



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: M.Sc. Nora Strom, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

Title: The newest genome-wide association study of OCD and its association with immune markers.

Abstract: Obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) is a highly heritable disorder, but early GWAS studies of OCD lacked power to discover any definitive significant single-nucleotide polymorphisms (SNP). In recent years, the TS/OCD working group of the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium has conducted several new GWAS analyses of OCD. In our latest version we combined data of 28 cohorts of European ancestry including over 53,000 OCD cases. Here, for the first time, we identified 30 independent significant SNPs associated with OCD. We then conducted an array of analyses to characterize the discovered SNPs and their possible biological pathways mediating the susceptibility to OCD, as well as the genetic relationship of OCD with other psychiatric and non-psychiatric phenotypes. In a separate study, we examined the potential connection between OCD, autoimmune disorders/inflammation by measuring C-reactive protein and interleukin-6 levels in individuals with OCD, their unaffected first-degree relatives, and controls. We also looked at the relationship between these levels and genetic risk for OCD.

When: 19th January 2023 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. Annakarina Mundorf](#) or [Dr. Deeksha Malhan](#) for further information.