

Research profile for applicants

Name of DKFZ research division/group:	<i>Molecular Genetics (B060) / Immune Modulation in Cancer</i>
Contact person:	<i>Martina Seiffert; m.seiffert@dkfz.de</i>
Group homepage: <i>Visit this website for further information on current research and recent publications.</i>	<i>https://www.dkfz.de/en/genetics/pages/projects/CLL/CLL-en.html</i>
Eligibility:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>DKFZ Postdoctoral Fellowships</i>

RESEARCH PROFILE AND PROJECT TOPICS

My group is interested in tumor immunology and the microenvironment with a focus on cancer-induced immune suppression and inflammation as a driver of disease. Our main activities are in B-cell malignancies and brain metastasis of breast and lung cancer, where we are collaborating with clinical partners providing patient samples and have immunocompetent mouse models established.

We employ functional genetics and single-cell omics approaches to identify mediators and molecular mechanisms of the crosstalk between the cancer cells and their surrounding neighbourhood with the final goal to develop novel immunotherapy approaches. We perform preclinical and functional studies in patient-derived spheroid cell culture models and transgenic and transplantable mouse models.

Notable achievements include uncovering tumor-supportive and immunosuppressive mechanisms, identifying IL4I1 as a novel metabolic immune checkpoint (Sadik et al., *Cell* 2020), and revealing a new role for IL-10 in T-cell exhaustion (Hanna et al., *Immunity* 2021). We have further defined novel immunotherapy combinations, including CAR-T cells and bispecific antibodies (Brinkmann et al., *Blood* 2024).

We are seeking for a highly motivated and science-enthusiastic PostDoc who will work on novel therapeutic targets and mechanisms of immune suppression in cancer focussing on myeloid cells. The goal of the project is the development of successful combination therapies to improve immune control in cancer.

We are offering an inspiring research environment equipped with cutting-edge technologies. You will work alongside an international group of experts, including PostDocs, PhD and MD students, and skilled technicians, fostering collaboration and innovation across various career stages. This position provides an excellent opportunity for professional growth, interdisciplinary research, and contribution to ground-breaking scientific advancements.



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