

Welcome to the homepage of the

Center for Tumor Biology and Immunology - Zentrum für Tumor- und Immunbiologie (ZTI).

Promoted by the LOEWE excellence program of the state of Hesse, the ZTI was founded as part of the medical faculty of [Philipps-University](#) of Marburg and went into operation in 2014. Research at the ZTI is dedicated to cancer biology and immune regulation with a particular focus on the intersection of inflammation and tumor initiation, progression and resistance.

Clearly, chronic inflammation is a critical component of both autoimmunity and tumorigenesis, affecting similar cellular compartments and regulatory circuits in both conditions. An example is the tumor microenvironment, which creates a network of cellular and molecular interactions similar to a chronic wound, involving a plethora of different types of host cells, including macrophages, granulocytes, T-cells, fibroblasts and endothelial cells. The relevance of these interactions is clearly supported by clinical evidence linking chronic inflammation, triggered for instance by autoimmunity, obesity or smoking, to the development of different types of cancer.

It is our vision that the research conducted by the nearly 150 coworkers at the ZTI will help to develop new therapeutic approaches to fight cancer, autoimmunity and other diseases caused by chronic inflammation.



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