

4th INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON TUMOR-HOST INTERACTION IN HEAD AND NECK CANCER

in conjunction with the
1st AI IN HEAD AND NECK
ONCOLOGY – SYMPOSIUM

© Kateryna Kon/iCL / PAPERIA.com | Fotolia

January 22–24, 2026
Essen, Germany

● **ESSEN**

Scientific program

support by



Working Group
Oncology
of the German Society
of Oto-Rhino-Laryngology,
Head and Neck Surgery

the European Head
& Neck Society



www.headandneck-symposium.de



Fascination Head-Neck-Surgery

ENT2026

97th Annual meeting of the
German Society of Oto-
Rhino-Laryngology,
Head and Neck Surgery

President
Prof. Dr. med.
Thomas K. Hoffmann
Ulm

May, 13-16
Messe Ulm

20th International Forum
Thursday, 14 May to
Saturday, 16 May

25th Annual Conference
German Academy for
Ear, Nose and Throat
Medicine, Head and Neck
Surgery e. V.
Thursday, 14 May to
Saturday, 16 May

**26th Day of Nursing and
Healthcare Professions**
Friday, 15 May

www.hno-kongress.de

General Information

Imprint	3
Organization	4
General Information	5
Financial Grants and Sponsors	6
Scientific Program	
Thursday, January 22	7
Friday, January 23	11
Saturday, January 24	16
Poster Session Friday, January 23	20

Imprint

Conference Organization

Conventus Congressmanagement &
Marketing GmbH

conventus
CONGRESSMANAGEMENT

Nicole Hirsch/Franziska Thiele
Carl-Pulfrich-Straße 1 | 07745 Jena, Germany
Phone +49 3641 31 16-313 | hnc@conventus.de
www.conventus.de

Layout	Conventus Congressmanagement & Marketing GmbH
Print	Unitedprint.com Vertriebsgesellschaft mbH Friedrich-List-Straße 3 01445 Radebeul
Circulation	250
Editorial Deadline	January 09, 2026

Organization

Venue

Medical Faculty of the University of Duisburg-Essen
„Lehr- und Lernzentrum – Deichmann-Auditorium“
Virchowstraße 163a
45147 Essen, Germany

Date

January 22–24, 2026

Conference Chair

Stephan Lang
University Hospital Essen
Department of Oto-Rhino-Laryngology,
Head and Neck Surgery
Essen, Germany

**Working Group Oncology of the German Society of
Oto-Rhino-Laryngology, Head and Neck Surgery**

Jens Peter Klußmann
University Hospital Cologne
Department of Otorhinolaryngology
Cologne, Germany

Program Chairs

Sven Brandau
University Hospital Essen
Department of Oto-Rhino-Laryngology,
Head and Neck Surgery
Essen, Germany

Jadwiga Jablonska
University Hospital Essen
Department of Oto-Rhino-Laryngology,
Head and Neck Surgery
Essen, Germany

Cornelius Kürten
University Hospital Essen
Department of Oto-Rhino-Laryngology,
Head and Neck Surgery
Essen, Germany

General Information

General Terms and Conditions

Please find our general terms and conditions at www.headandneck-symposium.de.

Wifi

Wifi is available for free during the entire course of the conference.
Name: Stiftungs-WIFI (open access)

CME Points and Certificate of Attendance

Certification of the medical association of North Rhine-Westphalia is approved and will be certificated as follows:

January 22, 2026	Category A	8 points
January 23, 2026	Category A	9 points
January 24, 2026	Category A	8 points

Please scan your name badge at the certification desk once every day. Certificates of attendance will be send via e-mail after the conference.

Accredited by

Deutsche Gesellschaft für
Radioonkologie e.V. (DEGRO)



Publication of Abstracts

All abstracts of posters and oral presentations will be published in a digital abstract booklet available on the conference website www.headandneck-symposium.de.

Online Program

Use the QR-Code to view the online program.



Social Evening

Experience a wonderful evening with old and new colleagues over delicious food and selected drinks in the EDDA Restaurant, a trendy venue located in the art museum Folkwang.

Date: Friday, January 23, 2026

Begin: 19.30

Fee: 65 EUR

Venue: Edda Restaurant – Museum Folkwang
Museumsplatz 1 | 45128 Essen

Financial Grants and Sponsors

Financial Grants

Cultural Foundation Essen
Kulturstiftung Essen



German National Academy
of Sciences Leopoldina



Leopoldina
Nationale Akademie
der Wissenschaften

The Leopoldina originated in 1652 as a classical scholarly society and now has 1,600 members from almost all branches of science. In 2008, the Leopoldina was appointed as the German National Academy of Sciences and, in this capacity, was invested with two major objectives: representing the German scientific community internationally, and providing policymakers and the public with science-based advice. The Leopoldina champions the freedom and appreciation of science on both the national and the international level. It is her role to identify and analyse scientific issues of social importance. The Leopoldina presents its policy recommendations in a scientifically qualified, independent, transparent and prospective manner, ever mindful of the standards and consequences of science.

Sponsors

MSD Sharp & Dohme GmbH
10x Genomics B.V.
AstraZeneca GmbH
Atmos MedizinTechnik GmbH & Co. KG
KARL STORZ SE & Co. KG
Leo Pharma GmbH
Limmer Laser GmbH
Munich Surgical Imaging GmbH
NeilMed Pharma GmbH
Quanterix
XEOS Medical NV

Transparency

The content of this event is designed to be product- and service-neutral. We confirm that the scientific management and speakers disclose any potential conflicts of interest to participants. A list of supporting companies is available at www.headandneck-symposium.de.

Scientific program | Thursday, January 22, 2026

12.00–12.02 Opening of the 1st AI in Head and Neck Oncology – Satellite Symposium

Stephan Lang (Essen/DE)

12.02–13.45 Selected Oral Abstracts 1 Artificial Intelligence from Mechanisms to Medicine

Chair	Orlando Guntinas-Lichius (Jena/DE) Christian Betz (Hamburg/DE)
12.02	In-depth Characterization of the AREG-EGFR Pathway in HNSCC Beatriz Cardoso de Toledo (Munich/DE)
12.15	Defining Predictive Immune Signatures by Immune Monitoring and Machine Learning from the Blood of HNSCC Patients Receiving Postoperative Radio-(chemo)therapy in the Prospective DIREKHT Trial Anna-Jasmina Donaubauer (Erlangen/DE)
12.28	Personalized Neoantigen Screening and Precision Immunotherapy for Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma Based on Multi-omics and Organoid-on-a-Chip Technology Shu Tao (Chengdu/CN)
12.41	DNA Copy Number Alteration-Status of Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinomas is associated with Distinct Radiomic Phenotypes Stefan Haider (Munich/DE)
12.54	Machine Learning-Based Prediction of Overall Survival from Early Surrogate Endpoints in Head and Neck Cancer Clinical Trials Jong Chul Park (Boston, MA/US)
13.07	Vision-Weighted Diagnostic Gain (VWDG) in the Diagnosis of Oral Malignant Lesions: A Multimodal Comparative Analysis Fatma E. A. Hassanein (South Sinai/EG)

Scientific program | Thursday, January 22, 2026

13.20	Artificial Intelligence–Based Image Recognition for Diagnosing Oral and Oropharyngeal Cancer and Leukoplakia Benedikt Schmidl (Munich/DE)
13.33	Assessment of Pre- and Post-Treatment Multidisciplinary Tumor Board Recommendations with a Locally Operating Large Language Model (LLAMA 3.3) in Head and Neck Cancer Management Nadia Sadok (Essen/DE)
13.45–15.15	Invited Speaker Session 1 Advances in Computational Oncology and Multi-Omics for HNSCC
Chair	Jochen Hess (Heidelberg/DE) Andreas Knopf (Freiburg/DE)
13.45 digital	From Cells to Ecosystems: Integrating Spatial and Single-Cell Genomics to Understand Head and Neck Cancer Anthony Richard Cillo (Pittsburgh, PA/US)
14.11	Multimodal Deep Learning Models for Therapy Response Prediction in Head and Neck Cancer Kristian Unger (Munich/DE)
14.36	From Data to Decisions: Leveraging AI for Precision Prognosis and Classification in Head and Neck Cancer Jianjun Ren (Chengdu/CN)
15.01	Panel Discussion "Multimodal Data Fusion – Innovative Tool or Solution in Search of a Problem?" Kristian Unger (Munich/DE) Anthony Richard Cillo (Pittsburgh, PA/US) Jianjun Ren (Chengdu/CN)

Scientific program | Thursday, January 22, 2026

16.00–17.30 Invited Speaker Session 2

AI-Enhanced Diagnostics in HNSCC

Chair	René Hosch (Essen/DE) Jonas J.-H. Park (Hagen/DE)
16.00	Computational Pathology for Precision Diagnostics in Head and Neck Cancer Andreas Mock (Munich/DE)
16.25	Deep Learning for Medical Imaging in Head & Neck Cancer: From Automated Segmentation to Clinical Translation Ameen Amanian (Vancouver/CA)
16.50	Clinical Prediction Models in Head & Neck Cancer: Past, Present, Future Behrus Puladi (Aachen/DE)
17.15	Panel Discussion "AI-Powered Diagnostic Tools – Ready to Change Clinical Practice or just Impressive Prototypes?" Andreas Mock (Munich/DE) Ameen Amanian (Vancouver/CA) Behrus Puladi (Aachen/DE)

17.30–19.00 Invited Speaker Session 3

AI in Clinical Decision-Making in HNSCC

Chair	Stephan Lang (Essen/DE) Simon B. Eickhoff (Jülich/DE)
17.30	IDEA4RC-An Intelligent European Data Ecosystem for Rare Head and Neck Cancers Stefan Mattheis (Essen/DE)
17.55	AI-based Intraoperative Imaging Susanne Wiegand (Kiel/DE)
18.20	Detection of Pathological Voice Samples Using a Text-to-Speech-Inspired Approach With Multiple Model Architectures: Method Development and Comparative Evaluation Study Marie Walter (Essen/DE)

Scientific program | Thursday, January 22, 2026

18.45

Panel Discussion

"AI as a Guide in the Clinic – Ready for Prime Time?"

Stefan Mattheis (Essen/DE)

Susanne Wiegand (Kiel/DE)

Marie Walter (Essen/DE)



18.–21. März 2026 | Greifswald

24. Jahrestagung



Norddeutsche Gesellschaft
für Otorhinolaryngologie
und zervikofaziale Chirurgie

www.ndhno-jahrestagung.de

Scientific program | Friday, January 23, 2026

08.00–08.02	Opening of the 4th International Symposium on Tumor-Host Interaction in Head and Neck Cancer Stephan Lang, Cornelius H. Kürten (Essen/DE)
08.02–09.30	Selected Oral Abstracts 2 Fundamental Mechanisms of Tumor Progression and Immunity
Chair	Jadwiga Jablonska-Koch (Essen/DE) Maximilian Linxweiler (Homburg/DE)
08.02	Intro/Update Christoph A. Reichel (Munich/DE)
08.12	Understanding Early Steps of Local Invasion in HNSCC Olivier Gires (Munich/DE)
08.25	Stromal Plasticity and Androgen Signaling Underpin Sex Differences in HNSCC Moshe Elkabets (Beersheba/IL)
08.38	Neutrophil-Specific Targeting of STAT3 Impairs Tumor Progression via the Expansion of Cytotoxic CD8 ⁺ T Cells in Head and Neck Cancer Irem Özal (Essen/DE)
08.51	Granulopoiesis and Thrombopoiesis Aberrantly Synergize in Cancer to Promote Tumor Progression Christoph A. Reichel (Munich/DE)
09.04	Rethinking Androgen Deprivation Therapy for Salivary Duct Carcinoma: Epithelial – Mesenchymal Transition as a Potential Mechanism of Therapeutic Resistance and Disease Progression Louis Jansen (Cologne/DE)
09.17	Nicotine-Induced SLPI Upregulation Blocks HPV Entry via Annexin A2: Mechanistic Evidence Explaining HPV-Positivity in Non-Smokers and HPV-Negativity in Smokers with Head and Neck Cancer Markus Hoffmann (Kiel/DE)

Scientific program | Friday, January 23, 2026

10.00–11.30 Selected Oral Abstracts 3

Translational Tumor Immunology and Cancer Biology

Chair	Dirk Beutner (Göttingen/DE) Dietmar Thurnher (Graz/AT)
10.00	Intro/Update Simon Laban (Ulm/DE)
10.10	Augmenting Anti-Tumor Immunity in HNSCC by Targeting the Redox Balance of Tumor Cells Sonja Decking (Regensburg/DE)
10.23	Nanobody-based CAR-T Cells Against HNSCC: Targeting Nectin-4 and Tackling Tumor Escape with Tandem Strategies Ole Bisten (Dusseldorf/DE)
10.36	G-CSF/NAMPT–Mediated Neutrophil Dysfunction Drives Gram-negative Infection Risk and Poor Outcomes in Head and Neck Cancer Ekaterina Pylaeva (Essen/DE)
10.49	Matrix-Free Patient-Derived Organoids as a Translational Platform for Personalized Immunotherapy Testing in Head and Neck Cancer Daniel Strüder (Rostock/DE)
11.02	Comparing and Combining Xevinapant with ATR and PARP Inhibition for the Radiosensitization of HPV-Negative HNSCC Cells Julius Roehrle (Hamburg/DE)
11.15	Dynamics of Circulating Immune Cells during Neoadjuvant Immunotherapy of HNSCC Hendrik Winkel (Essen/DE)

11.30–12.30 Poster Session (page 20)

Scientific program | Friday, January 23, 2026

13.00–14.30 Invited Speaker Session 4

Surgical Innovations in Head and Neck Oncology

Chair

Giovanni Succo (Turin/IT)
Pawel Goliński (Poznań/PL)

13.00

Introducing a Fourth Dimension to Transoral
Robotic Surgery: Real-Time, Transcervical
Ultrasound
Eitan Prisman (Vancouver/CA)

13.25

Optimizing Tumor Resection: The Added
Value of Raman Spectroscopy in
Fluorescence-Guided Cancer Surgery
Hamed Abbasi (Rotterdam/NL)

13.50

Multiportal Surgical Approaches in Head, Neck
and Skull Base Tumors
Stefan Mattheis (Essen/DE)

14.15

Panel Discussion

"The Innovative Surgeon – What is Most
Challenging – Identifying Clinical Needs,
Developing Technical Solutions or Achieving
Widespread Adoption?"
Eitan Prisman (Vancouver/CA)
Hamed Abbasi (Rotterdam/NL)
Stefan Mattheis (Essen/DE)

14.30–15.30 Lunch Symposium

News on LA HNSCC – Study Data, Patient Cases, Practical Experience

Chair

Stephan Lang (Essen/DE)
Cornelius Kürten (Essen/DE)

14.30

News on LA HNSCC – Study Data, Patient
Cases, Practical Experience
Barbara Wollenberg (Munich/DE)
Simon Laban (Ulm/DE)

Scientific program | Friday, January 23, 2026

16.00–17.30 Invited Speaker Session 5

HNSCC Tumor Microenvironment – from Mechanisms to Therapy Response

Chair

Nicole Rotter (Mannheim/DE)

Thomas K. Hoffmann (Ulm/DE)

16.00

Characterization of B-Cell Subtypes and Cancer-Directed Autoantibody Responses in the Oral Cancer Tumor Microenvironment
Rieneke van de Ven (Amsterdam/NL)

16.25

Understanding Factors Influencing Immuno-therapy Response in Head and Neck Cancer
Lazar Vujanovic (Pittsburgh, PA/US)

16.50

Cancer Vaccines Work After All, But Can We Understand Why?
Christian Ottensmeier (Liverpool/GB)

17.15

Panel Discussion

"HNSCC Immunobiology – How Actionable is our Current Mechanistic Knowledge?"

Rieneke van de Ven (Amsterdam/NL)

Lazar Vujanovic (Pittsburgh, PA/US)

Christian Ottensmeier (Liverpool/GB)

17.30–19.00 Invited Speaker Session 6

Multi-Omics & Spatial Biology in HNSCC

Chair

Barbara Wollenberg (Munich/DE)

Andreas Dietz (Leipzig/DE)

17.30

Decoding the Tumor Immune Microenvironment with Spatial Multi-Omics
Sven Brandau (Essen/DE)

17.55

Precision Medicine in Head and Neck Cancer: A Journey from Data and Models to Clinical Intervention
Jianjun Ren (Chengdu/CN)

18.20

Spatially Resolved Ex Vivo Drug Response Profiling in SMARCB1 – Deficient Sinonasal Carcinoma
Andreas Mock (Munich/DE)

Scientific program | Friday, January 23, 2026

18.45

Panel Discussion

"High Dimensional Data in HNSCC – Relevant Insights or just Deeper Descriptive Layers?"

Sven Brandau (Essen/DE)

Jianjun Ren (Chengdu/CN)

Andreas Mock (Munich/DE)

MDHNO'26

35. Jahrestagung der Vereinigung
Mitteldeutscher Hals-Nasen-Ohren-Ärzte

© Kölner AK, Stadt/Bernhard Tübelz / Landesfotokunst

4.-5. September 2026
Limburg an der Lahn
www.mdhno.de

UKGM
UNIVERSITÄTSKLINIKUM
GIESSEN UND MARBURG

**JUSTUS-LIEBIG-
UNIVERSITÄT
GIESSEN**

Scientific program | Saturday, January 24, 2026

08.30–10.00 Selected Oral Abstracts 4

Precision Diagnostics and Biomarkers

Chair Sebastian Ochsenreither (Berlin/DE)
Michael Pogorzelski (Essen/DE)

08.30 Intro/Update
Henrike Zech (Hamburg/DE)

08.40 Benchmarking and Optimizing Two- and Three-Dimensional Cell- and Tissue Culture Techniques to Retain the Original Tumor Heterogeneity of Primary Head and Neck Squamous Carcinomas (HNSCC) for in vitro Chemosensitivity Assays and Personalized Medicine
Matthias Nees (Lublin/PL)

08.53 Cell-free Circulating Tumor DNA Analysis in Patients with HNSCC – Liquid Biopsy for Therapy Planning in Clinically N0 Head and Neck Cancer (LiC0HN) Study
Susanne Flach (Munich/DE)

09.06 A cfDNA-methylation-based Prognostic Indicator for Pathological Response after Neoadjuvant Immunotherapy for HNSCC
Smiths Lueong (Essen/DE)

09.19 HPV Integration as a Prognostic Marker in Oropharyngeal Cancer – Proximity-Ligation Sequencing (TLC) Enables FFPE-Based Detection and Molecular Risk Stratification
Christian U. Huebbers (Cologne/DE)

09.32 Tumor – Educated Platelets as a Liquid Biopsy Tool in Head and Neck Cancer
Nina Zauner (Ulm/DE)

09.45 Circulating Pathologically Activated Neutrophils are Reduced after Curative Therapy and May Serve as a Biomarker of Response during Neoadjuvant Immunotherapy
Kirsten Bruderek (Essen/DE)

Scientific program | Saturday, January 24, 2026

10.30–12.00 Selected Oral Abstracts 5

Innovative Technologies for Precision Treatment

Chair Markus Hecht (Homburg/DE)
Stephan Hackenberg (Würzburg/DE)

10.30 Intro/Update
Eric Deuß (Essen/DE)

10.40 Larynx Organ Preservation for Hypopharyngeal Cancer Patients – Non-Inferior 10-Year Survival Compared to Laryngeal Cancer after Induction Chemotherapy and Cetuximab
Theresa Wald (Leipzig/DE)

10.53 Evaluation of Confocal Laser Endomicroscopy as a Tool for Optical Biopsy in Nasal Cavity Carcinomas
Flurin Müller-Diesing (Aachen/DE)

11.06 3D Specimen Mapping to Optimize Postoperative Radiation Planning for Head and Neck Cancer
Jamie JY Kwon (Vancouver/CA)

11.19 A High-Resolution Micro-PET for Intraoperative Assessment of Resection Status in Malignant Tumors in the Head and Neck Region
Kazim Shiraliyev (Essen/DE)

11.32 Rapid Evaporative Ionization Mass Spectrometry Guided Intraoperative Tissue Classification in Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma
Nathalie Sophia Gumpert (Regensburg/DE)

11.45 When Tumor Meets Host: Tracking Therapy Responses in Head and Neck Cancer Slice Cultures
Nadja Ziller (Jena/DE)

Scientific program | Saturday, January 24, 2026

12.45–14.15 Invited Speaker Session 7

Liquid Biopsy for Diagnosis, Response Assessment & Monitoring

Chair Markus Wirth (Aachen/DE)
René Leemans (Amsterdam/NL)

12.45 HPV16 E6 Serology Based Screening and Early Detection of HPV-Driven Oropharyngeal Cancer
Chia-Jung Busch (Greifswald/DE)

13.10 Prognostic Value of ctDNA at Diagnosis and After Surgery in Head and Neck Cancer
Daniel Faden (Boston, MA/US)

13.35 Novel Liquid Biopsy Approaches for Prognostication and Adjuvant Therapy Decision-making in Head and Neck Cancer
Jose Zevallos (Pittsburgh, PA/US)

14.00 **Panel Discussion**
"From Early Detection to Adjuvant Therapy Decisions – Is Liquid Biopsy Ready to Guide Real-World Care?"
Daniel Faden (Boston, MA/US)
Jose Zevallos (Pittsburgh, PA/US)

14.15–15.45 Invited Speaker Session 8

Biology and Progression of Oral Premalignant Lesions

Chair Timon Hussain (Munich/DE),
Max Heiland (Berlin/DE)

14.15 The Fibroblastic Blueprint of Tumor Immune Crosstalk in HNSCC
Kevin Matthew Byrd (Richmond, VA/US)

14.40 Genetic Progression and Malignant Transformation of Oral Leukoplakia
Ruud H. Brakenhoff (Amsterdam/NL)

15.05 Utility of P53 and Other Novel Immunohistochemical Markers in the Diagnosis and Classification of Oral Epithelial Dysplasia
Yen Chen Kevin Ko (Vancouver/CA)

Scientific program | Saturday, January 24, 2026

15.30

Panel Discussion

"OPMDS – How Good are We in Predicting Malignant Transformation and How do We Intervene?"

Yen Chen Kevin Ko (Vancouver/CA)

Kevin Matthew Byrd (Richmond, VA/US)

Ruud H. Brakenhoff (Amsterdam/NL)

15.45–16.00 Closing Session and Prizes

Stephan Lang, Cornelius H. Kürten (Essen/DE)

Poster Session | Friday, January 23, 2026

11.30–12.30 Poster Session Group 1

Chair	Kerstin Stähr (Essen/DE) Hesham Negm (Giza/EG)
11.30 P 01	Integrated Multi-Omics Analyses of Oral Squamous Cell Carcinoma Reveal Recision Patient Stratification and Personalized Treatment Strategies Chi-Sheng Wu (Taoyuan/TW)
11.36 P 02	Unique Trajectories of B Cells Within Tumor-Associated Lymphoid Structures in Head and Neck Cancer Zhen Zhang (Ulm/DE)
11.42 P 03	In Silico Identification of EMT-Relevant Genes Associated with COL1A1 in Head and Neck Cancer Jan Yagiz Akdas (Munich/DE)
11.48 P 04	Optimizing Cochlear Implant Candidacy in Tumor Patients: Pre- and Intraoperative Auditory Nerve Assessment with Advanced Electrophysiologic Techniques Daniel Polterauer-Neuling (Munich/DE)
11.54 P 05	NECTIN-4 as an Actionable Vulnerability in Sinonasal Undifferentiated Carcinoma: Biomarker-Guided Enfortumab Vedotin Achieves Deep and Durable Control Vivek Venkataramani (Würzburg/DE)
12.00 P 06	Tracking Tumor Heterogeneity in Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma Zurwa Merjam Uzun (Cologne/DE)
12.06 P 07	Hsp70 as a Predictive Biomarker of Neoadjuvant Immunotherapy Response in HNSCC Revealed by Single-cell Analysis Keyang Wei (Munich/DE)
12.12 P 08	The German National Initiative for NeoAdjuvant Therapy in Head and Neck Cancer (NINA-KHT): Potential Biosamples and Cooperations Markus Blaurock (Greifswald/DE) Henrike Zech (Hamburg/DE)

Poster Session | Friday, January 23, 2026

11.30–12.30 Poster Session Group 2

Chair	Maja Guberina (Essen/DE) tba.
11.30 P 09	Therapy-Induced Modulation of Tumor–Immune Crosstalk: Effects of Kinase Inhibition and Hypofractionated Radiotherapy in 3D HNSCC Models Tina Jost (Erlangen/DE)
11.36 P 10	MAP-HNC: A Multi-Modal Tissue Analysis Platform to Uncover the Spatial Biology of Intratumoral Compartments in Head and Neck Cancer (HNC) Mathias Schmidt (Essen/DE)
11.42 P 11	Cancer Associated Fibroblasts as a Predictor of Lymph Node Status and Extranodal Extension in Oropharyngeal Cancer Jamie JY Kwon (Vancouver/CA)
11.48 P 12	Investigating the Impact of EGFR Signaling on Response to Nivolumab in Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma Bastian Grebmeier (Munich/DE)
11.54 P 13	Interleukin Expression in Patient-Derived Head and Neck Cancer Models Cultured in 2D and 3D Michelle Müller (Mannheim/DE)
12.00 P 14	Irradiation Triggers IL-8-Mediated Neutrophil Infiltration in Human Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma Clara Reichardt (Erlangen/DE)
12.06 P 15	Platelet-Driven Remodeling of the Tumor Microenvironment in 3D Organoids of HNSCC Dingyu Lu (Munich/DE)
12.12 P 16	Characterization of NPC Killing by NK Cells via IFN β Anna Makowska (Aachen/DE)

Poster Session | Friday, January 23, 2026

11.30–12.30 Poster Session Group 3

Chair

Olivier Gires (Munich/DE)
Timon Hussain (Munich/DE)

11.30 P 17 SOX2-Driven Modulation of Immune Phenotypes in Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma Jiajia Zhu (Heidelberg/DE)

11.36 P 18 Functional Characterization of LYVE-1+ Macrophages in the Tumor-microenvironment of Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma Vanessa von Arps-Aubert (Göttingen/DE)

11.42 P 19 The Interaction of BTK and NFATc2 and its Impact on Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma (HNSCC) Marina Sailer (Ulm/DE)

11.48 P 20 Modulation of T Cells by Myeloid Cells in Head and Neck Cancer Xi Wang (Essen/DE)

11.54 P 21 Critical Role of IFNAR1 Signaling in Neutrophil-Mediated Antitumor Immunity and CD8 T Cell Activation in Head and Neck Cancer Nastassia Kabankova (Essen/DE)

12.00 P 22 Protective Structures Compromised: Neutrophil Enrichment within TLS Drives Poor Survival in Head and Neck Cancer Max Krumbein (Essen/DE)

12.06 P 23 SOX2 Modulates Alcohol-Induced Epithelial-Mesenchymal Transition and Predicts Divergent Prognosis in Oral Squamous Cell Carcinoma Yufang Xie (Heidelberg/DE)

Poster Session | Friday, January 23, 2026

11.30–12.30 Poster Session Group 4

Chair	Henrike Zech (Hamburg/DE) Michael Pogorzelski (Essen/DE)
11.30 P 24	Multifaceted Anti-Cancer Potential of 1,8-Cineole in HNSCC: Targeting Proliferation, Metabolism, and Apoptosis Pathways Enes Yağız Akdaş (Munich/DE)
11.36 P 25	Preliminary miRNA Profiling in ERp29-Silenced Tongue Squamous Cell Carcinoma Highlights Cancer-related Pathways Gustavo Jacob Lourenço (Campinas/BR)
11.42 P 26	Impact of PDCD1 Variants on Risk, Clinicopathological Aspects and Prognosis in Patients with Laryngeal Squamous Cell Carcinoma Gustavo Jacob Lourenço (Campinas/BR)
11.48 P 27	Modulation of PI3K/AKT Pathway Gene Expression by ERp29 Silencing in Cisplatin-Sensitive and -Resistant Pharyngeal Carcinoma Cells Gustavo Jacob Lourenço (Campinas/BR)
11.54 P 28	Type-I Interferon-Neutrophil Crosstalk - The Tagteam Fighting Head and Neck Cancer Pouya Elahi (Essen/DE)
12.00 P 29	Tumor–Stroma Crosstalk: Cytokine Cues Shape Neutrophil Landscapes in Head and Neck Cancer: From Mechanistic Discovery to Clinical Relevance Eva-Maria Hanschmann (Essen/DE)
12.06 P 30	Regulation of Laminin-332 Invasion on EGFR MAPK Axis and its Potential Inhibitors Stella Beomseo Kim (Munich/DE)
12.12 P 31	Synergistic Laminin-5/Integrin β 4–EGFR Interaction Drives ERK-Dependent Invasion in Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma Hairong Wang (Munich/DE)

Poster Session | Friday, January 23, 2026

11.30–12.30 Poster Session Group 5

Chair	Smiths Lueong (Essen/DE) Anke Daser (Essen/DE)
11.30 P 32	HNSCC-Derived Extracellular Vesicles Impair Mitochondrial Respiration in Peripheral Immune Cells Fayez El Hachem (Munich/DE)
11.36 P 33	1,8-Cineole Targets the Adenosine A2a Receptor Pathway in Neutrophils to Modulate Tumor Immunosuppression in Head and Neck Cancer Han Mai (Munich/DE)
11.42 P 34	T cell Landscape in Head and Neck Cancer Emma Sohn (Mannheim/DE)
11.48 P 35	Effect of High Hydrostatic Pressure-treated HNSCC Cells on CAF-like Differentiation of Adipose-derived Stromal Cells Julia Kristin Brach (Aachen/DE)
11.54 P 36	Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma-derived Small Extracellular Vesicles Mediate Ca^{2+} -dependent Platelet Activation and Aggregation through Tissue Factor Tobias Weiser (Munich/DE)
12.00 P 37	Extracellular Vesicles Modulate Immune Cell Function and Metabolism Khouloud Hachani (Munich/DE)
12.06 P 38	HNSCC-Derived PD-L1 Positive Exosomes Reprogram Platelet Mitochondrial Respiration Mingzhen Cheng (Munich/DE)
12.12 P 39	Blood-based Inflammatory Markers are Associated with Treatment Outcomes in Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma Receiving Anti-PD-1 Therapy: CRP as a Superior Predictive Marker Manuel Stöth (Würzburg/DE)

Poster Session | Friday, January 23, 2026

11.30–12.30 Poster Session Group 6

Chair	Susanne Flach (Munich/DE) Benedikt Schaarschmidt (Essen/DE)
11.30 P 40	Development and Evaluation of FPR1 Targeted Bacterial Signal Peptide Radiotracers for Radiopharmaceutical Use Zukaa Altaleb (Zweibrücken/DE)
11.36 P 41	Microbial-Neutrophil Interplay in the Malignant Oral Mucosa Francisca Hofmann-Vega (Essen/DE)
11.42 P 42	Mucosal Vaccine Synergizes with THBS1 Inhibition for Enhanced Anti-Tumor Efficacy in HPV ⁺ OPSCC Ke Qui (Chengdu/CN)
11.48 P 43	Analysis of Oxidative Stress and Metabolic Reprogramming in HPV+ Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma Harini Balaji (Cologne/DE)
11.54 P 44	Reconstructive Surgery of the Midfacial Zone in Patients with Maxillary Cancer Anna Rybachuk (Kyiv/UA)
12.00 P 45	Head-to-Head Comparison of 18F-PSMA and 18F-FDG PET/CT in Locoregionally Advanced Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma Gustavo Jacob Lourenço (Campinas/BR)
12.06 P 46	Targeted Molecular Imaging of Head and Neck Cancer Using a Ga-68-labeled Anti-Integrin Peptide Gustavo Jacob Lourenço (Campinas/BR)
12.12 P 47	Implant-retained Silicone Facial Prosthesis, a Small Experience from Digital Design to Material Safety Kezia Rachellea Mustakim (Makassar/ID)

Notes

conventus

CONGRESSMANAGEMENT

**WE BRING
EVERYONE
TOGETHER**



Smart
solutions,
built to
last.

www.conventus.de

Your vision. Our expertise.

Der Schlüssel zu mehr Behandlungs- perspektiven in über 35 Indikationen in 14 Entitäten.*



Aktuelles zu KEYTRUDA®:
go.msd.com/keytrudanews



Zur KEYTRUDA®
Fachinformation



* Die vollständigen Indikationen entnehmen
Sie bitte der Fachinformation.

MSD Sharp & Dohme GmbH
Levelingstr. 4a | 81673 München
www.msd.de

DE-KEY-00989

MSD MedInfo
Telefon: +49 (0)89 20 300 4500
E-Mail: medinfo@msd.de

KEYTRUDA®
Pembrolizumab, MSD