Bispecific Antibody Constructs Mediate Immunotherapeutic Retargeting of Effector Cells Towards HBV Infected Target Cells

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Chronic viral hepatitis is a major public health threat. Currently, strategies to eradicate the viruses and treatments for virus-induced liver disease and hepatocellular carcinoma are very limited. Novel therapeutic strategies are in urgent need. The immunotherapeutic retargeting of effector cells is a promising approach to circumvent the immunotolerant state found in malignancies and chronic viral infections. In this webinar, Dr. Bohne will present his latest work on how xCELLigence RTCA technology in conjunction with other cellular/molecular tools were utilized in the discovery of the bispecific antibody constructs as a promising new immune-therapeutic approach against chronic Hepatitis B.

During the webinar, Dr. Bohne will cover:
- An overview of the molecular biology of Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) infection and the strategy of developing T-cell based therapeutics for viral hepatitis and hepatocellular carcinoma.
- The design of tetravalent bispecific antibody constructs.
- The use of the xCELLigence RTCA System in quantitative assessment of T-cell and antibody-dependent T-cell mediate cytotoxic elimination of HBV-positive and HBV-infected target cells.

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Featured Speaker

Dr. Felix Bohne is a Group Leader at the Institute of Virology, German Research Center for Environmental Health (Helmholtz Zentrum München). His current research focuses on better understanding the interaction of the hepatitis B (HBV) and C (HCV) virus with their host, as well as developing new therapeutic strategies to treat chronic viral hepatitis and hepatocellular carcinoma.

Dr. Bohne received his Ph.D. in Genetics from the University of Cologne. He undertook postdoctoral training at the Hospital Clinic of Barcelona in immunology of liver transplantation, and then completed the prestigious personal postdoctoral fellowship granted by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) at the Technical University of Munich and at the German Research Center for Environmental Health.