# e:Medium Flash NEWSLETTER

## February 2025

Dear Reader,



From now on you will be informed about the latest and most groundbreaking e:Med publications, by our monthly newsletter in a fresh new format. This change aims to enhance networking, communication, and the flow of information within the e:Med community. Please feel free to draw our attention to your new publications via e:Med website.

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**CATCHING HEART TROUBLE EARLY** Predicting ICI-Induced Myocarditis Before Symptoms Strike

Is early detection of irMyocarditis possible? Immune-Checkpoint-Inhibitor (ICI)-induced myocarditis threatens the lives of cancer patients receiving this key therapy. Scientists around Prof. Dr. Lucie Heinzerling, LMU Munich, e:Med alliance MelAutim, screened 280 cancer patients with high-sensitivity Troponin-T, and in fact could predict the onset of irMyocarditis prior to symptoms. This result may enable prevention of fatal outcomes of irMyocarditis in cancer patients.





#### HOW DO T CELLS TRAVEL WHEN THE MELANOMA BRAIN TUMOR CALLS? Distinctive venous vessels and factors

How immune cells migrate into the brain is essential to improve therapy for brain metastases of melanoma. e:Med scientists of MelBrain-Sys alliance around Dr. Matthia Karreman, DKFZ and Heidelberg University, found now peritumoral venous vessels as key structures for T cells to access melanoma brain tumors, and key factors acting upon it.

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### BREXU-CEL vs. STEM CELL TRANS-PLANT

Finding better treatment for Lymphoma

For patients with relapsed or refractory mantle cell lymphoma (r/rMCL), choosing the right treatment can be challenging. Prof. Dr. Sascha Dietrich, University of Düsseldorf, e:Med junior research group SYMPATHY, led a collaborative study comparing CAR-T cell therapy (brexu-cel) with stem cell transplantation. The findings reveal that brexu-cel offers higher survival rates in the first year and causes fewer severe side effects. **read more** 



#### **KEEPING TRACK OF THE GUT** Changes to microbiota in pregnancy are different in IBS patients

The gut microbiome changes during pregnancy. But how do these changes affect patients with Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS)? Scientists of e:Med alliance iTREAT, led by Prof. Dr. Philip Rosenstiel, UKSH Kiel, now investigated the microbiome changes during pregnancy in mice. Their finding of considerably elevated levels of inflammation-associated bacteria may help identifying microbial biomarkers that aid in managing pregnancy in IBS patients.

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#### HOW TO RETIRE CANCER CELLS Inducing senescence in cancer cells as a therapy approach

When normal cells stop dividing, they go into senescence. Is it possible to induce senescence in cancer cells? e:Med researchers of the SASKit alliance led by Prof. Dr. Georg Fuellen and Prof. Dr. Robert Jaster, Rostock University, now show the combined effect of two genotoxic drugs and radiation in mice, and explain senescence mechanisms. Their results show promise against the growth of pancreatic cancer cells.

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#### **ONLINE SEMINAR SERIES** Modelling approaches for disease processes

March 12, 2025: The Critical Role of Mechanistic Disease Understanding in Drug Development Birgit Schoeberl, Novartis BioMedical Research, Cambridge, USA Location: Zoom, 2 p.m. CET read more

#### IMPRINT

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