ludwigs-Universität, Kollegiengebäude I, Aula and Prometheushalle
Platz der Universität 3
79098 Freiburg

Programme

08:45 – 09:15 **REGISTRATION, POSTER SET-UP, COFFEE AND SNACKS**

09:15 – 09:30 **Welcome**
Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Schamel, Freiburg

9:30 – 10:15 **Key Note Lecture**
T cell therapy: from bench to bed side
Prof. Dr. Tobias Feuchtinger, Clinics for Pediatric Hematology and Oncology,
University Hospital, Freiburg

10:15– 10:30 **RANK-activation of lymphatic endothelial cells is required for follicular dendritic cell differentiation in lymph nodes**
Dr. Zinaida Igamberdieva, AG Christopher Mueller, IBMC, Strasbourg

10:30 – 11:15 **COFFEE BREAK AND POSTER PRESENTATION**

SESSION I

Chairs: Prof. Dr. Véronique Orian Rousseau (Karlsruhe) and Prof. Dr. Olaf Groß (Freiburg)

11:15– 11:30 **SHP2 phosphorylation controls its activity downstream of PD1**
Daniel Peschkov, AG Björn Lillemeier, Faculty of Biology,
Freiburg

11:30 – 11:45 **Ikaros and RORgt : It takes two to control the cell fate decisions of Th17 cells**
Camille Hollinger, AG Céline Charvet, IGBMC, Strasbourg

11:45– 12:00 **Novel preclinical models to explore therapeutic strategies in mastocytosis**
Prof. Dr. Karin Hartmann, AG Karin Hartmann, Biomedicine, Basel

12:00 – 12:15 **CD44: A Key Player in Fibrosis and Immune Escape in Pancreatic Cancer**
Dr. Sven Treffert, AG Véronique Orian Rousseau, KIT, Karlsruhe

12:15 – 12:30 [Macrophages promote human sensory neuron progenitor proliferation in a developing dorsal root ganglia model](#)
Nathan Garnier, AG Vincent Flasher/Christopher Mueller, IBMC, Strasbourg

12:30 – 12:45 [Apoptosis and survival in response to TRAIL-Receptor signaling in human B cells](#)
Sabine Schwenk, AG Marta Rizzi, Rheumatology, University Hospital, Freiburg

12:45 – 14:00 **LUNCH BREAK AND POSTER SET-UP**

14:00 – 14:10 [Introduction GEFI and GEFI lecture](#)
Prof. Dr. Michael Reth (Freiburg)

14:10 – 15:00 [GEFI Lecture](#)
[Fuelling and Pruning T cell Proteomes](#)
Prof. Dr. Doreen Cantrell, University of Dundee, UK

SESSION II

Chairs: Prof. Dr. Pauline Soulas-Sprauel (Strasbourg) and Prof. Dr. Hartmut Hengel (Freiburg)

15:00 – 15:15 [Disease modulation by harnessing distinct repopulation features of macrophages at CNS borders](#)
Maximilian Fliegauf, AG Marco Prinz, Institute of Neuropathology, University Hospital, Freiburg

15:15 – 15:30 [Characterization of autophagy-related proteins and partners in antigen presentation process](#)
Maud Villeneuve Adessi, AG Frédéric Gros/Pauline Soulas-Sprauel, INSERM U1109, Strasbourg

15:30 – 15:45 [MR1-reactive T cells in ulcerative colitis exhibit TCR-independent activation and a pro-inflammatory phenotype](#)
Vanshika Rastogi, AG Gennaro De Libero, Biomedicine, Basel

15:45 – 16:00 [An in situ approach to understanding induction and function of FAS-controlled T cells](#)
Sarah Berger, AG Anne Rensing-Ehl and AG Maria E. Maccari, CCI, University Hospital, Freiburg

16:00 – 16:45 **COFFEE BREAK AND POSTER PRESENTATION**

SESSION III

Chairs: Prof. Dr. Matthias Mehling (Basel) and Prof. Dr. Winfried Römer (Freiburg)

- 16:45 – 17:00 [Suppression of inflammatory autoimmune diseases by inhibition of coronin 1 expression](#)
Alessandro Vacchini, AG Jan Pieters, Biomedicine, Basel
- 17:00 – 17:15 [Early differentiated memory CD4+ T cells for tumor-infiltrating lymphocyte therapy in human solid tumors](#)
Vollmer Tino, AG Robert Zeiser, Clinic for Internal Medicine, University Hospital, Freiburg
- 17:15 – 17:30 [Lymphopenia drives T cell exhaustion in immunodeficient STING gain-of-function mice](#)
Grégoire Hopsomer, AG Pauline Soulas-Sprauel, INSERM U1109, Strasbourg
- 17:30 – 17:45 [Controlling TCR and CAR activation by targeting LCK recruitment with novel small-molecule inhibitors](#)
Nadine Wössner, AG Susana Minguet, Synthetic Immunol., Faculty Biology, Freiburg
- 17:45 – 18:00 [Extracellular Serine and intrinsic Serine biosynthesis cooperatively shape T Cell differentiation and function](#)
Dr. Francesc Baixauli, AG Christoph Hess, Biomedicine, Basel
- 18:00 – 18:15 [Multimodal Single-Cell Profiling Reveals Distinct \$\gamma\delta\$ T Cell Subsets with Protective and Pathogenic Roles in Ulcerative Colitis](#)
Jakob Arnold, AG Sagar Sagar, Internal Medicine, University Hospital, Freiburg
- 18:20 – 18:30 [Announcement of the URI Meeting 2026](#)
Prof. Dr. Véronique Orian Rousseau, Karlsruhe
- 18:30 – 18:40 [Prizes and Closing Remarks](#)
Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Schamel

GET TOGETHER

Poster session I – 10.30 – 11.15 a.m.

1. Lymphoid stromal microenvironment in common variable immunodeficiency
Victoria Cousin, AG Klaus Warnatz, University Hospital, Freiburg
2. Antigen targeting to dendritic cells using functionalized plant-derived virus like particles
Anaëlle Utard, AG Hélène Dumortier, IBMC, Strasbourg
3. Recognition of MR1-antigen Complexes by TCR V γ 9V δ 2
Dr. J. Pedro Loureiro, AG Gennaro De Libero, Biomedicine, Basel
4. CD44 Expressed on Tumor-Associated Macrophages Fuels Pancreatic Cancer Progression
Nagwa Ibrahim, AG Véronique Orian-Rousseau, Karlsruhe
5. The Impact of an early CMV Infection on the Development and Plasticity of Lung Macrophages
Alina Nelipovich, AG Philip Henneke, University Hospital, Freiburg
6. Engineering 3D Immune Niches: A Human Organoid Model to Study Lymphoid Tissue Architecture and Function
Jeremie Grenot, AG Christopher Mueller, Transgene/IBMC Strasbourg
7. Exploring the mechanisms of T cell perception of population density
Roko Gvozdenica Sipic, AG Jan Pieters, Basel
8. Reprogramming the metastatic niche in pancreatic cancer by targeting CD44 on bone marrow-derived cells
Lisa-Marie Mehner, AG Véronique Orian-Rousseau, Karlsruhe
9. CD21^{low} B-cells, a unique and potentially pathogenic B-cell subset
Valerie Geiger, AG Bärbel Keller, University Hospital, Freiburg
10. Development of an anti-tumor vaccine approach based on messenger RNA delivery
Zayneb Tebib, AG Sylvie Fournel, Immunology, Strasbourg
11. Autoimmune inflammation-associated changes on stroma and immune cell landscape in a lupus mouse model
Paola F. Ruiz, AG Reinhard Voll/Nina Chevallier, University Hospital, Freiburg
12. Study of TSLP-driven DC-T cell responses using in vitro bone marrow derived DC
Alexis Verdenet, AG Mei Li, IGBMC, Strasbourg
13. Impact of Di- and Multigenic Heterozygous Variants in FHL Genes on HLH Susceptibility
Dr. Oliver Wegehaupt, AG Stephan Ehl, CCI, University Hospital, Freiburg
14. Ikaros and Foxo1: Functional interactions in T cells
Anaïs Robardey, AG Céline Charvet/Susan Chan, IGBMC, Strasbourg
15. Probing Into the Structural-Functional Relationship of Human Cytomegalovirus (HCMV) Fc γ Binding Glycoprotein gp34
Haneen Daralnakhla, AG Hartmut Hengel, Virology, Freiburg
16. Role of scavenger receptor MARCO in splenic architecture
Pualani Ateni, AG Christopher Mueller, IBMC, Strasbourg
17. Fates emanating from barcoded Flt3⁺ hematopoietic progenitor cells in situ
Dr. Branko Cirovic, AG Branko Cirovic, CCI, University Hospital, Freiburg
18. Study of the loss of donor immune control in myelodysplastic syndromes after allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation
Dr. Allan Bertrand, AG Christopher Mueller, IBMC, Strasbourg

19. Engineering fusion proteins with pH-low insertion peptide for plasma membranetargeted receptor reconstruction
Dr. Huda Jumaa, AG Priscilla Briquez, University Hospital, Freiburg
20. Development of an immunocompetent 3D model of the human respiratory mucosa
Annia Perez Riveron, AG Vincent Flacher/Christopher Mueller, IBMC, Strasbourg
41. Peripheral inflammaging drives neurodegeneration via extracellular vesicles
Caitlyn Myers, AG Neslon Gekara, Institute of Medical Microbiology and Hygiene, University Hospital, Freiburg

Poster session II – 16.00 – 16.45 p.m.

21. Crosstalk Between NRF2 And Nitric Oxide In Regulation Of NLRP3 Inflammasome
Danielle Anthony, AG Georg Häcker, University Hospital, Freiburg
22. Proteoglycofilli : a new fiber containing glycosaminoglycans secreted by neutrophils
Jules Tritschler, AG Benoit Marteyn, IBMC, Strasbourg
23. Engineering the complement protein C1q for multivalent binding to integrin $\alpha v \beta 3$ to inhibit cancer angiogenesis
Aishwarya Saxena, AG Priscilla Briquez, University Hospital, Freiburg
24. Regulation of Dendritic Cell Transmigration by $LT\beta R$ and RANK Signalling in Lymphatic Endothelial Cells
Shadrack Owusu, AG Christopher Mueller, IBMC, Strasbourg
25. Development of combinatorial antigen-sensing circuits for precision tumor recognition in TRuC- and CAR-T cell therapy
Trang Nguyen, AG Wolfgang Schamel, University, Freiburg
26. Fibroblastic reticular cell subtype identification in head and neck squamous cell carcinoma
Nuohan Wang, AG Gertraud Orend, INSERM U1109, Strasbourg
27. Redefining SHP-2 activation mechanisms downstream of PD-1
Ana-Maria Isfanesu, AG Björn Lillemeier, University, Freiburg
28. The co-inhibitory receptor BTLA: Towards a better understanding of altered BTLA expression in lupus cell subsets
Melanie Sayah, AG Fanny Monneaux/Hélène Dumortier, IBMC, Strasbourg
29. A viral glycoprotein targets IgG memory B cells to mediate humoral immune evasion
Dr. Stefan Neys, AG Marta Rizzi, University Hospital, Freiburg
30. Role of Acetylcholine Receptor Beta3 in Macrophages Under Homeostatic and Challenged Conditions
Gege Zhang, AG Piere Cattenoz/Angela Giangrande, IGBMC, Strasbourg
31. Engineering CAR T cells to overcome the negative impact of the tumor microenvironment
Annabelle Buschky, AG Susana Minguet, University, Freiburg
32. Targeting Tenascin-C to enforce radiotherapy-induced tumor remission
Ioanna Mitrentsi, INSERM, AG Gertraud Orend, INSERM U1109, Strasbourg
33. Adenoviral immune evasion through suppression of IFN γ -Induced immunoproteasome function
Dr. Julia Mai, AG Sabrina Schreiner, University Hospital, Freiburg
34. IGBMC - Functional genomics and cancer
Tarek Tabiat, AG Pierre Cattenoz/Angela Giangrande, IGBMC, Strasbourg
35. Bone Marrow Microenvironment in Pediatric Leukem
Semjon Willier, AG Tobias Feuchtinger, University Hospital, Freiburg
36. Development of lymphoid stromal cells from adipose tissue-derived mesenchymal stem cells
Guillermo Pérez, AG Christopher Mueller, IBMC, Strasbourg

37. Myeloid cells in mouse model of chlamydial infection

Peng Lang, AG Susanne Kirschnek, University Hospital, Freiburg

38. Interferon-mediated control of intestinal Human Adenovirus infection

Sawinee Masser, AG Sabrina Schreiner, University Hospital, Freiburg

39. Development and characterization of an immunocompetent and vascularized skin-on-chip

Ambre Alléon, AG Vincent Flacher/Christopher Mueller, IBMC, Strasbourg

40. Empowering PILOT Research through High-Dimensional Data Analysis and Workflow Development

Michael Rauer, AG Melanie Börries, University Hospital, Freiburg

42. The endolysosomal system drives type I IFN-independent antiviral innate defense

Mateo Murillo-Leon, AG Neslon Gekara, Institute of Medical Microbiology and Hygiene, University Hospital, Freiburg

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