# Harpoon

## DKFZ/NCT/DKTK HARPOON 2026

Cutting-Edge Precision Oncology:
Innovation. Impact. Insights.

Heidelberg Congress Center (HCC), Czernyring 20, Heidelberg

## AGENDA

### Thursday, Nov 5 | 9 am – 4.45 pm

| | |
|---|---|
| 08.30 – 09.00 | **Registration & Coffee** |
| 09.00 – 09.15 | **Welcome** \| Stefan Fröhling (NCT & DKFZ Heidelberg) |
| 09.15 – 10.35 | **Session 1 \| Recent Developments in Multilayered Tumor Profiling**<br>Chairs: Corinna Keup & Anja Riediger \| NCT Heidelberg |
| | **Eva Schäfer** \| NCT & DKFZ Heidelberg<br>Exploring the Therapeutic Potential of Expression-Based Targets in Rare Cancers |
| | **Alexander Beck** \| LMU and Bavarian Biotech GmbH, Munich<br>Therapeutic Epitope Accessibility: A New Functional Layer for Precision Oncology |
| | **Bernd Bodenmiller** \| University of Zurich, ETH Zurich<br>Highly multiplexed imaging of tissues with subcellular resolution by imaging mass cytometry |
| | **Klaus Pantel** \| University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf<br>Liquid Biopsy: From discovery to clinical implementation |
| 10.35 – 11.20 | **Coffee Break** |
| 11.20 – 12.40 | **Session 2 \| Basic and Translational Research Guided by Clinical Discovery**<br>Chair: Claudia Scholl \| DKFZ Heidelberg |
| | **Theresa Bunse** \| UMM Mannheim, DKFZ Heidelberg<br>Evaluation of glioma-specific T cells for therapeutic use |
| | **Jens Kleesiek** \| University Hospital Essen<br>Operationalizing Clinical AI |
| | **Sonja Loges** \| DKFZ Hector Cancer Institute at the University Medical Center Mannheim<br>Sex differences in response to cancer immune therapy in NSCLC and beyond |
| | **Kendra Maaß** \| Hopp Children's Cancer Center (KiTZ), Heidelberg<br>Liquid Biopsies @KiTZ: Early Diagnosis, Therapy Monitoring and Surveillance |
| 12.40 – 13.00 | **Special Feature: Natalie Jäger** \| DKFZ and Epignostix GmbH, Heidelberg<br>AI-powered models for cancer diagnostics: methylation-based precision tumor profiling<br>Chair: Marc Zapatka \| NCT Heidelberg & DKFZ |
| 13.00 – 14.00 | **Lunch Break** |
| 14.00 – 14.40 | **Keynote: Ken Herrmann** \| University of Duisburg-Essen and DKTK – University Hospital Essen<br>From Diagnosis to Destruction: The Power of Radioligand Therapeutics in Cancer Treatment.<br>Chair: Hanno Glimm \| NCT Dresden |
| 14.00 – 15.00 | **Patient Advocacy: Julien Frick** \| Patient Research Council NCT Heidelberg<br>**Martina Schmidt** \| NCT Heidelberg & DKFZ<br>Profiling the Host: PROMs and Patient Perspective in Precision Oncology<br>Chair: Simon Kreutzfeldt \| NCT Heidelberg |
| 15.00 – 15.20 | **Flash Talks**<br>Chair: Maximilian Werner \| NCT Dresden |
| | **Timon Blindauer** (DKFZ HD) **Mark Hartmann** (DKFZ HD) **Rayan Hassaine** (Hartwig Medical Foundation)<br>**Sarah Masser** (DKFZ HD) **Charlotte Orschel** (UK Köln) **Sophie Roerink** (Hartwig Medical Foundation)<br>**Lenja Voigt** (NCT Dreden) **Johanna Wagner** (DKFZ HD) **Federico Zingarelli** (University of Bologna) |
| 15.20 – 16.05 | **Coffee Break** |
| 16.05 – 16.45 | **Keynote: Jonathan Fletcher \|** Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston<br>Tackling Genomic Integrity and Persistence: Pathways to Cures in GIST<br>Chair: Stefan Fröhling \| NCT Heidelberg & DKFZ |
| 16.45 – 19.00 | **Dinner & Drinks \| Networking** |
| 19.30 | **OPTIONAL: Get-together at MEDOCS Heidelberg**<br>*Drinks & food at own expense* |

dkfz. GERMAN CANCER RESEARCH CENTER IN THE HELMHOLTZ ASSOCIATION

NCT NATIONAL CENTER FOR TUMOR DISEASES

DKTK German Cancer Consortium

MONIKA KUTZNER STIFTUNG

# Harpoon

## DKFZ/NCT/DKTK HARPOON 2026

Cutting-Edge Precision Oncology:
Innovation. Impact. Insights.

Heidelberg Congress Center (HCC), Czernyring 20, Heidelberg

## AGENDA

**Friday, Nov 6 | 9 am – 3.10 pm**

| | |
|---|---|
| 08.30 – 09.00 | **Registration & Coffee** |
| 09.00 – 10.20 | **Session 3 \| Clinical Trials Guided by Basic and Translational Research**<br>Chair: Christophe Massard \| Gustave Roussy Cancer Center, Villejuif |
| | **Irene Brana** \| VHIO, Barcelona<br>TBA |
| | **Wolfgang Herr** \| University Clinic Regensburg<br>Translational research continuum at the NCT WERA site Regensburg |
| | **Nana Talvard-Balland** \| University Medical Center Freiburg<br>Exploiting mechanisms of immune escape for therapeutic targeting in AML |
| | **Marcel Trefny** \| LMU, Munich<br>Improving CAR T cell immunotherapy through enhanced migration and persistence |
| 10.20 – 11.00 | **Coffee Break** |
| 11.00 – 12.20 | **Session 4 \| New Horizons in the Analysis of Molecular and Clinical Information**<br>Chair: Daniel Hübschmann \| NCT Heidelberg & DKFZ |
| | **Santiago Demajo** \| IRB Barcelona<br>Cancer Genome Interpreter: Translating Cancer Driver Identification into Precision Oncology |
| | **Wolfgang Huber** \| EMBL Heidelberg<br>Making the most of single-cell resolution omics assays |
| | **Lena Maier-Hein** \| DKFZ and NCT Heidelberg, University Heidelberg<br>Failing forward in medical imaging AI |
| | **Julien Vibert / Hakim Benkirane** \| Gustave Roussy Cancer Center / CentraleSupélec, PRISM Institute<br>Leveraging AI to better understand and treat sarcomas and rare cancers |
| 12.20 – 12.40 | **Special Feature: Christophe Massard** \| Gustave Roussy Cancer Center, Villejuif<br>New drugs in 2030<br>Chair: Julien Vibert \| Gustave Roussy Cancer Center, Villejuif |
| 12.40 – 13.40 | **Lunch Break** |
| 13.40 – 14.20 | **Selected Talks**<br>Chair: Peter Horak \| NCT Heidelberg & UKHD |
| | **Christopher Deacon** \| University of Nottingham<br>Single-Assay Multilayered Profiling of Soft-Tissue Sarcoma: Rapid Fusion Detection and Methylation Classification with Adaptive Nanopore Sequencing |
| | **Ahmed Sadik** \| DKFZ Heidelberg<br>Laconis-DiffRx, a foundation model based classifier that predicts immunotherapy resistance from routine H&E sections in brain tumors. |
| 14.20 – 15.00 | **Keynote: Nada Jabado** \| McGill University, Montréal<br>Oncohistones: How Polycomb Deregulation, Genome Architecture and Metabolic Reprogramming Lock Malignant Cell States<br>Chair: Maria-Veronica Teleanu \| NCT Heidelberg & UKHD |
| 15.00 – 15.10 | **Farewell \| Closing Words** |
| 15.10 – 15.30 | **Coffee \| Networking** |

dkfz. GERMAN CANCER RESEARCH CENTER IN THE HELMHOLTZ ASSOCIATION

NCT NATIONAL CENTER FOR TUMOR DISEASES

DKTK German Cancer Consortium

MONIKA KUTZNER STIFTUNG