



iSTAR

integrative Advanced Clinician Scientists Targeting
Inflammatory and Infectious Diseases

iSTAR Advanced Clinician Scientist

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1. Recruitment of new iSTAR Advanced Clinician Scientist scholars

Three further excellent iSTAR scholars have been recruited within the second round of applications. **Dr. Julia Pagel** is going to start in May 2023. She is interested in the “Influence of gut microbiota on immunometabolic function in juvenile idiopathic arthritis” and works for the Department of Pediatrics. **Dr. Fabian Braun** is going to start in October 2023. He works for the III. Department of Medicine. His research focuses on the “Extracellular vesicles in Glomerulonephritis – Mediators of the epithelial - immune cell axis and untapped diagnostic resource”. **Dr. Johannes Hartl** is going to join the programme in the middle of 2023. He is interested in the “Common and distinct pathogenic mechanism in autoimmune hepatitis and lupus related to anti-DNA antibodies”. He works for the I. Department of Medicine.

Furthermore, two associated members were selected. **Dr. Angeliqe Hölzemer**, I. Department of Medicine, working on “NK cell receptor diversity as a determinant of clinical outcome in virus infection” and **Dr. Nicola Tomas**, who works in the III. Department of Medicine and investigates mechanisms and innovative therapies in antibody-mediated autoimmune diseases.

2. Retreat 2022

The first [iSTAR Retreat](#) took place as a hybrid-meeting at the Dorint Hotel in Hamburg on Tuesday, 4th October 2022. In addition to presentations by the iSTAR candidates, coaching sessions were held by an external coach and the iSTAR mentors. Furthermore, the Assessment Center was established, which will continuously monitor the individual outcome of the participants.

3. Statutes and integration of additional mentors

The Steering committee members were able to finalize the iSTAR statutes, which will be published on the iSTAR homepage. We are happy to announce that we were able to broaden the scientific network by integrating two additional mentors:

[Prof. Kong Peng Lam](#), Singapore Immunology Network and [Prof. Veronique Angeli](#), Department of Microbiology and Immunology, National University of Singapore.

4. Job advertisement: study nurse

We are currently looking for a research assistant/study nurse, who will help the iSTARs to facilitate translational and clinical studies. Please share this information with potential candidates. For further information, please contact us via iSTAR@uke.de.

Please do not hesitate to contact Sonja Hiekmann (iSTAR@uke.de) if you have comments or questions regarding the iSTAR program. If you do not wish to receive any further iSTAR newsletters, please reply to this email with "Unsubscribe" in the reference line.