

	Medical Scientist Network Symposium for and by Medical Scientists
Day before Meeting 22.03.2026	
18:00	Arrival and Reception Key Note Lecture Prof. Dr. Christine Falk, biologist, Institute of Transplant Immunology <i>DINNER</i>
1st Day 23.03.2026	
9:00	Welcome Session Moderation: Petra Dersch and Sven Brandau Representatives of Medical Faculties Münster and Essen: Frank Müller (Dean Münster), Jan Buer (Dean Essen), Annalen Bleckmann (vice dean für research, Münster), Anke Hinney (vice dean for academic career development and diversity, Essen)
9:30	Welcome to Representatives of: DLR (Anna Lücke), DGfI (Hans-Jörg Schild), MFT (Miriam Pittet), DKH (Jöckel), Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds, Volkswagen Stiftung, Wissenschaftsrat (Beatrix Schwörer), InfectNet, DFG (Michael Müller)
9:45	The mission of Else Kröner – who, if not us? Alexander Lehmann, EKFS
10:00	Presentations of all five EKFS Medical Scientist Kollegs by the speakers: focus and structures in Münster, Essen, Mainz, Göttingen and Hamburg (5 x 10 min+ 2 min)
11:00	<i>BREAK</i>
11:30	Impulse Talks by Petra Dersch, Sven Brandau Why are we doing this? Do we need it? What do we want to achieve? Plenary Discussion (Moderation Sven Brandau) <i>to be continued in the workshops in the afternoon</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition of the term “Medical Scientist” • Medical Scientist as Career Option • Benefits of being a Medical Scientist • How to implement medical scientist funding in the German research landscape
12:45	<i>LUNCHBREAK</i>
13:45	Medical Progress needs Medical Scientists: overview of research and options of exchange I Tandem-talks from selected PIs and Fellows of 3 EKFS Kollegs, 2 tandems from each Kolleg, 10 min per talk
15:00	Speed Networking – Informal exchange among colleagues from various career levels and disciplines
16:00	<i>BREAK</i>
16:30	Workshops for Fellows, coordinators, PIs and Representatives: World Cafe Format (Auditorium) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How should optimal Research and Career development support and structures look like • Lessons learned and best practice examples of currently running EKFS Kollegs • The power of mentoring (with perspectives of both mentees and mentors) • How should a German Medical Scientist Network look like? • <i>Exchange among coordinators – learnings from building up and organizing Medical Scientist Programmes (seminar room 17)</i>

17:30	Presentation of the workshop results and discussion with Fellows, PIs, Representatives: Implementation of Medical Scientist Programs – lifting the potential for the benefit of translational research in Germany
18:30	Get together and Dinner
2nd Day 24.03.2026	
9:00	Medical Progress needs Medical Scientists: overview of research and options of exchange II Tandem-talks from selected PIs and Fellows of 2 EKFS Kollegs, 2-3 tandems from each Kolleg, 10 min per talk
10:00	“I did it my way” – a career in academia: How did you deal with challenges and draw backs? How did you “find your way”? <u>Moderation: Maren Telsemeyer</u> Prof. Dr. Astrid Westendorf, Vice Rector for Research, Biologist, Institute for Immunology of Infection, Essen Prof. Dr. Noelia Alonso Gonzalez Biologist, Institute of Immunology, Münster Prof. Dr. Ulf Dittmer, Director of the Institute for Virology, Biologist, Institute of Virology, Essen Prof. Dr. Tim Lämmermann, Biologist, Institute of Medical Biochemistry, Münster
11:00	<i>BREAK</i>
11:20	Medical Scientists as Founders: From science to start-up <i>Dr. Matthias Kiel (REACH Münster)</i> <i>Dr. Hatim Hemeda (PL BioScience GmbH)</i> potential parallel session: Exchange of Program Speakers
12:00	Poster Pitches and Poster Walk – <i>relevance of my research for medical science</i>
13:15	<i>LUNCHBREAK – and the opportunity to visit more posters</i>
14:15	Parallel working groups <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Medical Scientist Network Initiation of a German Medical Scientist Network (Task and Benefit of Network, How can the network be financed (coordinator position) and administered? 2. Visibility analogue Drafting a statement of intent for publication (e.g., in <i>Forschung und Lehre</i>, <i>Laborjournal</i> and <i>BioSpektrum</i>) Letters to relevant institutions: German Rectors' Conference (HRK), Science Council (WR), medical faculties/deaneries 3. Visibility digital Creating a Wikipedia entry to define "Medical Scientists" Visibility and science communication – which platforms do we want to use?
15:30	<i>BREAK</i>
15:45	Formation of a Medical Scientist Task Force and implementation of the workshop results Define goals: interest representation, political lobbying towards: politics, employers, funders Persons responsible
16:45	Poster Award and Closing remarks
17:00	Departure

Costs covered for speaker, Pls, Scholars:

- Hotel
- Catering

(travel expenses must be paid individually)

Registration via online portal

Deadline for registration and poster submission: January 2026

Poster guidelines:

- own project, goals and aims, techniques, hypotheses
- please put a picture of you on the poster – *to find you in the coffee break*
- career stage/development/my way
- relevance of my research for medical science
- Poster Pitches during the symposium

Background (brief context and motivation),

Approach (key methods, main idea only)

Research focus (core questions/goals, easy to understand)

Notes:

Expected number of posters 6-8 pro Kolleg = 24-32 max.

Wer begutachtet?

Registration also possible for single days

Choice of workshops: I am interested in...