Fostering Translational Research at an Academic Medical Center

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Agenda

- ZKS and CECAD
- Translational Medicine
- The Cologne Navigation Concept
Cologne, Germany

University of Cologne
founded 1388

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Academic Medical Center

7,432 employees
1,275 beds
49,621 in-patients
173,272 out-patients

ZKS Köln
ZKS Claims to Foster Exchange Between Incompatible Systems
CECAD and ZKS

**CECAD**
- Cologne Excellence Cluster on Cellular Stress Responses in Aging-associated Diseases
- Basic researchers
- Research areas
- Research platforms
- Core facilities

**ZKS**
- Clinical Trials Center Cologne
- Support of all processes of clinical trials
- Design and execution of clinical trials
- Quality management in clinical research
- Networking
Translational Medicine

From Bench to Bedside and Back

- Interface between basic research and clinical application
  - Implementing knowledge about biological processes in successful therapy of patients
  - Recirculating clinical findings to research laboratories
The Cologne Navigation Concept

- Early translational activity in the development of diagnostic and therapeutic principles
- Counsel on how to transfer pre-clinical results into clinical trials
- Involve suitable clinical partners
- Design strategies in the development of new tests or compounds

⇒ Offer to co-develop clinical study ideas within the lab, i.e. an active approach
Navigator Tandem

Navigator 1 (ZKS)
Molecular Biologist with International Experience

Navigator 2 (CECAD)
Cell Biologist & Study Coordinator
Results since set-up in November 2010

- 24 translational projects
  - 22 drug use
  - 2 medical devices

- Funding has been pursuit for 7 projects
  - 5 of these are already granted

- 2 patent applications have been supported

- Other projects are in the stage of creating a first study concept or in conducting first preclinical tests
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