

## 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 Aliğ**

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

## Scientific lead and responsibility for the program

Department of Hematology  
and Stem Cell Transplantation  
West German Cancer Center  
University Hospital Essen (AöR)  
Hufelandstraße 55  
45147 Essen (Germany)



## Under the patronage of



## In co-operation with



## Meeting Office / Organizer and Contact

CSi Hamburg GmbH  
Goernestraße 30  
20249 Hamburg (Germany)  
+49 40 307 703 00  
meetings@csihamburg.de

## Venue

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

## Important Dates

 Start Abstract Submission

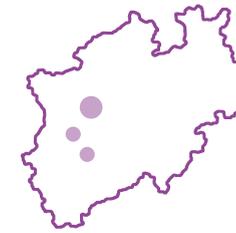
**October 21, 2025**

 Start Online Registration

**October 21, 2025**

 Deadline Abstract Submission

**March 2, 2026**



**ESSEN**  
**DÜSSELDORF**  
**COLOGNE**

CLINIC MEETS BIOLOGY

# WEST GERMAN LYMPHOMA SYMPOSIUM

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

**May 21–23, 2026**

Conference Center Essen | Germany



Hybrid Event

<b>Day 1, Thursday</b>	<b>May 21, 2026</b>	<b>Day 2, Friday</b>	<b>May 22, 2026</b>	<b>Day 3, Saturday</b>	<b>May 23, 2026</b>
from 12:30	Registration and Networking	<b>9:00-11:05</b>	<b>Session 3</b> <b>Harnessing the immune system for lymphoma therapy - II</b> Peter Borchmann, University Hospital Cologne (GER) Ralf Küppers, University Hospital Essen (GER)	<b>4:00</b>	<b>Linking Elongation Factors and Lysine Acetyltransferases to Cancer Cell Death using Chemically Induced Proximity</b> Roman Sarott, Max-Planck-Institute for Medical Research, Heidelberg (GER)
<b>1:45</b>	<b>Opening and welcome</b> Scientific committee	Chairs		<b>4:15-6:30</b>	<b>Poster presentation</b>
<b>2:00-4:00</b>	<b>Session 1</b> <b>Epigenetic rewiring in aggressive lymphoma</b> Christian Reinhardt, University Hospital Essen (GER)	<b>9:00</b>	<b>title</b> Martin Hutchings, University of Copenhagen (DK)	<b>Day 3, Saturday</b>	<b>May 23, 2026</b>
Chair		<b>9:25</b>	<b>B cell lymphoma development in the thymic niche</b> Christian Steidl, Centre for Lymphoid Cancer, Vancouver (CAN)	<b>9:00-11:05</b>	<b>Session 6</b> <b>Molecular characterization and dynamic disease monitoring in lymphoma</b> Ari M. Melnick, Weill Cornell Medicine New York (USA) Sandrine Roulland, CIML-Centre d' Immunologie Marseille-Luminy (FR)
<b>2:00</b>	<b>DNA-methylation based classification of lymphomas: A tool to come?</b> Reiner Siebert, Ulm University Hospital (GER)	<b>9:50</b>	<b>Primary analysis of the GHSG Pembro-CORE trial</b> Bastian von Tresckow, University Hospital Essen (GER)	Chairs	
<b>2:25</b>	<b>Hypermutation of non-coding regulatory domains in DLBCL</b> Riccardo Dalla-Favera, Columbia University New York (USA)	<b>10:15</b>	<b>Harnessing functional genomic screens to elucidate DLBCL biology</b> Sebastian Scheich, University Hospital Frankfurt (GER)	<b>9:00</b>	<b>title</b> Ash A. Alizadeh, Stanford University / Stanford Comprehensive Cancer Center (USA)
<b>2:50</b>	<b>Epigenetic regulation of lymphoma cell states</b> Michael R. Green, MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston (USA)	<b>10:40</b>	<b>title</b> Christian Reinhardt, University Hospital Essen (GER)	<b>9:25</b>	<b>Molecularly Defined Classic Hodgkin Lymphoma Subtypes</b> Stefan Alig, University Hospital Essen (GER)
<b>3:15</b>	<b>How the immune system becomes malignant reveals novel therapeutic vulnerabilities</b> Ari M. Melnick, MD Anderson Cancer Center (USA)	11:05-11:30	Break	<b>9:50</b>	<b>Molecular characterization and liquid biomarker strategies in primary CNS lymphoma</b> Florian Scherer, University of Freiburg (GER)
<b>3:40</b>	<b>Decoding malignant B cell plasticity in aggressive lymphomas</b> Sandrine Roulland, CIML-Centre d' Immunologie Marseille-Luminy (FR)	<b>11:30-1:35</b>	<b>Session 4</b> <b>Towards chemo-free treatment of lymphoma</b> Stefan Alig, University Hospital Essen (GER) Sascha Dietrich, University Hospital Düsseldorf (GER)	<b>10:15</b>	<b>title</b> Björn Chapuy, Charité University Medicine Berlin (GER)
4:05-4:30	Break	Chairs		<b>10:40</b>	<b>Developing multi-agent therapies targeting oncogenic pathways in aggressive lymphoma</b> Louis Staudt, National Cancer Institute Bethesda (USA)
<b>4:30-6:30</b>	<b>Session 2</b> <b>Harnessing the immune system for lymphoma therapy - I</b>	<b>11:30</b>	<b>Progress Made, Obstacles Remaining: anti-PD1 First-Line Treatment of cHL</b> Paul Bröckelmann, University Hospital of Cologne (GER)	11:05-11:35	Break
Chairs	Georg Lenz, University Hospital Münstber (GER) Bastian von Tresckow, University Hospital Essen (GER)	<b>11:55</b>	<b>Towards improved outcomes for p53 mutant blood cancers</b> Gemma Kelly, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research (WEHI), Melbourne (AUS)	<b>11:35-1:40</b>	<b>Session 7</b> <b>Molecular decoding of lymphomagenesis</b> Christian Reinhardt, University Hospital Essen (GER) Margaret Shipp, Dana Farber/Harvard Cancer Center Boston (USA)
<b>4:30</b>	<b>Targeting Oncogenic Chromatin Remodeling in Lymphoma</b> Darko Barisic, Weill Cornell Medicine New York (USA)	<b>12:20</b>	<b>Protogenomics and Precision Medicine</b> James Phelan, National Cancer Institute, Bethesda (USA)	<b>11:35-1:40</b>	
<b>4:55</b>	<b>title</b> Wendy Béguelin, Langone Health NYU New York (USA)	<b>12:45</b>	<b>Targeted Therapy Approaches in Aggressive B-cell Lymphoma</b> Mark Roschewski, National Cancer Institute, Bethesda (USA)	Chairs	
<b>5:20</b>	<b>Cytokine-associated Immune Remodeling in Follicular Lymphoma Transformation</b> Erin M. Parry, Harvard Medical School, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston (USA)	<b>1:10</b>	<b>title</b> Jason Westin, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center Houston (USA)	<b>11:35</b>	<b>Mouse models of mantle cell lymphoma</b> Ron Jachimowicz, University Hospital Cologne (GER)
<b>5:45</b>	<b>Therapeutic targeting the lymphoma micro environment to improve CAR T-cell response in aggressive B-cell lymphoma</b> Roland Ullrich, University Hospital Cologne (GER)	1:35-2:45	Break	<b>12:00</b>	<b>Mechanisms of germinal center B cell competition and CNS infiltration in DLBCL</b> Coraline Mlynarczyk, Cancer Center Yale University School of Medicine / New Haven (USA)
<b>6:10</b>	<b>title</b> Margaret Shipp, Dana Farber/Harvard Cancer Center Boston (USA)	<b>2:45-4:50</b>	<b>Session 5</b> <b>At the interface between biological and chemical engineering</b> Ralf Küppers, University Hospital Essen (GER) Christian Reinhardt, University Hospital Essen (GER)	<b>12:25</b>	<b>title</b> Jessica Okosun, Queen Mary University of London (UK)
<b>6:35-09:00</b>	<b>Get-together</b>	Chairs		<b>12:50</b>	<b>title</b> Laura Pasqualucci, Columbia University New York (USA)
		<b>2:45</b>	<b>title</b> Michael Hudecek, University Hospital Würzburg (GER)	<b>1:15</b>	<b>Deciphering the Genomics of Aggressive Lymphoma</b> Daniel Hodson, University of Cambridge (UK)
		<b>3:10</b>	<b>Same but different: on the role of B cells in cellular therapies</b> Sebastian Kobold, LMU Klinikum, Munich (GER)	<b>1:40</b>	<b>Closing remarks</b> Farewell and Goodbye
		<b>3:35</b>	<b>Development of PROTACs as New Pharmacological Modalities for the Treatment of Cancer</b> Stefan Knapp, Goethe-University Frankfurt (GER)		