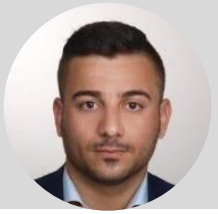
EXploiting CIrculating tumor cells as companion diagnostic for T cell receptor-based Drugs - EXCITeD





PRINCIPLE INVESTIGATORS:
Martin Klatt, Bilge Atay, Badeel Zaghla
Charité

ATMP & Diagnostic

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TRACK 1

SUMMARY

For T cell receptor (TCR)-based therapies, the identification of the correct HLA-type and expression of the respective target antigen/epitope is usually determined by a biopsy. This is time and resource intensive and can put patients at risk.

This alternative approach facilitates the screening and monitoring process for TCR-based studies and serves as a companion diagnostic to determine eligibility for drug treatment.

It is faster (72h vs 7 days), less invasive, safer and cheaper and allows patient monitoring during the duration of the therapy.

PROJECT GOALS

- To proof the feasibility of detecting therapeutically targetable HLA ligands on circulating tumor cells isolated from cancer patient's blood specimens.

LONG-TERM GOALS

- To develop a diagnostic platform that serves as a companion diagnostic for T cell receptor-based immunotherapies.
- Commercial distribution either via a license or setting up a Start-Up.