



ESSEN
DÜSSELDORF
COLOGNE

CLINIC MEETS BIOLOGY

WEST GERMAN LYMPHOMA SYMPOSIUM

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM
May 21–23, 2026

Conference Center Essen | Germany



Hybrid Event

CONTACT

Scientific lead and response for the programme



Universitätsmedizin Essen

Department of Haematology and Stem Cell Transplantation
West German Cancer Center
University Hospital Essen (AÖR)
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Unter the patronage of

Unter der Schirmherrschaft der



Josep Carreras
LEUKAEMIA
Research Institute

In co-operation with



Meeting Office / Organizer and Contact

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Venue

Conference Center Essen
Huysenallee 53
45128 Essen (Germany)
Nordrhein-Westfalen (NRW)

Hybrid Event



WELCOME

Dear Colleagues and Friends

Following the inaugural West German Lymphoma Symposium in 2024, we are delighted to continue this exciting new tradition. The high level of scientific exchange during the first meeting confirmed the need for a dedicated regional and international forum focused on both preclinical and clinical lymphoma research.

The field continues to evolve rapidly, with major breakthroughs in the molecular understanding of the disease, the refinement of mouse models, and advances in preclinical drug development. These developments have led to significant changes in treatment strategies, including the integration of CAR-T cells, bispecific antibodies, and next-generation small molecules.

In parallel, the comprehensive cancer centers CIO-ABCD (Aachen, Bonn, Cologne, Düsseldorf) and WTZ-EM (Essen, Münster) in North Rhine-Westphalia have intensified their collaboration, notably through the establishment of the National Center for Tumor Disease West (NCT-West, Essen and Cologne), fostering robust clinical and translational lymphoma programs and to excite young researchers for lymphoma research.

We would be thrilled to welcome you once again — or for the first time — in Essen, Germany, at the heart of the Ruhr area = »Ruhrgebiet«, as part of this growing community.

Abstract submissions are warmly encouraged. Selected abstracts will be featured in short talks and considered for poster prizes.

With all our best wishes and warm regards
Conference chairs and program committee members

Christian Reinhardt

Bastian v. Tresckow, Ralf Küppers, Stefan Alig
University Hospital Essen, West German Cancer Center

Peter Borchmann

University Hospital Cologne, Clinic for Internal Medicine
Oncology/Hematology

Sascha Dietrich

University Hospital Düsseldorf, Clinic for Hematology,
Oncology and Clinical Immunology

Ari M. Melnick

Josep Carreras Leukaemia,
Research Institute Barcelona

Day 1 | Thursday, May 21, 2026

from 12:30 Registration and Networking

1:45 **Opening and welcome**
Scientific committee

2:00–4:00 **SESSION 1**
Epigenetic rewiring in aggressive lymphoma
Christian Reinhardt, University Hospital Essen (GER)

Chair
.....

2:00 **DNA-methylation based classification of lymphomas: A tool to come?**
Reiner Siebert, Ulm University Hospital (GER)

2:25 **Hypermutation of non-coding regulatory domains in DLBCL**
Riccardo Dalla-Favera, Columbia University New York (USA)

2:50 **Epigenetic regulation of lymphoma cell states**
Michael R. Green, MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston (USA)

3:15 **How the immune system becomes malignant reveals novel therapeutic vulnerabilities**
Ari M. Melnick, MD Anderson Cancer Center (USA)

3:40 **Decoding malignant B cell plasticity in aggressive lymphomas**
Sandrine Roulland, CIML-Centre d' Immunologie Marseille-Luminy (FR)

4:05–4:30 Break

Day 1 | Thursday, May 21, 2026

4:30–6:30 **SESSION 2**
Harnessing the immune system for lymphoma therapy - I
Georg Lenz, University Hospital Münstster (GER)
Bastian von Tresckow, University Hospital Essen (GER)

Chairs
.....

4:30 **Targeting Oncogenic Chromatin Remodeling in Lymphoma**
Darko Barisic, Weill Cornell Medicine New York (USA)

4:55 **title**
Wendy Béguelin, Langone Health NYU New York (USA)

5:20 **Cytokine-associated Immune Remodeling in Follicular Lymphoma Transformation**
Erin M. Parry, Harvard Medical School, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston (USA)

5:45 **Therapeutic targeting the lymphoma micro environment to improve CAR T-cell response in aggressive B-cell lymphoma**
Roland Ullrich, University Hospital Cologne (GER)

6:10 **title**
Margaret Shipp, Dana Farber/Harvard Cancer Center Boston (USA)

6:35–09:00 **Get-together**

Day 2 | Friday, May 22, 2026

9:00–11:05	SESSION 3 Harnessing the immune system for lymphoma therapy - II Peter Borchmann, University Hospital Cologne (GER) Ralf Küppers, University Hospital Essen (GER)
Chairs	
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9:00	title Martin Hutchings, University of Copenhagen (DK)
9:25	B cell lymphoma development in the thymic niche Christian Steidl, Centre for Lymphoid Cancer, Vancouver (CAN)
9:50	Primary analysis of the GHSG Pembro-CORE trial Bastian von Tresckow, University Hospital Essen (GER)
10:15	Harnessing functional genomic screens to elucidate DLBCL biology Sebastian Scheich, University Hospital Frankfurt (GER)
10:40	title Christian Reinhardt, University Hospital Essen (GER)
11:05–11:30	Break

Day 2 | Friday, May 22, 2026

11:30–1:35	SESSION 4 Towards chemo-free treatment of lymphoma Stefan Alig, University Hospital Essen (GER) Sascha Dietrich, University Hospital Düsseldorf (GER)
Chairs	
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11:30	Progress Made, Obstacles Remaining: anti-PD1 First-Line Treatment of cHL Paul Bröckelmann, University Hospital of Cologne (GER)
11:55	Towards improved outcomes for p53 mutant blood cancers Gemma Kelly, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research (WEHI), Melbourne (AUS)
12:20	Protogenomics and Precision Medicine James Phelan, National Cancer Institute, Bethesda (USA)
12:45	Targeted Therapy Approaches in Aggressive B-cell Lymphoma Mark Roschewski, National Cancer Institute, Bethesda (USA)
1:10	title Jason Westin, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer, Center Houston (USA)
1:35–2:45	Break
2:45–4:50	SESSION 5 At the interface between biological and chemical engineering Ralf Küppers, University Hospital Essen (GER) Christian Reinhardt, University Hospital Essen (GER)
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2:45	title Michael Hudecek, University Hospital Würzburg (GER)
3:10	Same but different: on the role of B cells in cellular therapies Sebastian Kobold, LMU Klinikum, Munich (GER)
3:35	Development of PROTACs as New Pharmacological Modalities for the Treatment of Cancer Stefan Knapp, Goethe-University Frankfurt (GER)
4:00	Linking Elongation Factors and Lysine Acetyltransferases to Cancer Cell Death using Chemically Induced Proximity Roman Sarott, Max-Planck-Institute for Medical Research, Heidelberg (GER)
4:15–6:30	POSTER PRESENTATION

9:00-11:05	SESSION 6 Molecular characterization and dynamic disease monitoring in lymphoma Chairs Ari M. Melnick, Weill Cornell Medicine New York (USA) Sandrine Roulland, CIML-Centre d' Immunologie, Marseille-Luminy (FR)
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9:00	title Ash A. Alizadeh, Stanford University / Stanford Comprehensive Cancer Center (USA)
9:25	Molecularly Defined Classic Hodgkin Lymphoma Subtypes Stefan Alig, University Hospital Essen (GER)
9:50	Molecular characterization and liquid biomarker strategies in primary CNS lymphoma Florian Scherer, University of Freiburg (GER)
10:15	title Björn Chapuy, Charité University Medicine Berlin (GER)
10:40	Developing multi-agent therapies targeting oncogenic pathways in aggressive lymphoma Louis Staudt, National Cancer Institute Bethesda (USA)
11:05–11:35	Break

11:35-1:40	SESSION 7 Molecular decoding of lymphomagenesis Chairs Christian Reinhardt, University Hospital Essen (GER) Margaret Shipp, Dana Farber/Harvard Cancer Center Boston (USA)
11:35	Mouse models of mantle cell lymphoma Ron Jachimowicz, University Hospital Cologne (GER)
12:00	Mechanisms of germinal center B cell competition and CNS infiltration in DLBCL Coraline Mlynarczyk, Cancer Center Yale University School of Medicine / New Haven (USA)
12:25	title Jessica Okosun, Queen Mary University of London (UK)
12:50	title Laura Pasqualucci, Columbia University New York (USA)
1:15	Deciphering the Genomics of Aggressive Lymphoma Daniel Hodson, University of Cambridge (UK)
1:40	Closing remarks Farewell and Goodbye

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THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH

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Net amounts, before deduction of costs. AbbVie Deutschland GmbH & Co. KG, 50,000 € - BeOne Medicines Germany GmbH 5,000 € - Janssen-Cilag GmbH/Johnson & Johnson, 50,000 € - Lilly Deutschland GmbH, 50,000 € - Roche Pharma AG, 50.000 € - sobi Swedish Orphan Biovitrum GmbH, 10,000 € - Status: 12/2025

www.lymphoma-symposium.de

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