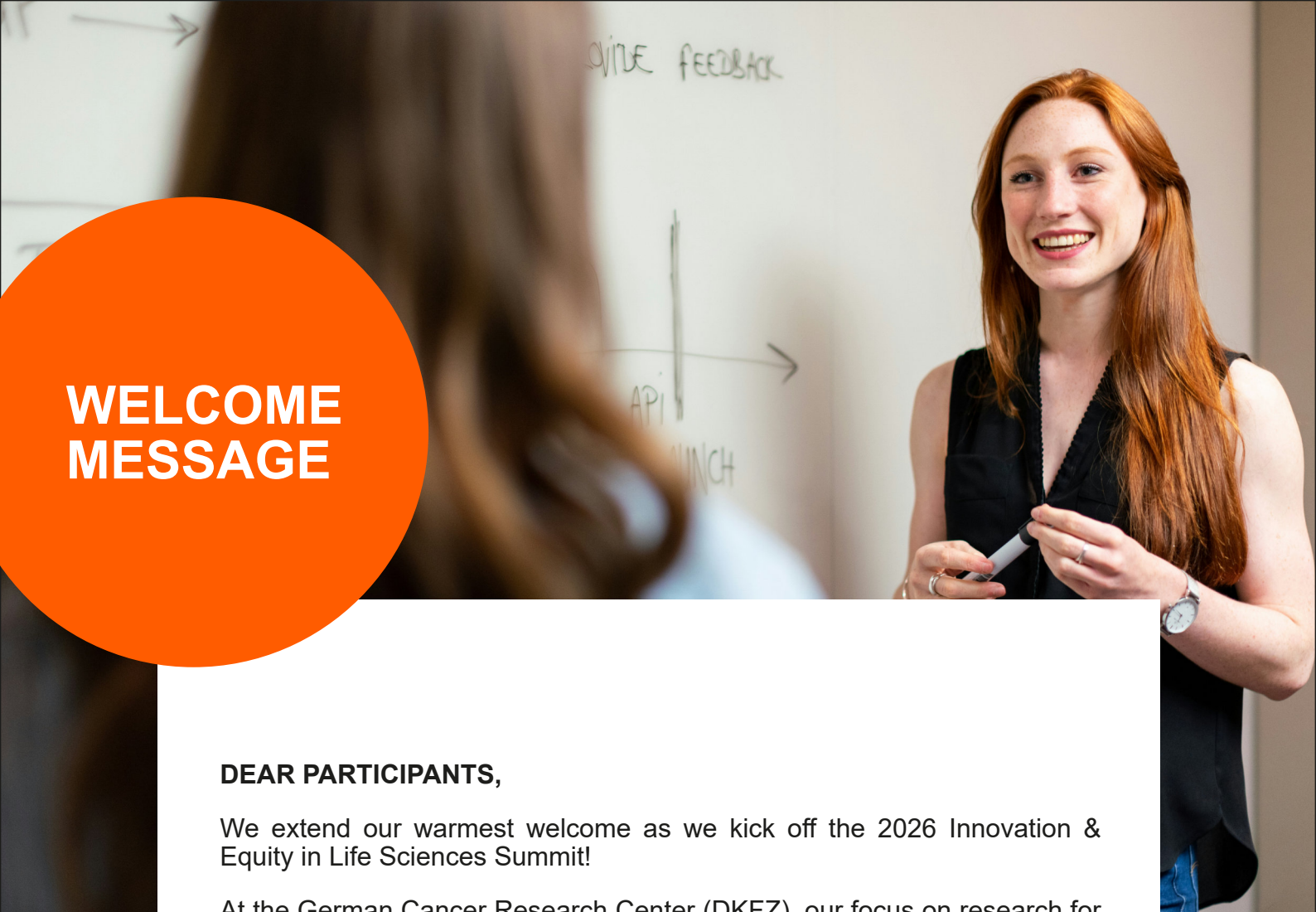


Innovation & Equity in Life Sciences Summit

15 September 2026

German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ)





WELCOME MESSAGE

DEAR PARTICIPANTS,

We extend our warmest welcome as we kick off the 2026 Innovation & Equity in Life Sciences Summit!

At the German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ), our focus on research for a life without cancer is not only achieved through high-impact publications, but an emphasis on clinical translation and, now more than ever, transfer to market.

Over the course of the day, you will have the opportunity to attend insightful keynote speeches from the therapeutic and investor points of view, witness 12 dynamic pitches from early and rising startups, and learn what it takes to make an inclusive entrepreneurial ecosystem that supports transfer to market in two expert panel sessions.

KEY REMINDERS

- **Wi-Fi:** [User] **guest-0139**, [Password] **eQTS6kqf**
- **Event hashtag:** **#InnovationForAll2026**

We encourage you to meet new people, ask questions, and share your unique perspectives. Thank you for being a vital part of this community. We hope you find the conference inspiring and memorable.

WARM REGARDS,

The Organizing Committee

OUR VISION AND VALUES

We envision powerful research to transfer for the benefit of medical breakthroughs, in which entrepreneurial networks and resources are inclusive by default, realizing the incredible potential of diverse perspectives.

Our values are:

- **INNOVATIVE:** Not only exemplified by the technologies featured, but also the people who challenge barriers in the way of bringing those technologies to market.
- **INCLUSIVE:** Broadening visibility and creating transparent pathways for emerging talent and diverse innovators.
- **IMPACT-DRIVEN:** Breaking down silos between research, policy, capital, and clinics in order to drive change.

MISSION

The summit brings together researchers, founders, investors, clinicians, industry leaders, and ecosystem builders who know that innovation in health and life sciences needs to be inclusive and accessible in order to be cutting-edge.

We will facilitate relevant connections between researchers, founders, investors, clinicians, and industry leaders to create the best conditions for transfer to market.

With a program designed for a broad range of participants from translational research, cell & gene therapy, entrepreneurship, venture building, investment, and innovation support, our mission is to empower a dynamic ecosystem that encourages cross-disciplinary collaboration.

We'll explore how life sciences innovation can be translated into real-world impact — and how we can build an ecosystem in which access to opportunity, visibility, funding, and leadership is broadened across the field.

AGENDA

- 09:00 **Doors open & Check-in**
- 09:20 **WELCOME**
Silke Uhrig-Schmidt (DKFZ)
Marieke Essers (DKFZ & HI-STEM gGmbH)
- 09:30 **Session I** (Moderator: Jennifer Smith)
- INSPIRING KEYNOTE**
Martina Pfeifer (Whistler GmbH / flatexDEGIRO SE / encourageventures e.V.)
- 09:45 **Early-stage startup pitches**
- 10:50 **COFFEE & SNACKS**
- 11:15 **Rising startup pitches**
- 12:15 **LUNCH**
- Meet-the-Founders Tables**
Founder & Investor Speed Dating
- 14:00 **Session II** (Moderator: Silke Uhrig-Schmidt)
- FOUNDER KEYNOTE**
Czuee Morey (Xena)
- 14:15 **PANEL DISCUSSION: Translation of biomedical innovations**
- Elke Luger** (National Network Office GCT Germany @ BIH)
Ann-Kristin Müller (BioLabs)
Patrick Schmidt (NCT Heidelberg & CIT gGmbH)
Natalya Baltrukovich (Co-Founder, Board Member and Investor)

14:50 **COFFEE & SNACKS**

15:15 **Session III** (*Moderator: Jennifer Smith*)

INVESTOR KEYNOTE

Sonja Schweizer (Sonja Schweizer GmbH / VdU Württemberg)

15:30 **PANEL DISCUSSION: Building high-growth, inclusive ecosystems**

Manasi Aichmueller-Ratnaparkhe (PAICON Holding GmbH)

Ina Schlie (encourageventures e.V.)

Ali Alam (ESMT GmbH)

16:00 **CLOSING REMARKS**

16:10 **Networking**

17:00 **END**

MEET THE SPEAKERS

WELCOME

Marieke Essers

DKFZ & HI-STEM gGmbH



WELCOME & MODERATION

Silke Uhrig-Schmidt

DKFZ



INSPIRING KEYNOTE

Martina Pfeifer



MEET THE SPEAKERS



FOUNDER KEYNOTE

Czuee Morey
Xena



INVESTOR KEYNOTE

Sonja Schweizer

*Sonja Schweizer GmbH, VdU
Württemberg*



MODERATION

Jennifer Smith

1 | CatMedica GmbH



LOCATION

Mainz, Germany

FOUNDING DATE

May 31, 2026

MEET THE TEAM Priv.-Doz. Dr. med. Yasemin Tanyildizi, Anne Vallersnes

Vessel-adaptive device doubling first-pass clot removal in ischemic stroke

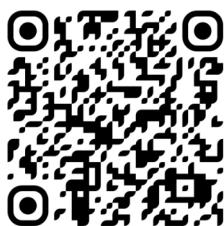
ABOUT

CatMedica is developing ThrombeXwire (TXW), a novel, patented adjunctive device designed to improve mechanical thrombectomy for acute ischemic stroke. Despite major advances in stroke treatment, current thrombectomy procedures achieve successful first-pass reperfusion in only 25–45% of cases, often requiring multiple retrieval attempts that prolong the procedure and increase the risk of clot fragmentation, disability and long-term healthcare costs. CatMedica's proprietary Seal & Protect technology is designed to stabilize and protect the clot during retrieval while remaining fully compatible with existing thrombectomy systems and established physician workflows. By enabling physicians to continue using their familiar devices and techniques, the technology aims to facilitate rapid clinical adoption. In preclinical in-vitro and in-vivo studies, first-pass clot retrieval rates exceeded 90%.

Building on more than eight years of research and development, CatMedica has developed seven prototype generations, secured an exclusive worldwide license from University Medical Center Mainz, and established a strong intellectual property position with one granted patent and a second patent filed. The technology has received multiple innovation awards, including the Goethe StartUps for Future SDG Contest and Life Science.Stage – Best Pitch, reflecting its impact, scientific and commercial potential.

CatMedica is currently optimizing the device, expanding its clinical partner network across Europe, the United States, and Asia, and preparing for First-in-Human studies followed by CE MDR and FDA regulatory pathways. Its mission is to reduce stroke-related disability, improve patient outcomes and lower the long-term socioeconomic burden of stroke.

LINKEDIN



[linkedin.com/in/priv-doz-dr-med-yasemin-tanyildizi-6a38781a9](https://www.linkedin.com/in/priv-doz-dr-med-yasemin-tanyildizi-6a38781a9)

2 | Abbmira Therapeutics AG



LOCATION

Basel, Switzerland

FOUNDING DATE

September 16, 2024

MEET THE TEAM

Julia Biwer, Marc Creus

Sculpting the innate immune system to fight cancer

ABOUT

Abbmira Therapeutics is a biotech company developing innovative medicines that sculpt the immune system to recognize and fight cancer more effectively. Our lead program focuses on a new type of drug designed to reactivate defined immune cells that tumors exploit to hide from the body's natural defenses.

Our core activity is early-stage drug development: discovering promising molecules, testing them in laboratory models and generating the scientific data needed to advance them toward clinical trials in patients.

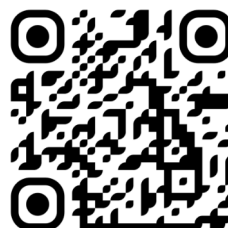
Our business model is based on progressing these assets through early clinical validation and partnering with pharmaceutical companies for co-development, licensing or acquisition. This approach allows us to bring innovative therapies to patients while creating significant value for investors and strategic partners.

LINKEDIN



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/abbmira/>

COMPANY WEBSITE



<https://www.abbmira.com/>

3 | TigerShark Science



LOCATION

Würzburg, Germany

MEET THE TEAM Amelie Reigl, Dieter Groneberg, Florian Groeber-Becker

We grow human skin to reduce animal testing in the pharmaceutical and cosmetic industries.

ABOUT

TigerShark Science (TSS) develops and produces advanced human skin models for pharmaceutical, cosmetic and biotech research. Our mission is to reduce animal testing while enabling faster and more meaningful decisions in product and drug development.

TSS offers a portfolio ranging from reconstructed human epidermis and full thickness skin models to complex stem cell based models with multiple skin layers and hair follicles. These models support research into safety, efficacy, skin biology and hair growth in a controlled, human relevant environment.

Our semi automated production approach enables reproducible quality and scalable manufacturing. In addition to standardized models, we provide customized testing services and develop application specific models with industry partners.

TSS has already won more than ten awards, including the Bavarian Founder Award, secured more than 20 letters of intent from potential customers and partners, and received its first business angel investment through a convertible loan.

We are now raising €1 million by the end of this year to scale production, expand our team and accelerate market entry.

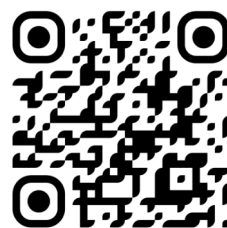
We are looking for investors and strategic partners who want to shape the future of human based skin research with us. Let's talk.

LINKEDIN



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/tigershark-science/>

COMPANY WEBSITE

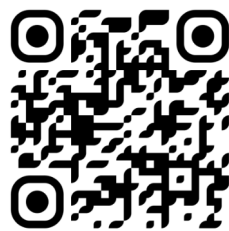


<https://tsscience.de/>

4 | CureNavi GmbH



LINKEDIN



[linkedin.com/in/gaelle-waltinger](https://www.linkedin.com/in/gaelle-waltinger)

WEBSITE



<https://www.curenavi.com/>

MEET THE TEAM

Pr Dr Schlomm, Jonathan Jeutner, Dr Nadine Biernath, Gaelle Waltinger

CureNavi is putting precision care within reach of every cancer patient

ABOUT

Clinicians are overburdened and lack the time to match patients against testing and trial criteria, leaving many without access to the right diagnostics or the right trial.

CureNavi is a Charité spin-off building a digital cancer navigator that bridges office-based care and specialised cancer centers. Patients — or their treating physician — upload medical files; AI extracts and matches relevant clinical and molecular data against testing and trial criteria; a cancer center specialist validates the recommendation; and the patient and treating physician receive an expert opinion within 72 hours.

Each step in that clinical loop also generates structured, consented real-world data, which is compounded into datasets licensed to advance cancer research — making the platform free for hospitals and patients.

The result is a flywheel: patients get care, and in doing so, they also advance it.

Starting with prostate cancer at Charité Berlin in 2026, CureNavi will scale to additional cancer entities in gastrointestinal and gynecological oncology.

CureNavi's ambition: make precision oncology part of every patient's journey and turn that care into the research that improves it further. CureNavi is raising its pre-seed round of €1.5M

5 | DrugSeq Solutions



LOCATION

Heidelberg, Germany

MEET THE TEAM

Violaine Goidts, Emma Phillips, Mark Mulder

Enabling better decisions sooner using drug exposure and response signaling in single cells

ABOUT

Many aggressive cancers develop resistance to novel therapies, costing patients' lives and billions of dollars in drug development.

While advances in single-cell sequencing and spatial transcriptomics have improved our understanding of cancer therapies, current technologies cannot determine whether a drug has actually penetrated specific cells or tissues, nor link this to its precise molecular effects. This gap between drug uptake and cellular response makes it difficult to comprehensively understand drug resistance.

To address this, we have developed and patented an innovative drug-oligo conjugate platform which enables direct detection and quantification of drug molecules within single-cell RNA sequencing and spatial transcriptomics data, resolving uptake and response in the same cell.

We have validated this approach on several clinically approved, resistance-associated drugs across glioblastoma, breast cancer, and leukemia models. Currently at TRL 5, we are raising a €1M pre-seed round to reach pilot-customer deployment and a first RUO kit, followed by a €3M seed round targeting a €3–5B addressable market through licensing and pharma partnerships.

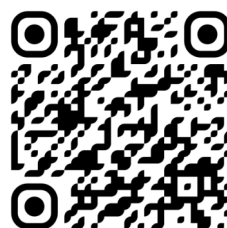
DrugSeq Solutions turns a long-standing blind spot in drug development into a measurable, actionable signal, enabling better decisions, sooner.

LINKEDIN



[linkedin.com/in/emma-phillips-a22a9626](https://www.linkedin.com/in/emma-phillips-a22a9626)

COMPANY WEBSITE



<https://www.drugseqsolutions.com/>

6 | Meliodays Medical



LINKEDIN



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/meliodaymedical/>

WEBSITE



<https://melioday.com/>

MEET THE TEAM

Simone Sabbione, Dr. Benjamin Wolf, Martin Sabbione, Dr. Eda Celikbas, Trudy Au, Karl Gevers

Addressing primary dysmenorrhea through intrauterine non-homronal therapy.

ABOUT

Melioday is developing MelioOne, a first-in-class, non-hormonal intrauterine drug-device combination for the long-term treatment of dysmenorrhea (i.e., menstrual pain) and inflammatory uterine disorders. Dysmenorrhea affects up to 95% of menstruating people, and approximately 25% report severe pain that impairs daily activities, work, and quality of life. Despite this prevalence, current treatment is limited to systemic NSAIDs and hormonal therapies, which are not suitable or effective for all patients. Nearly 20% of patients report minimal to no relief from available therapies, leaving a massive unmet need for a safe, effective, non-hormonal, long-acting solution. Menstrual pain has been historically under-researched and undertreated, reflecting a broader pattern of neglect in women's health.

MelioOne delivers low-dose celecoxib, a selective COX-2 inhibitor anti-inflammatory medication with an established safety profile, directly to the uterine cavity via a T-shaped intrauterine platform, enabling sustained local drug release at the site of inflammation while minimizing systemic exposure. This approach targets the root cause of menstrual pain, prostaglandin-mediated uterine hypercontractility and neuroinflammation, without the gastrointestinal, cardiovascular, and renal risks associated with chronic oral NSAID use.

Our long-term vision is to transform the treatment of dysmenorrhea and inflammatory uterine disorders from a cycle of reactive, systemic pain management into a proactive and localized approach. The massive impact we are trying to achieve is to close a major gender healthcare gap: millions of women currently endure undertreated menstrual pain, lose productivity, and face limited options. MelioOne has the potential to redefine the standard of care for dysmenorrhea, reduce reliance on systemic NSAIDs and hormones, and create a new therapeutic category in women's health. Beyond pain, we also see long-term potential in leveraging reduced uterine inflammatory load to improve reproductive outcomes and quality of life, positioning Meliodays as a leader in next-generation, localized women's health therapeutics.

As a platform for research, development, and technology transfer in the fields of life sciences and clean tech, InnovationLab (iL) GmbH brings together excellent research with renowned companies and innovative start-ups. InnovationLab supports scientists from the initial idea to market-ready application and provides space for inventiveness and entrepreneurship.

The shareholder structure consists of leading global corporations and leading research institutions: BASF SE and Heidelberger Druckmaschinen AG (HEIDELBERG), as well as the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), Ruprecht-Karls University Heidelberg and German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ). The goal is interdisciplinary collaboration between partners under one roof along the entire value chain.

Beyond providing infrastructure and innovation support, InnovationLab actively connects start-ups with relevant industry partners, investors, and strategic collaborators. Through its close ties to KIT, Heidelberg University, and DKFZ, companies and entrepreneurs also gain access to leading scientific expertise in areas such as drug discovery, organoid technologies, microfluidics, biomedical sensors, and advanced manufacturing. This unique environment brings research, technology development, and entrepreneurship together, creating new opportunities for collaboration and technology transfer. In addition to supporting various research projects, iL offers services in product and process development from laboratory to industrial scale, thanks to the extensive know-how of all partners and state-of-the-art infrastructure.

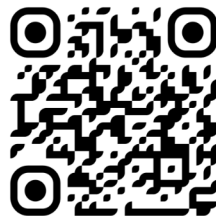
The focus is on collaborative research, the transfer of inventions into marketable products, and the training of young talent. To this end, coworking spaces and shared laboratories equipped with state-of-the-art technology are available, conveniently located in the heart of Heidelberg and covering an area of 6,000 square meters. In addition to around 4,000 square meters of office space, more than 2,000 square meters of modern research infrastructure with clean rooms, S1 and S2 bio, chemistry, and technology laboratories are available with a unique shared lab concept.

InnovationLab was founded and recognized as a German leading-edge cluster by the Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung (BMBF) in 2008.

Contact



Dr. Reza Taale
Innovation Manager



<https://innovationlab.de/>

1 | Phaeosynt GmbH



LOCATION

Hanover, Germany

FOUNDING DATE

July 25, 2023

MEET THE TEAM Stephanie Pfeil-Coenen, Dr. Alina Eilers, Stanislaus Hans

Animal-free antibody production for next-generation in vitro diagnostics

ABOUT

Phaeosynt is developing a novel platform for the production of animal-free antibodies using genetically engineered microalgae. Antibodies are essential components of in vitro diagnostics, yet they are predominantly produced using mammalian cell culture or animal-derived processes. Our technology offers a sustainable alternative with the potential to reduce environmental impact while maintaining the performance required for diagnostic applications.

We collaborate with diagnostic manufacturers to develop and produce antibodies for lateral flow assays and other diagnostic formats. In parallel, we commercialize our own diagnostic products to demonstrate the scalability and industrial applicability of our platform.

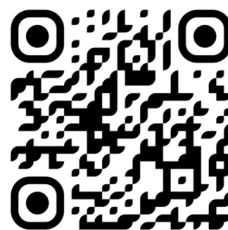
Our vision is to establish microalgae as a new production platform for diagnostic antibodies, enabling a more resilient, sustainable and animal-free supply chain for the diagnostics industry.

LINKEDIN



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/phaeosynt/>

COMPANY WEBSITE



<https://phaeosynt.com/>

2 | Panosome



LOCATION

Heidelberg, Germany

AFFILIATED RESEARCH CENTER

German Cancer Research Center
(DKFZ)

MEET THE TEAM Prof. Dr. Nina Papavasiliou, Dr. Joey Verdi, Dr. Erec Stebbins,
Dr. Katharina Urban and more

How parasite biology is revolutionizing antibody discovery.

ABOUT

Panosome leverages its proprietary VAST platform—derived from the immunobiology of the African trypanosome—to develop high-affinity antibodies against challenging targets, such as aberrantly glycosylated MUC1.

LINKEDIN



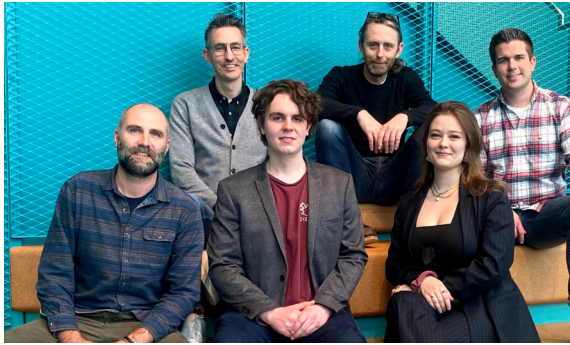
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/panosome-gmbh/>

COMPANY WEBSITE



<https://www.panosome.com/>

3 | VitrofluidiX



MEET THE TEAM

Carlotta Altringer, David Günter, Dr. Finn Rieken, Peter Fuß, Caspar Kneer, Dr. Sven Binder

Building the first fully integrated, chip-agnostic organ-on-a-chip platform for research and drug development to reduce animal testing and accelerate therapeutic innovation.

ABOUT

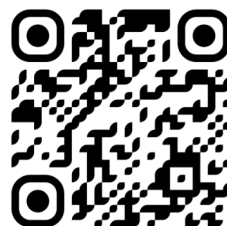
The organ-on-a-chip market has made tremendous progress in developing advanced chips and human-relevant cell models. However, what is still missing is a simple, standardized way to use them. Researchers and companies today either rely on fragmented setups with multiple external devices or proprietary platforms that restrict chip choice, increase operating costs, and are difficult to integrate into existing laboratory workflows. VitrofluidiX closes this gap with VitroFlow — the first fully integrated, standalone organ-on-a-chip platform. It combines all essential functions in one compact bench-top system while remaining microscope-compatible and supporting an open ecosystem of chip formats, software, and ready-to-use kits. This enables researchers and pharmaceutical companies to adopt organ-on-a-chip technology at scale without compromising flexibility.

LINKEDIN



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/vitrofluidix/>

COMPANY WEBSITE



<https://vitrofluidix.com/>

4 | Heidelberg Epignostix GmbH



LOCATION

Heidelberg, Germany

MEET THE TEAM

Helge Lubenow, David Jones, Felix Sahm, Martin Sill, Natalie Jäger, Daniel Schrimpf, Areeba Patel, Heike Balzer, Sandra Barth, Annika Schlechter, Anja Runge, Asif Ahmed, Enrique Blanco Carmona, Zaira Seferbekova, Carrie Morano, Marina Villamor Paya, Matthias Klein, Lennard Herr, Michaela-Kristina Keck, Bhuvnesh Agrawal, Stefan Pfister, Andreas von Deimling, David Capper, Matija Snuderl

Cancer classification you can act on

ABOUT

Heidelberg Epignostix is a team of experts in tumour classification and artificial intelligence. We develop clinically deployable software that classifies cancer using its epigenome and, increasingly, using AI models for histopathology. Founded in Heidelberg in 2022, the company is built on the research of its founders: the group behind the first methylation-based classification of central nervous system tumours.

We work across two data modalities. DNA methylation gives a unique molecular fingerprint of the tumour, and guideline authorities including the WHO, EANO and NCCN have integrated methylation profiling into their recommendations. Histology AI reads the H&E slide a laboratory already has and triages which cases warrant full molecular profiling. Together they lower the barrier to precision oncology.

Our portfolio covers central nervous system tumours, sarcomas and skin cancer, with many further indications under development.

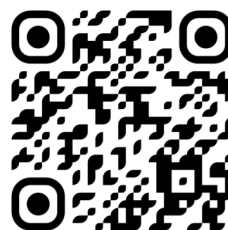
Classifiers can be deployed on-premise, so every patient sample stays local and the laboratory keeps full control. Our models produce a directly actionable report with a well-calibrated confidence score, informing the most appropriate treatment from established options. They are developed under an ISO 13485-compliant quality management system and meet the normative and regulatory requirements applicable to our products. Research-use-only access to the full portfolio is free for academic research.

LINKEDIN



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/heidelberg-epignostix/>

COMPANY WEBSITE

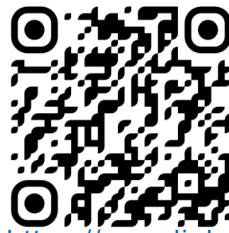


<https://epignostix.com/>

5 | Monix Health AG



LINKEDIN



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/monixhealth/>

WEBSITE



<https://monix.health/>

MEET THE TEAM

Lida Ahmadi, Francois Smuts, Alejandro Chamorro-Garcia, Philip Smuts, Gloria Saorin

Transforming women's health decisions through continuous real-time hormone monitoring

ABOUT

Monix Health is developing a wearable microneedle patch for continuous, real-time hormone monitoring, beginning in IVF.

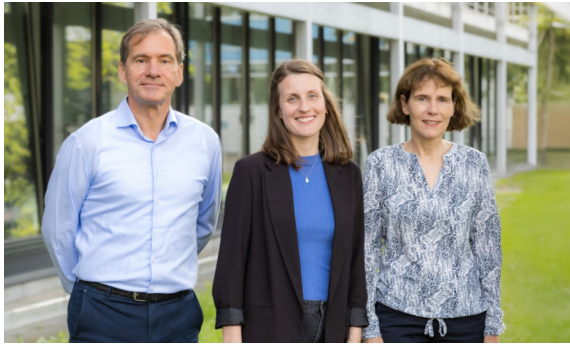
Hormones drive nearly every decision in fertility treatment, and they are still measured the way they were decades ago: a venous blood draw at an early-morning clinic visit, producing a single number hours later. A patient makes six to ten of those visits in one cycle. Between them her clinician works from snapshots taken days apart, and the timing of a trigger or a transfer rests on interpolation. One in six adults worldwide face infertility (WHO 2023). A US cycle costs \$15,000 to \$25,000 and is often paid out of pocket (ASRM 2023). The live birth rate per cycle started is 31% for women under 35 and falls to 11% between 38 and 40 (CDC ART 2021).

Monix turns the snapshot into a signal. Hollow silicon microneedles sample interstitial fluid in the upper dermis without a blood draw. Aptamer-based electrochemical sensors convert hormone binding into an electrical readout, streamed continuously to a smartphone and to the clinic. Clinicians see hormone shifts as they happen, patients see their own physiology, and routine monitoring visits can fall from six to ten per cycle to two or three.

The company is based at Switzerland Innovation Park in Allschwil, near Basel, and develops the sensor platform together with CSEM. Clinical collaborations are being established with fertility centres in Europe, US and Abu Dhabi, with a first in-patient feasibility study planned for 2027.

IVF is the entry point. The same platform extends to menopause, endocrine care, and the other stages of a woman's life where decisions still rest on infrequent blood tests. Monix is building the hormone data layer for women's health.

6 | CARTemis Therapeutics GmbH



LOCATION

Berlin, Germany

AFFILIATED RESEARCH CENTER

Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine

MEET THE TEAM

Dr. Anthea Wirges (CEO), Dr. Thomas Klaue (CFO), Dr. med. Armin Rehm (CMO), Dr. Christian Kaps (COO), PD Dr. Uta E. Höpken (CDO), Dr. Peter Heinrich (COB)

Next-generation CAR T-cell to minimize relapse risk and expand patient access

ABOUT

CARTemis Therapeutics is a science-driven clinical-stage spin-off from the Max Delbrück Center in Berlin, founded in 2023 to translate breakthrough immunotherapy research into durable clinical solutions.

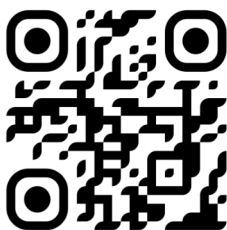
We are redefining CAR T therapy, which today delivers effective treatment in only about half of patients. Our platform tackles two of the most significant limitations of current CAR-T therapies. Suboptimal patient response rates and limited scalability are addressed through our first-in-class CXCR5-targeting approach combined with a proprietary hybrid in vivo delivery strategy.

Our proprietary CXCR5-targeting technology uniquely addresses both malignant cells and the tumor-supportive microenvironment, while our hybrid in vivo delivery approach is designed to expand patient access without compromising safety. As a spin-off from the Max Delbrück Center Berlin, we combine world-class science with deep biotech and commercial expertise from leaders formerly at Juno, Medigene, and Immunocore.

To date, we have secured nearly €5 million in non-dilutive funding, enabling substantial de-risking of our CXCR5 program through an upcoming investigator-initiated Phase I/IIa trial currently being prepared at Charité Berlin for patients with relapsed/refractory B-cell non-Hodgkin lymphoma.

We are now raising an €8 million Seed round to advance our hybrid in vivo anti-CXCR5 CAR-T program to IND readiness.

COMPANY WEBSITE



<https://cartemis.de/>

1 | Translation of biomedical innovations



ELKE LUGER

Panelist

National Network Office GCT Germany at Berlin Institute of Health



ANN-KRISTIN MÜLLER

Panelist

BioLabs



PATRICK SCHMIDT

Panelist

NCT Heidelberg & CIT gGmbH



NATALYA BALTRUKOVICH

Panelist

Co-founder, Board Member, and Investor



SILKE UHRIG-SCHMIDT

Moderator

2 | Building high-growth, inclusive ecosystems



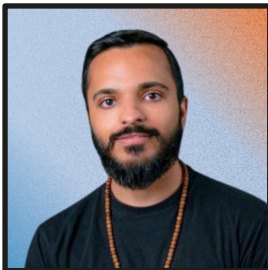
MANASI AICHMUELLER-RATNAPARKHE

Panelist
PAICON Holding GmbH



INA SCHLIE

Panelist
encourageventures e.V.



ALI ALAM

Panelist
ESMT GmbH



JENNIFER SMITH

Moderator
encourageventures e.V.



LOCATION

Heidelberg, Germany

MEET THE TEAM Lisa Russelli, Dario Gosmann, Paul Klein, Francesco Sergi-Lindell

Unlocking the next generation of radiopharmaceuticals for immunotherapy monitoring and targeted T-cells lymphoma therapy

ABOUT

At imuveo, we are advancing precision radiopharmaceutical science to transform cancer care. We develop CD2 targeted radiopharmaceuticals across two complementary programmes:

1. Therapy monitoring

Our CD2 targeted imaging agent provide clinicians with actionable, immune-centric insights into how patients are responding to immunotherapy. By making T cell dynamics visible in real time, we help improve treatment decisions and individualize care.

2. Theranostic/Radioligand therapy

We are building a CD2 targeted theranostic radioligand therapy designed to precisely deliver therapeutic radiation to T cell driven malignancies. This approach harnesses the specificity of CD2 targeting to maximize anti-tumor effects while limiting off-target toxicity.

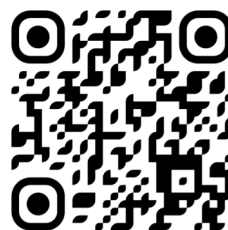
imuveo has advanced lead tracers into the clinic, generating first human data that demonstrate safety, target engagement, and potential for impact in oncology. Our radiopharmaceutical platform is positioned to support both better therapy decision making and next-generation targeted therapy options across immuno-oncology.

LINKEDIN

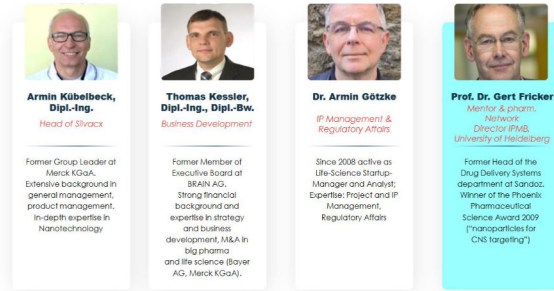


<https://www.linkedin.com/company/imuveo>

COMPANY WEBSITE



<https://www.imuveo.com/>



MEET THE TEAM

Armin Kübelbeck, Dr. Armin Götzke

Perioperative immune stimulation in oncosurgery in order to compensate surgery induced immune suppression

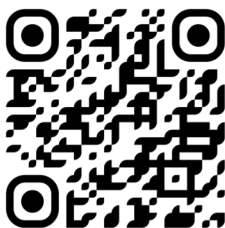
ABOUT

Silvacx is a versatile vaccination and immunostimulation platform for the targeted activation of the human immune system. The platform was developed with EXIST funding from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy at Heidelberg University. The technology is based on surface-modified nanoparticles made of amorphous silicon dioxide (silica). These particles serve a dual purpose: on the one hand, they act as carriers for antigens such as peptides, proteins, and—in the future—RNA- or DNA-based active ingredients; on the other hand, they themselves possess a pronounced immunostimulatory or adjuvant effect.

The SilvacxBooster targets the innate immune system and, in particular, the activation and proliferation of natural killer cells (NK cells). It was specifically developed to compensate for the weakening of the immune system caused by surgical stress. A compromised immune system is something that, especially in oncological surgery, one really wants to avoid at all costs in order to prevent recurrences.

Preclinical development is largely complete. The efficacy data are very convincing, and the exceptionally good toxicology data pave the way for a Phase I trial. To carry this out, we are seeking potential investors. With approximately 10 million oncological surgical procedures performed worldwide each year, the total addressable market is extremely large and clearly has blockbuster potential.

COMPANY WEBSITE



<https://www.silvacx.com/>

InfasoHub GmbH



MEET THE TEAM Margalita Palyan & Partners

Turning pharma Quality information into inspection-ready regulatory evidence

ABOUT

InfasoHub is developing REGXP, an Industrial RegTech platform designed specifically for GMP-regulated pharmaceutical and Life Sciences manufacturing.

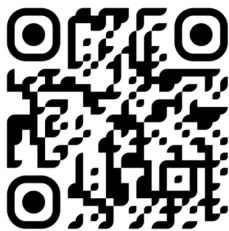
Pharmaceutical manufacturers operate complex digital landscapes in which Quality and compliance-relevant information is distributed across multiple established systems. This makes establishing consistent regulatory traceability and preparing reliable evidence for Quality review, audits and inspections increasingly challenging. This thinking is captured in our guiding principle: “Compliance is not a system. It is an ecosystem.”

REGXP addresses this challenge without replacing existing systems of record. It provides a dedicated compliance intelligence layer that helps organizations transform existing Quality information into contextualized, inspection-ready regulatory evidence while preserving traceability to its source.

Our vision is Connected Compliance through Continuous Traceability: moving from reconstructing regulatory evidence when it is needed toward having trusted, contextualized evidence continuously available across the organization.

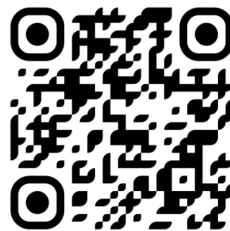
InfasoHub combines deep experience in pharmaceutical digital manufacturing with a growing ecosystem of technology, academic and specialist partners to bring REGXP to the enterprise market.

LINKEDIN



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COMPANY WEBSITE

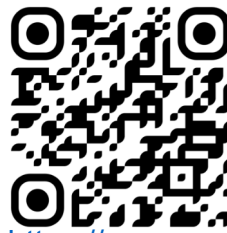


<https://infasohub.com/>

Xena Dx GmbH



LINKEDIN



<https://www.xenadx.com/>

WEBSITE



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/xena-health/>

MEET THE TEAM

Czuee Morey, Deepali Godbole, Mohamed Taha

Surgical AI copilot for 63M pelvic surgeries, starting from endometriosis

ABOUT

Surgery, the only definitive treatment for endometriosis patients (1M procedures/year), fails in 50% of women. This is because standard MRI reports give a diagnosis, not a surgical plan — they flag obvious lesions without mapping how disease has spread through nearby bowel, bladder, ureters, vessels, and nerves. Surgeons find out the real complexity only once they're already operating, which is why complications spike, costs jump 75%, operative time doubles, and 50% of patients need a re-surgery.

Xena is building an AI copilot for surgeons that converts standard imaging into a patient specific view of anatomy and risk. Targeting a \$55 Billion pelvic market starting from Gynecology. Xena assists surgeons today and will power robots tomorrow.

- Built on 120,000 image proprietary dataset, expanding to 700,000 - the largest pelvic imaging dataset from imaging to surgical ground truth
- US health system pilots launching: Mary Washington, UCSD; +14 hospitals in pipeline ready to pilot
- 91% surgical match across 27 live deployments; surgical plan changed in 43% of cases based on Xena findings
- New revenue line for hospitals to capture existing billing codes that currently go uncaptured.

Backed by leaders from Intuitive Surgical, Pfizer, Morgan Stanley and top surgeons from Uniklinik Freiburg, Delta CHIREC, UC San Diego.

EVENT SUPPORTER



H3 Health Hub

A Helmholtz Transfer Academy

H3 Health Hub - a transfer academy of the six Helmholtz Health centers - is a program to foster early, fundamental awareness and further training in the areas of technology transfer, innovation, and entrepreneurship.

Our aim is to create better conditions for an active startup culture within the academic centers.

Together, we enable researchers, employees and aspiring entrepreneurs to successfully transfer results from lab into business.

Offerings of the H3 Health Hub include a platform for community, learning, events, workshops, seminars, as well as participation in conferences.

Our partners from the regional life science ecosystems are integrated closely throughout the process. This includes experts from technology transfer, innovation management and human resources development from all centers to cover the entire development process of aspiring entrepreneurs.

If you are interested, you can sign up for our monthly newsletter ("join community") and follow us on LinkedIn.

JOIN COMMUNITY



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H3 Health Hub
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