DKTK Heidelberg Community Meeting 2026

November 30, 2026, 09:00 to 16:00 CET
DKFZ Communication Center, Lecture Hall and Foyer, Im Neuenheimer Feld 280, Heidelberg

Program:

Presentations and discussions take place at the Lecture Hall.

09:00 - 09:25: ***Welcome and Introduction to DKTK Heidelberg***
Christiane Opitz, spokesperson DKTK Translation Center Heidelberg, DKFZ

09:25 - 10:00: ***Keynote lecture: Artificial Intelligence in translational cancer research***
Jakob Kather, Institute for Medical AI, Heidelberg University Hospital

10:00 – 10:45: ***Enabling successful translation: clinical development, regulatory requirements and CRO support (1)***

- Accelerating Therapeutic Innovation: The Role of CROs in Preclinical Drug Development, Julia Schüler, IQVIA Laboratories
- ATMPs – a regulatory perspective, Daniel Nowak, Paul-Ehrlich-Institut (PEI)

10:45 – 10:55: Comfort Break

10:55 – 12:00: ***Enabling successful translation: clinical development, regulatory requirements and CRO support (2)***

- From Research to Patient: Regulatory and Quality Essentials for Successful Translation, Sophie Bartsch, Johner Institut GmbH
- Regulatory science and support in Translation to first in human studies, Julia Stingl, Heidelberg University Hospital
- Changing Practice in Skin Cancer Diagnostics: Lessons Learned, Titus Brinker, DKFZ

12:00 – 12:45: Group picture and Lunch Break, Foyer

12:45 – 13:05: ***Successful translation in practice***
aiPTO, Haikun Liu, DKFZ

13:05 - 14:15: ***Short presentations and Flash Talks from selected poster abstracts***

- Short presentations of projects funded in the Seed Funding and Bridge to Translation Funding Calls 2026
- Selected Poster Abstracts

14:15: - 15:30: **Poster Session** and Coffee Break, Foyer

15:30 - 16:00: ***Wrapping it up: Current priorities and future strategies of DKTK Heidelberg***
Podium discussion

16:00: **Farewell** and end of retreat