

Thinking the Future  
Zukunft denken

**IZKF** Interdisziplinäres  
Zentrum für  
Klinische Forschung

**RWTHAACHEN**  
UNIVERSITY

### Interdisciplinary Centre for Clinical Research

Scientific Coordinating Office

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**IZKF** | **RWTHAACHEN**  
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## Interdisciplinary Centre for Clinical Research

Strengthening Research

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Funding Excellence

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Networking by Infrastructure

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Convincing by Quality



**Prof. Dr. Peter Walter**

Speaker of the Steering Committee



**Karen De Bruyne, M.A.**

Coordinating Executive Officer



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The Interdisciplinary Center for Clinical Research (IZKF) is the development and strategy program of the RWTH Aachen faculty of medicine, with the task to strengthen translational medical research that stems from its basic research and clinic:

By supporting top-quality projects, it strives to greatly improve the chances for solving major and highly challenging problems in biomedicine and life science.

The IZKF functions as an initiator with vision: funding tools are modified in accordance with current requirements, thereby exploring different approaches. The IZKF has a major influence on the research portfolio of the faculty of medicine. By specifically defining the research focus areas, the IZKF concentrates expertise and provides the basis for the acquisition of third-party-funded collaborations. It represents well established structures that are in an excellent position to face the current and future challenges of clinical research.

### **Joint Projects - thematically directed towards the faculty's research focus areas**

The IZKF places utmost importance on funding high-quality innovative joint research projects. All project applications are subject to an external peer review process, that guarantees the credibility of the underlying science and fosters a transparent and verifiable allocation of funds. The review process results in a high level of acceptance among the applicants and in the faculty of medicine. Furthermore, the funded projects are subject to a result-oriented internal evaluation.

### **Research Groups - group management for young, excellent researchers**

The IZKF offers an attractive funding possibility for scientists with outstanding achievements through its research groups: The research groups are assigned to an institute or department and independently work there. The heads of the groups possess excellent scientific qualifications and experience in acquiring external funding. They are as well externally reviewed on the basis of their scientific excellence, strategical fitting accuracy and their potential to strengthen the faculty's research focus areas.

### **Core Facilities – technologies, equipment and expertise for ambitious research goals**

Making research infrastructure available to the community presents an enormous challenge to both facility managers and administration. The faculty-wide platforms overcome institutional boundaries, adhere to high quality standards and provide access to state-of-the-art technology by centralized acquisition and clearly defined user agreements and operator regulations.

The IZKF provides valuable resources for a cost effective and high-quality research environment by operating following facilities:



Brain Imaging Facility



Genomics Facility



Immunohistochemistry Facility



Confocal Microscopy Facility



Proteomics Facility



Transgenic Service



Two-Photon Imaging Facility



Flow Cytometry Facility