

Moving towards a smarter treatment for Rheumatoid Arthritis



Ass. Prof. Dr. Olivia Merkel has won the 2015 Galenus Technology Prize for her research into the use of in-situ nano-gels as a smart drug delivery system for the treatment of Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA). Although currently based in the US, Olivia Merkel comes from Villingen-Schwenningen in Germany and started her career at the University of Marburg, where she completed her PhD in 2009.

From Germany she moved to the Eugene-Applebaum-College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan, where she has taught since 2011. There she founded the MERKEL LAB, which is dedicated to the development of novel non-viral, targeted, nano siRNA delivery systems. Among her other activities, Prof. Merkel was instrumental in organizing the 1st transatlantic Galenus Guest Professorship in 2014.

The research for which she has received the Galenus Technology Prize, 2015, deals with the placing of short (small) interfering RNA (siRNA) within activated macrophages. These are used to repress the genes responsible for the onset of the inflammatory cascade which leads to Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA).

Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA) is one of the most common chronic inflammatory conditions to affect the joints. Although the cause of RA is not yet fully understood, it is believed to be an autoimmune disease, increasingly manifesting with age, affecting three times more women than men.

Lokale Gruppen

Mittwoch, 30. September 2015

Lokale APV-Gruppe Rhein-Main ab 19:30 Uhr. Ort wird noch bekanntgegeben.

Weitere Informationen erhalten Sie bei Cathrin Pauly.

Mittwoch, 30. September 2015

Lokale APV-Gruppe Nord ab 18:30 Uhr im Hofbräuhaus (Esplanade 6, 20354 Hamburg)

Anmeldung erforderlich bis zum 23. September 2015 bei Birgit Vorbrodt.

Mittwoch, 07. Oktober 2015

Lokale APV-Gruppe Basel ab 19:30 Uhr im Restaurant Gifhüttli (<http://www.gifhuettli.ch/>).

Anmeldung erforderlich bis zum 30. September 2015 bei Dr. Julia Matilainen.

Donnerstag, 15. Oktober 2015

Lokale APV-Gruppe Oberbayern ab 19:30 Uhr in der Essence-Lounge, Gottfried-Keller-Str. 35, 81245 München, Telefon 089 80040025.

Anmeldung erforderlich bis zum 10. Oktober 2015 bei Dr. (USA) Julia Schulze-Nahrup.

Donnerstag, 14. Januar 2016

Lokale APV-Gruppe Berlin um 19:00 Uhr. Ort wird noch bekanntgegeben.

Anmeldung erforderlich bis zum 05. Januar 2016 bei Dr. Andreas Sachse.