

SEPSIS^{12th} UPDATE

2025 Oct 02 – 04
Heidelberg

Improving sepsis outcomes:
cutting edge in diagnostics & therapy

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

Scientific Organisation

Prof. F. M. Brunkhorst // Managing Director of the German Sepsis Society

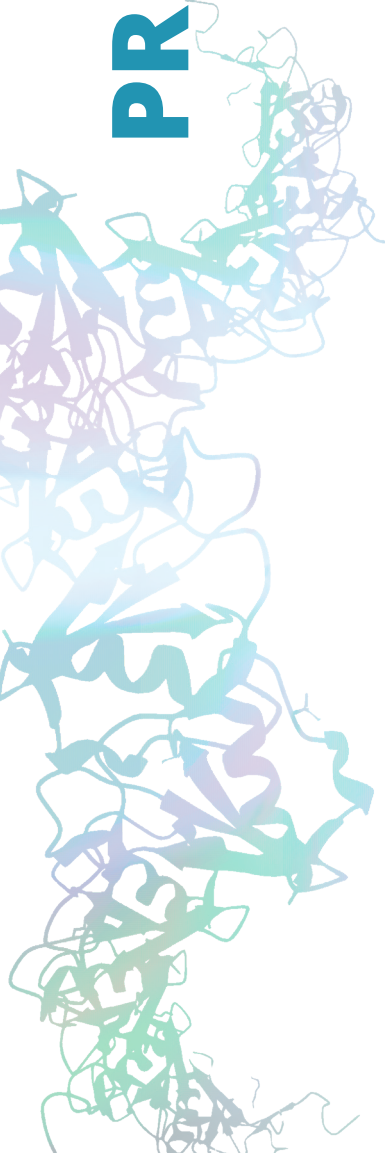
Prof. M. A. Weigand // Secretary General of the German Sepsis Society

Prof. A. Kaasch // Chairman of the German Sepsis Society

Contact

info@sepsis-update.de

PREFACE



Welcome to the 12th Sepsis Update “Improving sepsis outcomes: cutting edge in diagnostics & therapy”

Dear colleagues,

Since the past decades much has been learned to improve sepsis outcomes, yet the condition remains a major cause of morbidity and mortality worldwide. Modulating the dysregulated host response has been hypothesized to advance better sepsis outcomes, but so far, none of the numerous trials on this topic led to the implementation of immunomodulatory sepsis-treatments into day-to-day clinical practice.

New technologies for detection of invading agents and for rapid testing emerge as valuable tools for sepsis diagnostics. Furthermore, multi-omics-based methods help us understand how pathophysiological disturbances that determine sepsis outcomes greatly vary both over time and between individual patients. This provides the groundwork for future identification and stratification of patients based on innovative biomarkers and has the potential to translate into a renaissance of immunetherapies and other tailored treatments.

We are delighted to extend a warm invitation for the upcoming 12th Sepsis Update, which will take place from Thursday 2nd to Saturday 4th October 2025 under the motto ‘Improving sepsis outcomes: cutting edge in diagnostics & therapy’.

Since 2002, the Sepsis Update held by the German Sepsis Society has emerged as one of the most significant international scientific sepsis meetings. This prestigious event brings together top investigators from around the globe, healthcare professionals and industry partners to discuss the latest advancements, share insights, and collaborate on strategies to provide solutions for sepsis management. In the upcoming 12th Sepsis Update (for the first time taking place in Heidelberg) the main focus will be on new diagnostics along with innovative therapeutic measures.

As program chairs, we look forward to your valuable presence at the Sepsis Update 2025 and to the knowledge and expertise you will bring. Together, we will improve sepsis outcomes and save lives of our patients!



Frank M. Brunkhorst
Managing Director GSS



Markus A. Weigand
Congress Chair,
Secretary General GSS



Achim Kaasch
Chairman GSS

PROGRAM Thursday

October 2nd

09:00 – 12:00 WORKSHOPS (parallel sessions)

WS1: German campaign

"#DeutschlandErkenntSepsis" (DES)

Organizer: Ruth Hecker, Essen, Germany
Frank Brunkhorst; Berlin, Germany

Chair: Markus Weigand, Heidelberg
Ruth Hecker, Berlin
Matthias Gründling, Greifswald

- 09:00 – 09:20 **Sepsis erkennen – die Kampagne #DeutschlandErkenntSepsis**
Ruth Hecker, Berlin, Germany
- 09:30 – 09:50 **Defizite im stationären Bereich**
Christian Scheer, Greifswald, Germany
- 10:00 – 10:20 **Patienteninteressen und Patientenperspektiven**
Frank Brunkhorst, Berlin, Germany
- 10:30 – 10:50 **Validität der Sepsiskodierung im ICD-10-GM**
Ulf Dennler, Würzburg, Germany
- 11:00 – 11:20 **Qualitätsverbesserung durch Peer-Review vor Ort**
Hendrik Rüddel, Jena, Germany
- 11:30 – 11:50 **Qualitätsverbesserung durch gesetzliche Vorgaben – QS-Verfahren Sepsis 2026**
Jürgen Pauletzki, Berlin, Germany

WS2: European group on immunology of sepsis (EGIS)

Organizer: Ignacio Rubio, Jena, Germany
Jesús F Bermejo Martín, Salamanca, Spain

- 09:00 – 09:20 **Reprogramming of nutrient sensing in natural killer cell dysregulation during sepsis**
Stefanie Flohé, Essen, Germany
- 09:30 – 09:50 **Proteomics associated to AI to early detect severe infection**
Jesus F Bermejo-Martin, Salamanca, Spain
- 10:00 – 10:20 **Rethinking albumin in critical illness: Immune modulation and sphingosine-1-phosphate dynamics in an observational cohort study**
Martin Winkler, Göttingen, Germany

- 10:30 – 10:50 **Novel tools for early recognition of sepsis: From host response signatures to diamond-based immune assays**
Hjalmar R. Bouma, Groningen, The Netherlands
- 11:00 – 11:20 **Biomarkers to guide immune classification**
Evangelos J. Giamarellos-Bourboulis, Athens, Greece
- 11:30 – 11:50 **Presentation of best abstracts: t.b.a.**

WS3: Refresher course: anti-infective management

Organizer: Irit Nachtigall, Berlin, Germany
Frederike Lund, Heidelberg, Germany

- 09:00 – 09:20 **Infection prevention: Diagnostics and therapy – an overall approach**
Jana Schroeder, Rheine, Germany
- 09:30 – 09:50 **Sepsis in the geriatric patient, a practical approach**
Angela Grote-Reith, Rheine, Germany
- 10:00 – 10:20 **When lungs trigger sepsis: What really matters in practice**
Cathrin Kodde, Berlin, Germany
- 10:30 – 10:50 **How (not) to use nebulized antibiotics in the ICU**
Matthias Otto, Mannheim, Germany
- 11:00 – 11:20 **How to diagnose and treat fungal infections in the ICU**
Frederike Lund, Heidelberg, Germany
- 11:30 – 11:50 **Practical guide to TDM in critically ill patients**
Ute Chiriac, Heidelberg, Germany

WS4: Animal models in sepsis

Organizer: Marcin Osuchowski, Vienna, Austria
Sascha David, Zürich, Switzerland

- 09:00 – 09:20 **Sepsis modeling guidelines: current utility and future directions**
Marcin Osuchowski, Vienna, Austria
- 09:20 – 09:40 **A wet niche: what fish can add to sepsis research?**
Dorothea Heuberger, Zürich, Switzerland



PROGRAM Thursday

October 2nd

- 09:40 – 10:00 **A Chronic Mouse Problem: Modeling Progression of Sepsis into Persistent Inflammatory and Catabolic States**
Sergiu Dumitrescu, xxx, Austria
- 10:00 – 10:20 **Porcine Sepsis Models: How Large Is the Gap to Clinical Translation?**
Maximilian Dietrich, Heidelberg, Germany
- 10:20 – 10:40 **Monkey business: Non-human primate models in translational research**
Markus Hoffman, Göttingen, Germany
- 10:40 – 11:30 **Presentation of best abstracts: t.b.a.**
- 11:30 – 12:00 **Open forum / Q/A**
- 12:00 – 13:00 BREAK**
- 13:00 – 14:50 OPENING SESSION: Transforming sepsis care: how to improve outcomes?**

Chair: Michael Adamzik, Bochum, Germany
Sina Coldewey, Zurich, Switzerland
- 13:00 – 13:05 **Opening address**
Achim Kaasch, Magdeburg, Germany
- 13:05 – 13:35 **Key note lecture – Future directions in clinical sepsis research**
Mervyn Singer, London, United Kingdom,
Patron of the German Sepsis Society
- 13:35 – 14:00 **Modifiable mechanisms and informative archetypes in sepsis?**
Evangelos J. Giamarellos-Bourboulis, Athens, Greece
- 14:00 – 14:25 **Translational perspectives in sepsis research**
Hjalmar R. Bouma, Groningen, The Netherlands
- 14:25 – 14:50 **Is bigger better? – Platform trials in intensive care**
Lennie Derde, Utrecht, The Netherlands

14:50 – 15:20 BREAK

15:20 – 17:10 SESSION 1: Unravelling sepsis mechanisms

- Chair: Sandra Frank, Munich, Germany
Felix C. F. Schmitt, Heidelberg, Germany
- 15:20 – 15:40 **Diminished type I IFN signaling in impaired myelopoiesis and immunosuppression**
Matthijs Kox, Nijmegen, The Netherlands
- 15:40 – 16:00 **(Epi)Genetics in sepsis: understanding susceptibility and progression**
Brendon P. Scicluna, Msida, Malta
- 16:00 – 16:20 **The microbiome's role in sepsis pathobiology**
John Marshall, Toronto, Canada
- 16:20 – 16:40 **New sepsis endotypes**
Lars Palmowski, Bochum, Germany

16:40 – 17:10 BREAK

17:10 – 18:10 SESSION 2: Focus on sepsis outcomes in clinical trials

- Chair: André Scherag, Jena, Germany
Patrick Meybohm, Würzburg, Germany
- 17:10 – 17:30 **Mortality versus days alive and free of organ support**
Kathy Rowan, London, United Kingdom
- 17:30 – 17:50 **Shortcomings in adverse events reporting**
Deborah Cook, Hamilton, Canada
- 17:50 – 18:10 **PICS and patient-centered outcomes**
Frank Brunkhorst, Jena, Germany

18:30 – open GET-TOGETHER-PARTY



PROGRAM Friday

October 3rd

07:30 – 08:00 **MORNING ROUNDS – my worst sepsis case ...**
Christina Scharf-Janßen, Munich, Germany

08:00 – 09:00 **SESSION 3: Innovations in (early) sepsis detection**

Chair: Hendrik Bracht, Bielefeld, Germany
Frank Bloos, Jena, Germany

• **08:00 – 08:20** **Organ dysfunction in sepsis: how to define, how to detect?**
Markus A. Weigand, Heidelberg, Germany

• **08:20 – 08:40** **New culture-independent detection systems for infection**
Evgeny Idelevich, Greifswald, Germany

• **08:40 – 09:00** **Artificial intelligence for early sepsis recognition**
Thorsten Brenner, Essen, Germany

09:00 – 09:30 **BREAK**

09:30 – 10:30 **SESSION 4: Hemodynamics – (beyond) initial resuscitation**

Chair: Mervyn Singer, London, United Kingdom
Michael Bucher, Halle, Germany

• **09:30 – 09:50** **Parameter guided initial resuscitation**
Maximilian Dietrich, Heidelberg, Germany

• **09:50 – 10:10** **Fluid and vasopressor choices**
Frank Bloos, Jena, Germany

• **10:10 – 10:30** **Betablockers and antiarrhythmics**
Sebastian Rehberg, Bielefeld, Germany

10:30 – 10:45 **BREAK**

10:45 – 11:45 **SESSION 5: Cutting edge in therapy – anti-infective management**

Chair: Elham Khatamzas, Heidelberg, Germany
Jan De Waele, Ghent, Belgium

• **10:45 – 11:05** **Empirical strategies**
Mathias Pletz, Jena, Germany

• **11:05 – 11:25** **Prolonged/continuous administration of beta-lactams**
Stefan Hagel, Jena, Germany

• **11:25 – 11:45** **When is it time to (de)escalate?**
Jan De Waele, Ghent, Belgium

11:45 – 12:00 **BREAK**

12:00 – 13:30 **LUNCHSYMPOSIA**

Supported by Fa. Shionogi, Fa. Biotest, Fa. Pfizer

13:30 – 14:00 **BREAK**

14:00 – 15:00 **SESSION 6: Antibiotic therapy of *S. aureus* bloodstream infection**

Chair: Mathias Pletz, Jena, Germany
Alexander Brinkmann, Heidenheim, Germany

• **14:00 – 14:20** **Risk stratification in *S. aureus* bloodstream infection**
Achim Kaasch, Magdeburg, Germany

• **14:20 – 14:40** **The SNAP platform trial in the EU**
Marjolein Hensgens, Utrecht, The Netherlands

• **14:40 – 15:00** **Antibiotic combination therapy in *S. aureus* bloodstream infection**
Siegbert Rieg, Freiburg, Germany



PROGRAM Friday

October 3rd

15:00 – 15:30

BREAK

15:30 – 16:30

SESSION 7: Prevention and treatment of sepsis-induced organ failure

Chair: Konstanty Szuldrzyński, Warszawa, Poland
Christian Bode, Bonn, Germany

• **15:30 – 15:50 Targeting sepsis-induced endotheliopathy**

Morten Bestle, Copenhagen, Denmark

• **15:50 – 16:10 Is it time to redefine ARDS?**

- Pro: Christoph Bösing, Mannheim, Germany
- Con: Onnen Mörer, Göttingen, Germany

• **16:10 – 16:30 Thiamine for renal protection**

Josef Briegel, Munich, Germany

16:30 – 17:00

BREAK

17:00 – 18:00

SESSION 8: Up to date – the new German sepsis guidelines

Chair: Frank Brunkhorst, Jena, Germany
Christina Scharf-Janßen, Munich, Germany

• **17:00 – 17:20 Ventilation**

Onnen Mörer, Göttingen, Germany

• **17:20 – 17:40 Renal support**

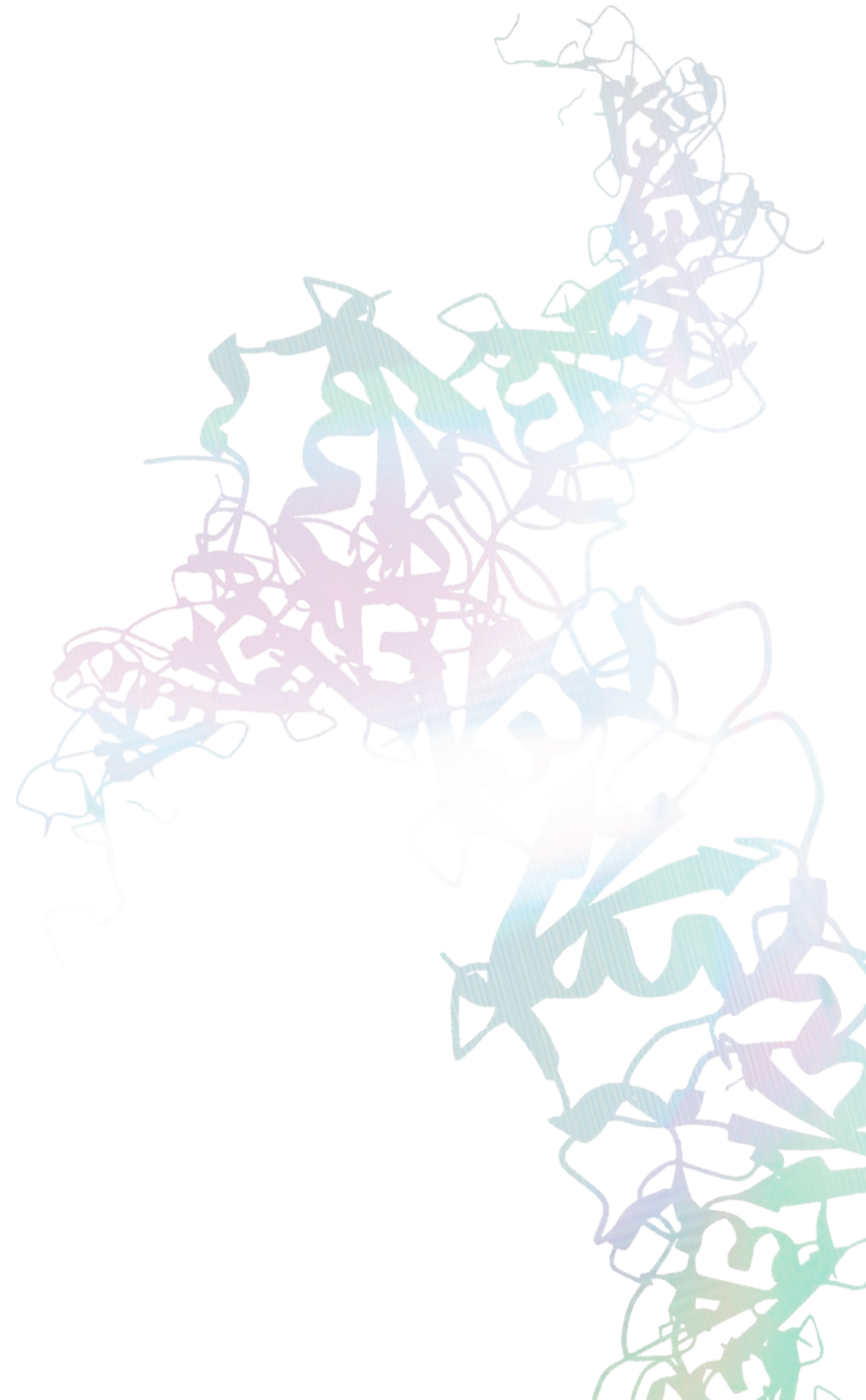
Stefan John, Nürnberg, Germany

• **17:40 – 18:00 Additional therapies**

Patrick Meybohm, Würzburg, Germany

18:00 – 19:00

DSG: General Assembly (internal meeting)



PROGRAM Saturday

October 4th

07:30 – 08:00 **MORNING ROUNDS – my worst sepsis case ...**
Jannick Clemens, Heidelberg, Germany

08:00 – 09:00 **SESSION 9: Nutrition and metabolism**

Chair: Aileen Hill, Aachen, Germany
Jan Beneš, Prague, Czech Republic.

• **08:00 – 08:20** **Glucose control**
Gunnar Elke, Kiel, Germany

• **08:20 – 08:40** **Vitamins to improve organ dysfunction**
Stefan Kluge, Hamburg, Germany

• **08:40 – 09:00** **Permissive hypofeeding**
Tim Rahmel, Bochum, Germany

09:00 – 09:30 **BREAK**

09:30 – 10:30 **SESSION 10: Adjuncts and recent developments 1**

Chair: Thorsten Brenner, Essen, Germany
Josef Briegel, Munich, Germany

• **09:30 – 09:50** **Update on plasma exchange**
Sascha David, Zürich, Switzerland

• **09:50 – 10:10** **AT-II, methylen-blue ...
new tools for refractory septic shock?**
Mervyn Singer, London, United Kingdom

• **10:10 – 10:30** **Mesenchymal stem cells for severe pneumonia
and sepsis**
Marius A. Möbius, Dresden, Germany

10:30 – 10:45 **BREAK**

10:45 – 11:45 **SESSION 11: Adjuncts and recent developments 2**

Chair: Nana-Maria Wagner, Würzburg, Germany
Matthias Kochanek, Cologne, Germany

• **10:45 – 11:05** **Fludrocortisone in septic shock**
Balasubramanian Venkatesh, Sydney, Australia

• **11:05 – 11:25** **Steroids in ARDS and CAP**
Djillali Annane, Paris, France

• **11:25 – 11:45** **CAR-engineered immune cells:
strengths and flaws**
Christina Weisheit, Bonn, Germany

11:45 – 12:00 **BREAK**

12:00 – 13:30 **t.b.a**

13:30 – 14:00 **BREAK**

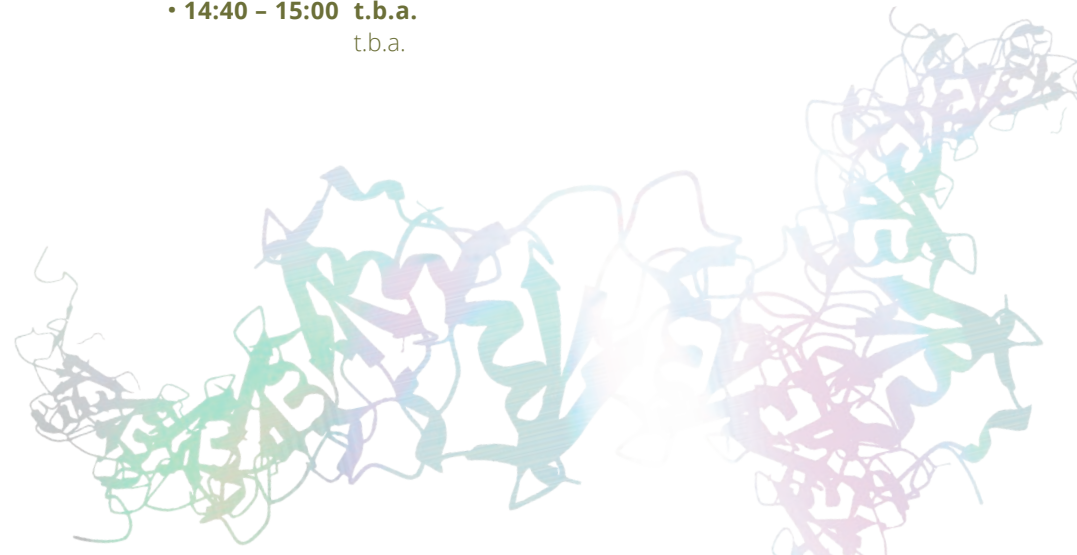
14:00 – 15:00 **HOT TOPIC SESSION**

Chair: Michael Adamzik, Bochum, Germany
Markus Weigand, Heidelberg, Germany

• **14:00 – 14:20** **t.b.a.**
t.b.a.

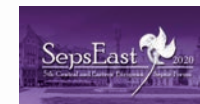
• **14:20 – 14:40** **t.b.a.**
t.b.a.

• **14:40 – 15:00** **t.b.a.**
t.b.a.



Research Organisations and Societies

- Australian and New Zealand Intensive Care Society Clinical Trials Group (ANZICS), Sydney
- Center for Sepsis Control and Care (CSCC), Jena
- Canadian Critical Care Trials Group (CCCTG), Toronto
- Central and Eastern European Sepsis Forum (SepsEast)
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internistische Intensivmedizin und Notfallmedizin e.V. (DGIIN), Berlin
- Deutsches Zentrum für Lungenforschung e.V. (DZL), Gießen
- European Group on Immunology of Sepsis (EGIS), Jena
- Intensive Care National Audit and Research Centre (ICNARC) and Imperial College London
- International Forum for Acute Care Trialists (IN FACT), Toronto
- Irish Critical Care Clinical Trials Network (ICCTN), Dublin
- REMAP-CAP (A Randomised, Embedded, Multi-factorial, Adaptive Platform Trial for Community-Acquired Pneumonia), Utrecht
- UK critical care Research Group (UKCCRG)
- University Medical Center Utrecht (UMCU)



PRICE LIST

EARLY BIRD (TILL 31.05.2025)

Congress ticket	DSG members	Eastern European participants	Students
240 €	220 €	120 €	free

REGULAR (01.06. – 31.08.2025)

Congress ticket	DSG members	Eastern European participants	Students
280 €	240 €	140 €	free

LAST CHANCE (01.09. – 01.10.2025) AND ON-SITE

Congress ticket	DSG members	Eastern European participants	Students
320 €	280 €	160 €	free

DAY TICKET

Congress ticket	DSG members	Eastern European participants	Students
160 €	140 €	80 €	free



Scientific Committee

Frank M. Brunkhorst, MD
Achim Kaasch, MD
Mervyn Singer, PhD, MD
Markus Weigand, MD
Michael Adamzik, MD
Mathias Pletz, MD

Scientific Organisation

Prof. Dr. F. M. Brunkhorst
Managing Director of the German Sepsis Society
Email: frank.brunkhorst@med.uni-jena.de

Prof. Dr. M. A. Weigand
Secretary General of the German Sepsis Society
Email: markus.weigand@med.uni-heidelberg.de

Prof. Dr. A. Kaasch
Chairman of the German Sepsis Society
Email: achim.kaasch@med.ovgu.de

PD Dr. F. C. F. Schmitt
Email: felix.schmitt@med.uni-heidelberg.de

PD Dr. B. H. Siegler
Email: benedikt.siegler@med.uni-heidelberg.de

Congress Language

English



Imprint

Deutsche Sepsis-Gesellschaft e.V. | Waldenserstraße 2 – 4, 10551 Berlin | Design: © Lindgrün GmbH | 2022 | www.lindgruen-gmbh.com

Organizer

KONGKRET
Kongress-und Eventmanagement
Ulrike Götz, Falkenweg 7, 97204 Höchberg, Germany
www.kongkret.de

Congress Venue

ATLANTIC Hotel Heidelberg
Europaplatz 1, 69115 Heidelberg
www.atlantic-hotels.de/hotel-heidelberg/



Contact

Deutsche Sepsis-Gesellschaft e.V.
info@sepsis-update.de
www.sepsis-update.de



Office: Waldenserstraße 2–4, 10551 Berlin
Headquarter: Erlanger Allee 101, 07747 Jena

