



ISM Lunchtime Seminar Series

The ISM Lunchtime Seminars are online monthly events, which take place on Thursdays, 13:00-13:30h, and are open to all interested colleagues and students. ISM researchers and guest speakers present their work during a 15 min seminar, in the English language, followed by a brief Q&A session.

We are happy to announce our next speaker: Franziska Kausche, M.Sc. from the research group of Prof. Dr. Jan Beucke.

Title: Cytokine response to environmental stress induced by the socially evaluated cold pressor task (SE-CPT) – a comparison of blood versus saliva-based analysis.

Abstract: The socially evaluated cold pressor task (SE-CPT) is a tool validated to reliably induce a significant cortisol response which can be observed and based on saliva samples obtained with minimal effort. It is unclear, however, whether the SE-CPT is also capable of inducing an inflammatory response (an acute phase reaction) which could, for example, be demonstrated by a significant interleukin-6 (IL-6) increase. Further, it is unclear whether a saliva sample is sufficient to demonstrate an IL-6 increase or whether this is absolutely necessary to obtain blood samples – a relatively far more demanding alternative requiring multiple blood draws which need to be justified, particularly in the case of patient studies. The present study seeks to answer these two questions by application of a randomized study design that includes both blood and saliva sampling. The results of the study will guide and inform the examination of the response to laboratory exposure to an environmental stressor in the context of the OCDTWIN project, a study of monozygotic twins discordant for obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD).

When: 19th May 2022 at 13:00h

Where: MS-Teams (to join, please click [here](#))

Please follow the rules below to make these seminars a success:

- Please use your real name while entering the meeting. Participants with cryptic names will not be given access to the seminar.
- Please turn off your microphone while the seminar is taking place.
- Please feel free to ask questions!

Contact information

Please contact [Dr. Deeksha Malhan](#) or [Dr. Annakarina Mundorf](#) for further information.