



Dear GSCN members, friends and colleagues,

November 2020

This newsletter is all about organoids:

- 1) The GSCN published a [White Paper](#) on organoids.
- 2) Online [BIH & GSCN lecture](#) about organoids with Jürgen Knoblich
- 3) Online [IAG event](#) on organoids: Introducing the White Paper and the [book "Organoide"](#) (D)

1) [White Paper: Organoids – from stem cells to future technologies](#)

Organoids can be used for basic research and offer great promise for medical research in an extremely wide range of fields, such as drug screening, toxicity tests, and individual drug-response.

With the White Paper, the German Stem Cell Network (GSCN), the Interdisciplinary Research Group (IAG) *Gene Technology Report* of the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities (BBAW, Berlin) and the Berlin Institute of Health (BIH) hope to raise public awareness of this research field and stimulate an interdisciplinary public debate on organoids.

The GSCN report on organoids offers a tour of the latest developments in this major research field and of current and potential future applications. The focus is on current organoid research projects and companies, with viewpoints from a range of researchers and stakeholders. This is followed by the IAG's core statements and recommendations for action on the use of organoids.

All GSCN members will receive a printed copy of the bilingual White Paper. Please feel free to [download](#)



the [English version here](#)



the [German version here](#)

Please feel invited to distribute and discuss the White Paper with colleagues, politicians and the wider public.

2) [Online BIH & GSCN lecture about organoids with Jürgen Knoblich on 27.11.2020](#)

In the first [Online BIH Lecture in Cooperation with the GSCN](#), Jürgen Knoblich will talk about "Cerebral organoids – modelling human development and disease".

Program on 27.11.2020

12:00 - 1:00 pm: [BIH Lecture](#)

1:15 - 1:45 pm: Meet & Greet

After the BIH Lecture Jürgen Knoblich will be available for further questions and discussions in a separate meeting. Daniel Besser from the German Stem Cell Network (GSCN) will moderate the session.

Registration: To participate in the online BIH Lecture, [please register in advance](#).

3) Online discussion on organoids: “Brain in a dish” / White Paper / Book “Organoide” - 23.11.2020

The White Paper on Organoids by the GSCN, the BIH and the IAG will be presented and these scientists discuss current developments, potentials and challenges in organoid research:

Sina Bartfeld (Junior Research Group Leader at the Center for Infection Research, University of Würzburg)

Jürgen Knoblich (Director Institute of Molecular Biotechnology, Austrian Academy of Sciences)

Silke Schicktanz (Deputy Director Institute for Ethics and History of Medicine), University of Göttingen)

Jochen Taupitz (Director Institute for German, European and International Medical Law, Health Law and Bioethics, Universities of Heidelberg and Mannheim)

Program and registration: 23.11.2020: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Link for registration: <https://bit.ly/3jDuKoh>

Hope to “see” you online and we are looking forward to feedback on the White Paper.

Best wishes, stay healthy,

GSCN Central Office Team