

# OPITZ, CHRISTIANE, DR. MED.

## GENERAL INFORMATION



**Junior Group Leader**  
German Cancer Research Center  
Brain Cancer Metabolism Group  
Im Neuenheimer Feld 280, 69120 Heidelberg, Germany

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## ACADEMIC EDUCATION & QUALIFICATION

Year(s)	Education
2005	Approbation in human medicine (University of Heidelberg)
2004	Master in Molecular Cell Biology (University of Heidelberg)
2001-2004	Molecular Cell Biology (University of Heidelberg)
1998-2005	Medical School (University of Heidelberg)

## SCIENTIFIC EDUCATION & QUALIFICATION

Year(s)	Education
2006	Medical thesis (PD. Dr. W. Linke, Institute of Physiology, University of Heidelberg)

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Year(s)	Experience
Since 2013	Junior group leader at the German Cancer Research Center, DKFZ
Since 2007	Resident in Neurooncology/Neurology (Prof. Dr. W. Wick) at the University Hospital Heidelberg
2007-2012	Postdoctoral researcher in the Experimental Neuroimmunology Unit (Prof. Dr. M. Platten) DKFZ
2006	Postdoctoral researcher at the Hertie Institute for Clinical Brain Research, Tübingen
2006	Resident in Neurology (Prof. Dr. M. Weller) at the University Hospital Tübingen

## OTHER QUALIFICATIONS/ROLES/RESPONSIBILITIES

Year(s)	
01/17-12/19	Coordinator of the Transcan-2 JTC consortium PROMETOV
02/15-06/18	Coordinator of the BMBF e:Med Young investigator network Gliopath
11/2014	Award of the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences
01/2013	Bayer Early Excellence Award in Science
07/2012	Hella-Bühler-Award for Oncological Research
05/2012	Sibylle-Assmus-Foundation Award for Neurooncology
2010-2013	Postdoctoral Fellowship of the Medical Faculty, Heidelberg
1999-2005	Scholarship of the German National Academic Merit Foundation

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

1. [Opitz CA](#), Somarribas Patterson LF, Mohapatra SR, Dewi DL, Sadik A, Platten M, Trump S. The therapeutic potential of targeting tryptophan catabolism in cancer. **Br J Cancer**. 2020 Jan;122(1):30-44. doi: 10.1038/s41416-019-0664-6. Epub 2019 Dec 10.
2. Mohapatra SR, Sadik A, Tykocinski LO, Dietze J, Poschet G, Heiland I, [Opitz CA](#). Hypoxia Inducible Factor 1 $\alpha$  Inhibits the Expression of Immunosuppressive Tryptophan-2,3-Dioxygenase in Glioblastoma. **Front Immunol**. 2019 Dec 4;10:2762.

3. Platten M, Nollen EAA, Röhrig UF, Fallarino F, Opitz CA. Tryptophan metabolism as a common therapeutic target in cancer, neurodegeneration and beyond. **Nat Rev Drug Discov**. 2019 May;18(5):379-401.
4. Kessler T, Sahm F, Sadik A, Stichel D, Hertenstein A, Reifenberger G, Zacher A, Sabel M, Tabatabai G, Steinbach J, Sure U, Krex D, Grosu AL, Bewerunge-Hudler M, Jones D, Pfister SM, Weller M, Opitz C, Bendszus M, von Deimling A, Platten M, Wick W. Molecular Differences in IDH wild-type Glioblastoma according to MGMT promoter methylation. **Neuro Oncol** 2018;20(3):367-379.
5. Adam I, Dewi DL, Mooiweer J, Sadik A, Mohapatra SR, Berdel B, Keil M, Sonner JK, Thedieck K, Rose AJ, Platten M, Heiland I, Trump S, Opitz CA. Upregulation of tryptophanyl-tRNA synthetase adapts human cancer cells to nutritional stress caused by tryptophan degradation. **Oncoimmunology**. 2018 Sep 5;7(12):e1486353.
6. Dewi, D.L., Mohapatra, S.R., Cabañes, S.B., Adam, I., Patterson, L.F.S., Berdel, B., Kahloon, M., Thürmann, L., Loth, S., Heilmann, K., Weichenhan, D., Mücke, O., Heiland, I., Wimberger, P., Kuhlmann, J.D., Kellner, K.-H., Schott, S., Plass, C., Platten, M., Gerhäuser, C., Trump, S., Opitz, C.A., (2017): Suppression of indoleamine-2,3-dioxygenase 1 expression by promoter hypermethylation in ER-positive breast cancer. **Oncoimmunology**. 2017;6(2):e1274477.
7. Ochs K, Ott M, Rauschenbach KJ, Deumelandt K, Sahm F, Opitz CA, von Deimling A, Wick W, Platten M. Tryptophan-2,3-dioxygenase is regulated by prostaglandin E2 in malignant glioma via a positive signaling loop involving prostaglandin E receptor-4. **J Neurochem**. 2015 Dec 27.
8. Ott M, Litzenburger UM, Rauschenbach KJ, Bunse L, Ochs K, Sahm F, Pusch S, Opitz CA, Blaes J, von Deimling A, Wick W, Platten M. Suppression of TDO-mediated tryptophan catabolism in glioblastoma cells by a steroid-responsive FKBP52-dependent pathway. **Glia**. 2015 Jan;63(1):78-90. Litzenburger UM\*, Opitz CA\*, Sahm F, Rauschenbach KJ, Trump S, Winter M, Ott M, Ochs K, Lutz C, Liu X, Anastasov N, Lehmann I, Höfer T, von Deimling A, Wick W, Platten M. Constitutive IDO expression in human cancer is sustained by an autocrine signaling loop involving IL-6, STAT3 and the AHR. **Oncotarget**. 2014 Feb 28;5(4):1038-51. (\*shared first authorship)
9. Ochs K, Sahm F, Opitz CA, Lanz TV, Oezen I, Couraud PO, von Deimling A, Wick W, Platten M. Immature mesenchymal stem cell-like pericytes as mediators of immunosuppression in human malignant glioma. **J Neuroimmunol**. 2013 Sep 20. doi:pii: S0165-5728(13)00253-1. 10.1016/j.jneuroim.2013.09.011
10. Opitz CA\*, Litzenburger UM\*, Sahm F, Ott M, Tritschler I, Trump S, Schumacher T, Jestaedt L, Schrenk D, Weller M, Jugold M, Guillemin GJ, Miller CL, Lutz C, Radlwimmer B, Lehmann I, von Deimling A, Wick W, Platten M. An endogenous tumour-promoting ligand of the human aryl hydrocarbon receptor. **Nature**. 2011 Oct 5;478(7368):197-203.

## PATENTS

- Platten, M., OPITZ, C., Wick, W. and Litzenburger U. Means and methods for treating and/or preventing natural AHR ligand-dependent cancer (PCT/EP2012/067504; WO 2013/034685)
- S. Koncarevic, K. Kuhn, P. Schulz-Knappe, I. H. Pike, C. OPITZ and M. Platten Isotopic method for measurement of tryptophan and metabolites thereof (PCT/EP2016/076265; WO2017072368 A1)

