



## Comprehensive Cancer Center Zurich

### 10th Zurich Immuno-Oncology Symposium

Friday, March 6th, 2026, 8.30 a.m. – 5.45 p.m.

Grosser Hörsaal Nord, USZ, hybrid



#### Credits:

SGMO tbd, SSRO tbd

If you need a certificate please send an e-mail to [ccc@usz.ch](mailto:ccc@usz.ch)

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**8.30 a.m. Welcome**  
Markus G. Manz, University Hospital Zurich  
Tobias Weiss, University Hospital Zurich  
**Immune Engagers – Markus G. Manz, Melanie Greter**

**8.35 a.m. State of the art and next generation immune cell engagers and cell therapies**  
Dario Vernetz, Principal Scientist at Roche

**9.00 a.m. Next-Generation engineering of T cell immunity**  
Mirco Julian Friedrich, Dr., German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ), Heidelberg, Germany

**9.25 a.m. Reprogramming tumor-associated macrophages**  
Peter Ellmark, Professor at Lund University, CSO at Alligator Bioscience, Sweden

**9.50 a.m. Bifunctional molecule Paghocytic Synapse Enhancers (PSEs)**  
Goncalo J.L. Bernardes, Cambridge, United Kingdom

**10.15 a.m. Flash Talk Immune Engagers**

**10.20 a.m. Coffee Break**  
**Mechanisms, Profiling and Basic Science Aspects of Cancer Immunotherapies – Burkhard Becher, Stefanie Kreutmair**

**10.40 a.m. The Double-Edged Sword of Cancer Immunity: Escape Mechanisms and Therapy-Induced Side Effects**  
Robert Zeiser, Uniklinik Freiburg, Germany

**11.05 a.m. Lymphocyte Networks Orchestrating Colorectal Cancer Liver Metastases**  
Sonia Tugues, PhD, Prof., Mannheim Institute for Innate Immunoscience (MI3), University of Heidelberg, Germany; Institute of Experimental Immunology, University of Zurich

**11.30 a.m. Modeling and modulating antitumor immunity in human cancer tissues**  
Dr. Daniela Thommen, Netherlands Cancer Institute, Amsterdam, Netherlands

**11.55 a.m. The tumor microenvironment from a T-cell-centered view**  
Enrico Lugli, PhD, Humanitas Research Hospital Pieve Emanuele, Italy

**12.20 p.m. Flash Talk Mechanisms, Profiling and Basic Science Aspects**

**12.25 p.m. Lunch Break**

**Cellular Therapies – Tobias Weiss, Chiara Magnani**

**1.15 p.m. iPSC-CAR immune cells as a novel concept for cell therapy**  
Maria Themeli, Amsterdam (TiPSC), The Netherlands

**1.40 p.m. Optimising CAR-T cells for improved efficacy and reduced toxicity**  
Prof. Magnus Essand, PhD, Uppsala University, Dept. Immunology, Genetics, Pathology, Uppsala Sweden

**2.05 p.m. Immunotherapy for brain tumors – from vaccines to TCR T cell therapy**  
Michael Platten, MD, CCU Neuroimmunology and Brain Tumor Immunology, DKFZ Heidelberg, Germany

**2.30 p.m. Current and future concepts of in vivo engineered CAR immune cells**  
Christian Buchholz, Prof. Dr., Molecular Biotechnology and Gene Therapy, Paul-Ehrlich-Institut Langen, Germany

**2.55 p.m. Flash Talk Cellular Therapies**

**3.00 p.m. Coffee Break**

**Immune Checkpoint Inhibition – Andreas Wicki, Anne Müller**

**3.20 p.m. Identification of a novel checkpoint for tumour immunogenicity**  
Sergio Quezada, University College London Cancer Institute, United Kingdom

**3.45 p.m. When self-reactivity becomes protective: autoimmunity and tumor control under checkpoint inhibitors**  
Lukas Flatz, Prof. Dr. med., University Hospital Tübingen, Germany

**4.10 p.m. Current and future immune checkpoint inhibitor strategies: Combinations and novel targets**  
Caroline Robert, MD, PhD, Gustave Roussy and Paris Saclay University, France

**4.35 p.m. Flash Talk Immune Checkpoint Inhibition**

**4.40 p.m. Wrap-Up**  
Markus G. Manz, University Hospital Zurich  
Tobias Weiss, University Hospital Zurich