



**Program for the Retreat of the Immunology Research Cluster (IRC) of the Medical University of Vienna, June 26, 2026 (<https://irc.meduniwien.ac.at/>)**

**Venue: Parkhotel Schönbrunn (<https://www.austria-trend.at/de/hotels/parkhotel-schoenbrunn>)**

9.00 **Opening** (Rudolf Valenta IRC Speaker)

**Symposium of the Austrian Society for Allergology and Immunology (ÖGAI)**

Chairs: Prof. Wilfried Ellmeier, Prof. Ursula Wiedermann

9.10-9.50 Immunoregulation in health and disease, Prof. Mübeccel Akdis, Davos, Switzerland

9.50-10.00 Awarding of the Karl Landsteiner Medal of ÖGAI to Prof. Mübeccel Akdis by Prof. Wilfried Ellmeier, President of ÖGAI

10.00-10.40 Epithelial barrier in health and disease, Prof. Cezmi Akdis, Davos, Switzerland

10.40-10.50 Awarding of the Clemens von Pirquet Medal of ÖGAI to Prof. Cezmi Akdis by Prof. Ursula Wiedermann, Incoming President of ÖGAI

10.50-11.40 Lectures from two IRC Early career scientists

11.40-12.10 Coffee break

**IRC Symposium I**

Chairs: Prof. Winfried Pickl, Prof. Julia Walochnik

12.10-12.40 The immunology of cachexia - and why it matters to patients across different aetiologies, Prof. Andreas Bergthaler, Medical University of Vienna, Austria

12.40-13.30 Two lectures from IRC Early career scientists

13.30-14.30 Lunch break

**IRC Symposium II**

Chairs: Prof. Andreas Bergthaler, Prof. Eva Untersmayr-Elsenhuber

14.30-15.00 The microbiota in gut-brain interactions, Prof. Maria Rescigno, CeMM Research Center for Molecular Medicine, Vienna, Austria

15.00-15.30 Leveraging bile acid signaling to treat immune-mediated liver diseases and beyond, Prof. Michael Trauner, Medical University of Vienna, Austria



15.30-16.20 Two lectures from IRC Early career scientists

16.20-16.50 Coffee break

### **IRC Symposium III**

Chairs: Prof. Rudolf Valenta, Prof. Marta Rizzi

16.50-17.20 Targeting innate immune pathways to treat metastatic cancer: From mechanisms to therapeutics, Prof. Maria Sibilio, Medical University of Vienna, Austria

17.20-17.50 CAR-T cell therapy: For cancer and beyond, Prof. Winfried Pickl, Medical University of Vienna, Austria

17.50 Greetings by the Vice-rector of Research of Medical University of Vienna, Michaela Fritz, Handing over of IRC Early career scientist awards

18.10 Closing, Foreign adjunct professorship award to Prof. Maria Rescigno, thanks to the IRC- Team and handing over of the IRC to the new IRC speaker

18.15 Group picture

18.20-19.40 Poster Session with wine and cheese