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UNIVERSITÄT
BERN

SA²M 2025

13th SWISS APOPTOSIS AND AUTOPHAGY MEETING

Bern, September 4-5, 2025
Langhans Auditorium and Mic Seminar Room H431,
Institute of Tissue Medicine and Pathology, University of Bern

Program

Thursday, September 4th, 2025



LS² Satellite Symposium (in room H431):



07h45 – 08h15	Registration
08h15 – 09h50	Main speakers: Concepts and Methods in Programmed Cell Death and Autophagy Chair: Thomas Kaufmann
08h15 – 08h40	Philipp Jost (Graz, AT) <i>"In vivo models of cell death in cancer research"</i>
08h40 – 09h05	Uris Ros (Frankfurt, DE) <i>"MLKL in Necroptosis: Mechanisms and Therapeutic Insights"</i>
09h05 – 09h30	Martin Sadowski (Bern, CH) <i>"Mapping the metabolic landscape of pancreatic neuroendocrine tumours"</i>
09h30 – 09h55	Ivano Amelio (Konstanz, DE) <i>"Facts and open questions on p53"</i>

09h55 – 10h10

Flash Poster Presentations, 3 min (I)

(Student posters will be on display the entire meeting)

Chairs: Philippe JeanRichard-dit-Bressel, Thomas Kaufmann

Danielle Thompson – “Decoding the crosstalk between secretory autophagy and viral envelopment in Epstein-Barr virus infection”

Sophie Buchser – “The tissue-specific proteome of autophagosomes”

Marta Mariniello – “Dietary Interventions Enhancing Autophagy Clear Uromodulin Aggregates and Slow Disease Progression”

Chloé Planchon – “The role of MYPT1 in autophagy”

10h10 – 10h50

Coffee Break, Speaker Table and Visiting Exhibitor Booth

10h50 – 11h10

Raja Prince (BLEEDnFire, CH)

“BLEEDnFIRE Therapeutics: to prevent both bleeds and inflammation”

11h10 – 11h30

Jean-Ehrland Ricci (Editor-in-chief, *Oncogenesis*)

“Manuscript Mission: Navigating the Path to Research Publication”

11h30 – 12h00

Flash Poster Presentations, 3 min (II)

(Student posters will be on display the entire meeting)

Chairs: Philippe JeanRichard-dit-Bressel, Thomas Kaufmann

Carmen Kalbermatter – “Cytokine-induced hexokinase 3 (HK3) supports macrophage cell survival”

Marc T. Schönholzer – “Drug off-target analysis identified controlled modulation of the autophagic flux as potential therapeutic opportunity in medulloblastoma”

Martina Brughera – “RAB9-mediated alternative mitophagy and its implications in mitochondrial dysfunction related to Parkinson's disease”

Camilla Ullmann – “Exploring the cellular and spatial heterogeneity of ferroptosis defense systems in 2D and 3D models of pancreatic neuroendocrine neoplasms”

Yannick Heimann – “A non-canonical function of the BCL-2 homolog BIM in the regulation of mitochondrial metabolism and its regulation by post-translational modification”

Christina Elsner – “Unveiling the molecular details of inhibition of proapoptotic proteins at the membrane”

13th SWISS APOPTOSIS AND AUTOPHAGY (SA²M) MEETING (Langhans auditorium)

12h00 – 13h00 **Registration at info desk and poster mounting**

13h00 – 13h05 **Welcome address**

13h05 – 14h45 **Session I: Metabolism/Autophagy**

Chair: Mario Tschan

13h05 – 13h30 **Alexis Jourdain (Lausanne, CH)**

"Alternative nutrients to survive starvation"

13h30 – 13h55 **Maurizio Molinari (Bellinzona, CH)**

"ER-phagy"

13h55 – 14h20 **Nikolai Engedal (Oslo, NO)**

"Role of LC3 and GABARAP proteins in bulk autophagy and PINK1/Parkin-independent mitophagy"

Selected short talks from abstracts (10+2 min):

14h20 – 14h32 **Louise Pierre (Zurich, CH)** – *"Autophagy regulator ATG7 links lipid metabolism to cell fate decisions in kidney tubule health and disease"*

14h32 – 14h44 **Alexandra Stolz (Frankfurt, DE)** – *"YTHDF proteins and m6A-RNA clients undergo autophagic turnover during contact inhibition"*

14h45 – 15h30 **Coffee Break, Visiting Exhibitor Booth and Poster Session (I)**
(Poster Jury: Ina Lavrik, Georgia Konstantinidou, Dario Rizzotto)

15h30 – 17h10 **Session II: Metabolism and Cancer**

Chair: Alexis Jourdain

15h30 – 15h55 **Jean-Ehrland Ricci (Nice, FR)**

"Mitophagy: Friend, Foe, or Fuel for Cancer"

15h55 – 16h20 **Natalia Baran (Bern, CH)**

"Targeting mitochondria in AML: Insights from Bcl-2 and complex I inhibition on response and resistance mechanisms"

Selected short talks from abstracts (10+2 min):

- 16h20 – 16h32 **Simone Falco (Bern, CH)** – “Chromosomal 20p loss promotes cardiolipin depletion via CRLS1 downregulation and drives redox-metabolic rewiring in drug-resistant lung adenocarcinoma”
- 16h32 – 16h44 **Thomas Marti (Bern, CH)** – “LDHB inhibition elicits mitochondrial DNA-driven anti-tumor immunity”
- 16h44 – 16h56 **Yasmeen Mady (Bern, CH)** – “Hexokinase 3 (HK3) levels differentially impact drug responses in AML cells depending on cell cycle status”
- 16h56 – 17h08 **Lukas Meisinger (Konstanz, DE)** – “Targeting LRH-1-regulated survival processes in acute lymphoblastic T cell leukemia”
- 17h15 – 18h00 **Session III: Keynote: Institute of Tissue Medicine and Pathology
Talk - Translational Research**
Introduction : Mario Tschan
Jean-Emmanuel Sarry (Toulouse, FR)
“Revisiting chemotherapy: metabolic adaptations and mitohormesis in response to therapy-induced stress in acute myeloid leukemia”
- 18h00 – 19h00 **Visiting Exhibitor Booth and Poster Session (II)**
- 19h30 – ____ **Conference Dinner Party.**
 (“Pfrundscheune”, Brünnenstrasse 12, 3027 Bern,
<https://www.landsitzbruennen.ch>)

Friday, September 5th, 2025

- 09h00 – 09h30 **Start your day with a coffee and networking**
- 09h30 – 11h15 **Session IV: Cell Death (in room H431):**
Chair: Thomi Brunner
- 09h30 – 09h55 **Anna Garcia-Saez (Frankfurt, DE)**
“New light in mitochondrial permeabilisation during apoptosis”
- 09h55 – 10h20 **Ivano Amelio (Konstanz, DE)**
“Tolerance and Repair of DNA Damage in the p53 Gene Network”
- 10h20 – 10h45 **Inna Lavrik (Magdeburg, DE)**
“Uncovering new checkpoints in CD95 signaling”

Selected short talks from abstracts (10+2 min):

- 10h45 – 10h57 **Markus Kramer (Freiburg, DE)** – “Optogenetics meets degradomics: Tools for specific caspase-9 substrate discovery”
- 11h57 – 11h09 **Alicia Borgeaud (Bern, CH)** – “The behaviour of Apaf1 in apoptotic cells unveils apoptosome organization and dynamics in vivo”
- 11h09 – 11h21 **Paul Petermann (Innsbruck, AT)** – “The PIDDosome-p53 axis dictates cell fate after cell-cell fusion”
- 11h21 – 11h33 **Ali Jazaeri Jouneghani (Bern, CH)** – “Molecular mechanism of BOK mRNA stability regulation via TRIM28 protein”

11h45 – 13h15 Lunch Break, Visiting Exhibitor Booth and Poster Session (III)

13h15 – 15h00 Session V: Cell Death & Inflammation (Langhans auditorium)
Chair: Thomas Kaufmann

- 13h15 – 13h40 **Philipp Jost (Graz, AT)**
“Leveraging intrinsic inflammation to induce cell death in myeloid leukemia”
- 13h40 – 14h05 **Petr Broz (Lausanne, CH)**
“Mechanism of NINJ1 activation during lytic cell death ”
- 14h05 – 14h30 **Tom Vanden Berghe (Antwerp, BEL)**
“Targeting Ferroptosis to Improve Transplant Outcomes”

Selected short talks from abstracts (10+2 min):

- 14h30 – 14h42 **Keely Caplen (Zurich, CH)** – “Investigating the mechanism in which XIAP regulates mtDNA release”
- 14h42 – 14h54 **Dario Rizzotto (Vienna, AT)** – “Profiling Caspase-2 Activity and Substrate Selectivity with a NanoLuc-Based Reporter System”
- 14h55 – 15h20 **Seamus Martin (Dublin, IE)**
„Key checkpoints dictating entry to apoptosis versus senescence: what doesn't kill you makes you stranger“

15h25 – 15h40 Award Ceremony and Closing Remarks