LECTURE SERIES
THE IMMUNE ALLIANCE
a German-Japanese Cooperation in Immunology

Dr. Sho Yamasaki, Osaka, Japan
Sensing damaged self through C-type lectin receptors

Dr. med. Eicke Latz, Berlin, Germany
Inflammasomes, from bench to bedside

Wednesday, November 15, 2023
9 am in Germany (GMT+1) / 5 pm in Japan (GMT+9), via zoom

Organizers:
Christina Zielinski (Jena), Osamu Takeuchi (Kyoto)
Speakers

Prof. Dr. Sho Yamasaki
Immunology Frontier Research Center, Osaka University, Japan

Sho Yamasaki is Professor and head of the division of Molecular Immunology at Osaka University. After graduation from Kyoto University (Ms) in 1993, he started immunology research in Mitsubishi Chemical Corporation (1993-1999). In 1999, he received his PhD from Kyoto University for his study with Makio Iwashima on T cell antigen receptor signaling. Then he worked with Takashi Saito at Chiba University and RIKEN RCSI on the signal transduction of immune receptors. In 2009, he started the Molecular Immunology Laboratory at Kyushu University, where he holds the position of professor (2009-2017). He took his current position at Osaka University from 2017. His laboratory focuses on understanding the molecular mechanisms underlying the recognition of internal and external insults through ITAM-coupled immune receptors, such as C-type lectin receptors and innate-type T cell receptors. His laboratory is also developing a platform analyzing human T cell clonotypes specific for pathogens and autoantigens.

Prof. Dr. med. Eicke Latz
Scientific Director, Deutsches Rheuma-Forschungszentrum Berlin, A Leibniz Institute

Prof. Dr. (med.) Eicke Latz studied medicine at the Georg-August University in Göttingen and the Freie Universität Berlin, following which, he worked as an intensive care physician at the Charité Universitätsmedizin. In 2001, he moved to the USA, working as a postdoctoral researcher at Boston University, then at UMass Chan Medical School, where he held his first professorship. In 2010, he returned to Germany and founded the Institute for Innate Immunity at the University Hospital Bonn. He became Scientific Director of the German Rheumatism Research Centre Berlin, a Leibniz Institute, and Professor of Experimental Rheumatology at the Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin in 2023. His research interests concern how the innate immune system maintains health and under what circumstances it can promote disease. In particular, he investigates the molecular mechanisms that lead to activation or inhibition of the immune system and how these influence the inflammatory reactions in various diseases, such as rheumatic diseases, arteriosclerosis or Alzheimer’s disease.

Prof. Dr. Latz is co-spokesperson of the Cluster of Excellence “ImmunoSensation²” and spokesperson of the Collaborative Research Centre “Metaflammation and Cellular Programming” (SFB 1454). He has also co-founded several biotech companies, including IFM Therapeutics (2017), Dioscure Therapeutics (2020), a ‘Stealth’ biotech’ (2020), and Odyssey Therapeutics (2021), which translate his discoveries into novel therapeutics and preventive approaches. He has been a highly cited scientist in immunology since 2014 having published more than 300 publications. Prof. Dr. Latz was elected as a member of the German National Academy of Sciences (Leopoldina) in 2016 and has received a number of prestigious awards, including the Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize in 2018.