

ANDREA SASS

Group Leader Musculoskeletal System | Nominee Non-Voting Member



Scientific Development/ CV:

01/2019 - now	Junior Group Leader at Berlin Institute of Health, Centre for Regenerative Therapies, Berlin, Germany
11/2015 – now	Postdoctoral scientist /Projectleader at Berlin-Brandenburg Centre for Regenerative Therapies, Berlin, Germany
01/ 2012 – 10/ 2015	PhD student at Charité, University Hospital Berlin - Julius-Wolff-Institute Dissertation title „Application of CD31+ cells to facilitate endogenous bone regeneration under biologically compromised conditions“

Expertise:

My research focus lies on the molecular and functional biology with particular emphasis on the **development of cellular therapies** in the field of **musculoskeletal regeneration**. I investigate cell biology in regenerative processes and have profound knowledge on the immunological background of **inflammation**. I further study primary patient material e.g. blood or bone marrow and the **intra-operative processing** of such. Additionally, I have extended my research interest in the field of **endoprosthetic infection management**. I have established my own research field for “intraoperative cell therapy” within the BCRT/BIH and am responsible for a small research group. In close collaboration with clinical partners and the institutional clinical development and innovation platforms, I am currently leading the **initiation of a clinical Phase I/IIa** study of a cell therapeutic product.

Relevant Projects/ Highlights:

OsteoHeal31 - A phase I/IIa, prospective, mono-center, single-blinded, randomized, controlled study to assess the safety and efficacy of applying concentrated autologous CD31+ cells to promote bone healing in patients at risk with humeral head fracture
PRIME - Research funding from Heraeus Medical GmbH; Pro-regenerative immunomodulation and enhancement, Development of a combined therapeutic approach of a immunomodulatory pharmacological intervention, a cellular approach and a carrier biomaterial
EndoInfect - The role of sPECAM-1 in periprosthetic joint infection

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The BCRT is an exceptional assembly of innovative, creative and ingenious scientific minds, held together by an organizational structure which shapes and eases the scientific work performed under the guiding principle “from bench to bedside and back”.

The challenge of jointly going down the long road from a basic idea to an eventual product and its exploitation, calls for realistic planning and measurements with the option of long-term visions, a carefully considered, transparent budgeting and a respectful prioritization of projects and milestones.

The overall aim should be to open up perspectives for each individual performing in the framework of the BCRT while delivering an understandable structure and long-term organizational assignments. Since this applies for every structural element, from the individual (project-) groups all the way up to the center organization, we need to live this concept in every role that we play in our daily business.