40TH EUROPEAN IMMUNOGENETICS & HISTOCOMPATIBILITY CONFERENCE / 34TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GERMAN SOCIETY FOR IMMUNOGENETICS (DGI)

Bridging Genetics and Immunology in Translational Medicine

25–28 May 2027, Essen, Germany
Messe Essen Congress Center



PRELIMINARY SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

SUNDAY 23 MAY

14:00–18:00 **Satellite meetings 1**
Data Standards Hackathon Day 1
Jürgen Sauter, Tübingen; Martin Maiers, Minneapolis

MONDAY 24 MAY

09:00–18:00 **Satellite meetings 2**
EFI Inspectors Workshop
Sonja Geelhoed, Leiden

Data Standards Hackathon Day 2
Jürgen Sauter, Tübingen; Martin Maiers, Minneapolis

TUESDAY 25 MAY

09:00–17:00 **Satellite Meetings 3**
EFI Committee Meetings
DGI Meetings and Sessions (in German Language 🇩🇪)
Christian Seidl

Population Genetics Workshop
Alicia Sanchez-Mazas, Geneva

HLA Loss Interest Group
Esteban Arrieta Bolaños, Essen

Statistical Symposium
Liesbeth de Wreede, Leiden

Data Manager Training
Helga Neidlinger, Ulm

Young EFI Professionals Meeting
Timo Olieslagers, Maastricht

Data Standards Hackathon Day 3
Jürgen Sauter, Tübingen; Martin Maiers, Minneapolis

18:00–19:30 **Opening Session**

19:30–22:00 **Welcome Reception**

40TH EUROPEAN IMMUNOGENETICS & HISTOCOMPATIBILITY CONFERENCE /
34TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GERMAN SOCIETY FOR IMMUNOGENETICS (DGI)
Bridging Genetics and Immunology in Translational Medicine
25–28 May 2027, Essen, Germany
Messe Essen Congress Center

WEDNESDAY 26 MAY

08:30–10:00: **Plenary I – Cell Therapy**
Immunogenetics of allogeneic hematopoietic cell transplantation – we have come a long way
Effie Petersdorf, Seattle

New horizons in CAR-T cell therapy
Mirjam Heemskerk, Leiden

TCR-T therapy for solid tumors: lessons learned and challenges to be tackled
Chiara Bonini, Milan

10:30–12:00 **Teaching Session 1 (New serological nomenclature)**
Oral Abstract Session 1
Special Session 1 (Young EFI Professionals)
Industry Symposium 1

14:00–15:30 **Teaching Session 2 (Antibody definition in solid organ transplantation)**
Oral Abstract Session 2+3
Special Session 2 (Joint EBMT-EFI)

16:00–17:30 **Plenary II – Solid Organ Transplantation**
Engineering allotransplants to overcome rejection
Rainer Blasczyk, Hannover

New approaches to tackle antibody-mediated transplant rejection
Georg Böhmig, Vienna

Targeting HLA-specific B cells by Chimeric HLA Antibody Receptor (CHAR) T cell therapy
Sebastiaan Heidt, Rotterdam

17:30–21:00 **Poster Wine & Cheese Session**

THURSDAY 27 MAY

08:30–10:00 **Plenary III – Immunogenetics of Infection**

Seek and hide modulation of the immune system by human cytomegalovirus
Mirko Trilling, Essen

Exploiting HLA variability for fighting infections: insights and future challenges
Mary Carrington, Frederick

Genetic Principles of the Immune System and their Role in Viral Infections
Marcus Altfeld, Hamburg

10:30–12:00 **Teaching Session 3 (Highly immunized patients on the waiting list)**
Oral Abstract Session 4
Special Session 3 (AI in H&I)
Industry Symposium 2

14:00–15:30 **Teaching Session 4 (Online tools for donor selection including haplotype imputations)**
Oral Abstract Session 5+6
Industry Symposium 3

16:00–17:30 **Plenary IV – HLAomics: from expression to antigen discovery**

Molecular mechanisms of transcriptional HLA regulation in cancer
Annette Paschen, Essen

Ligand discovery of human immune receptors in translational medicine
James McCluskey, Melbourne

Computation meets experimentation: new approaches to antigen discovery
Nicoletta Cieri, Boston

17:45 – 19:15 **EFI General Assembly and EFI Medals Ceremony**

40TH EUROPEAN IMMUNOGENETICS & HISTOCOMPATIBILITY CONFERENCE /
34TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GERMAN SOCIETY FOR IMMUNOGENETICS (DGI)
Bridging Genetics and Immunology in Translational Medicine
25–28 May 2027, Essen, Germany
Messe Essen Congress Center

FRIDAY 28 MAY

09:00–10:30 **Best Abstract Session**

11:00–12:30 **Plenary V – Population Genetics**

HLA variability and human disease: the chicken or the egg?
Alicia Sanchez-Mazas, Geneva

Dairying, diseases and the evolution of lactase persistence in Europe
Mark Thomas, London

Evolutionary trade-offs in MHC-mediated antigen presentation
Tobias Lenz, Hamburg

12:30–13:30 **Closing Session**

Seattle meets Essen: 60 years of bench-to-bedside research in cellular therapy
Rainer Storb, Seattle