

# Newsletter



Dear CABMM members and friends,

I am very happy to provide you with the next CABMM Newsletter, informing you about the latest news from the CABMM and our network.

## CABMM Research Platform

At the end of December 2024, after more than 15 years of operation, the doors of the CABMM Research Platform were finally closed. Due to changing needs and the ongoing lack of space at the Irchel Campus, our Steering Committee made the decision to discontinue the CABMM Research Platform in its existing form. However, as one chapter closes, another chapter opens, as the CABMM and its active network continues to bring value to the community through scientific events, science communication opportunities and promoting interdisciplinary work between our members and beyond.

Let's use this newsletter to take one last brief look back at the CABMM Research Platform and what it has facilitated over the years:

The aim of the CABMM Research Platform was to establish a physical space as a working center of excellence in the field of musculoskeletal research and to promote collaborations within the CABMM network by offering a physical platform for collaborative research providing lab space and also expert assistance in the form of technical support and scientific discussions. It was thought to be a place where basic scientists, clinicians and veterinarians could discuss their research and ideas and work shoulder to shoulder for the purpose of developing novel therapeutic approaches for the treatment of dysfunctional and diseased tissues. And indeed, it was extensively used during the past 15 years: In total, there were almost 60 people from 15 different research groups using the CABMM Research Platform. Their projects covered a variety of different research and clinical topics, and involved various disciplines, reflecting its translational and interdisciplinary character very well. More than 15 people were able to advance their career by successfully completing a PhD, a doctorate in veterinary medicine, or a master thesis on our platform. It was definitely a good time! However, sometimes circumstances and needs are changing, and it is time to break new ground.

In this sense, we are very pleased to inform you that despite the closure of the CABMM Research Platform, there is still a possibility to carry out collaborative CABMM projects with CABMM member laboratories. For instance, the MSRU in the new modern MSRU laboratories, equipped for histology, cell biology, and molecular biology research will continue to be active collaborators within the CABMM network, offering the possibility for visiting scientists to work on their research and share their expertise. So please do not hesitate to contact the CABMM Coordinating Office if you are interested in partnering on new research endeavors. We will help you find the right partners within the CABMM network that would best complement your field of work.

Finally, I would like to express our sincere thanks to Prof. Michael O. Hottiger and Prof. em. Ueli Hübscher, the current and former director of the Department of Molecular Mechanisms of Disease (DMMD; former Institute for Veterinary Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (IVBMB)) for hosting the CABMM Research Platform since its creation in 2008 and the excellent collaboration during its entire operation.

## CABMM Plenary Meeting and CABMM Steering Committee

We are pleased to inform you that the CABMM plenum voted on the **CABMM's future strategic direction** and approved the following

priorities: (i) Regulatory affairs/GxP; (ii) Animal welfare/3R; (iii) Promotion of clinically oriented, translational research; and (iv) Promotion and support of young academics. You will receive more detailed information about individual priorities, connected activities, and their implementation in the next CABMM newsletters. Stay tuned!

Furthermore, with the exception of Dr. Katja Nuss, the term of office of all **CABMM Steering Committee** members had expired, so that re-elections had to be held. Unfortunately, Prof. Simon P. Hoerstrup, founding member, CABMM Steering Committee member since its creation and former chairman of the CABMM Steering Committee, decided not to stand for re-election. We very much regret his resignation but also understand his decision. He will soon be given a proper farewell, but I would like to take this opportunity to already express our sincere thanks for his many years of service to the CABMM. I am happy to inform you that all other members have made themselves available for a new term and were confirmed in their office, namely Prof. Michael O. Hottiger, Prof. Annette Liesegang, Prof. Janine Reichenbach, and Prof. Marcy Zenobi-Wong. Congratulations to your re-election and thank you very much for your time, commitment, and continuous support!

## CABMM events

In 2024, three major events were held, all of which were very successful and approved for continuous education credits by the Swiss veterinary federal authorities, in keeping with the CABMM's focus on animal welfare and teaching:

The **CABMM Symposium** focused on Artificial Intelligence in Animal Welfare. The event gave a comprehensive overview of the use of this rapidly emerging technique for the benefit of rodents, farm animals, and wildlife animals, including pain monitoring, behavioral research, and general animal welfare aspects. The topic was met with great interest and attracted a large audience from inside and outside the CABMM network allowing for forging new ties and can thus be considered one of our most successful events so far.

Last year's **CABMM Winter Colloquium** was a networking event demonstrating the translational and interdisciplinary work performed within the CABMM network. Following a first session on animal nutrition, which focused on the impact of nutrition on bone and cartilage and also covered aspects relevant to our own human diet, a second session was about translational neurosurgery highlighting the collaborative work within our network and showing how interdisciplinary work can drive research and new therapeutic approaches forward.

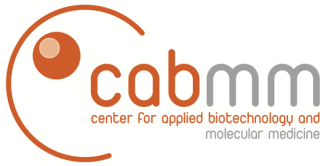
Last but definitely not least, the **CABMM GxP Day Series** was launched, with a first workshop entitled "GLP – Do I need it?" focusing on Good Laboratory Practice (GLP). Excellent presentations highlighted the importance of GLP not only as a regulatory requirement but also its advantages in ensuring scientific data quality and animal welfare and gave first-hand information about the GLP infrastructure at the University of Zurich. Poster presentations during the coffee break and a concluding panel discussion including a Q&A session allowed for various interactions and possibilities to answer open questions. The event was very well received and follow-up events focusing on Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) and Good Clinical Practice (GCP) are planned.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the speakers for their interesting and high-quality presentations, without which we would not have been able to hold our events.

We are excited to see what the future holds for the CABMM and looking forward to advancing translational research forward together with you!

With my best regards,

Dr. Silke Kalchofner-Mark, Managing Director of the CABMM



# Newsletter

## Announcements

We would like to announce the dates for our next exciting events:

**CABMM Symposium: Thursday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**CABMM Winter Colloquium: Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

Don't forget to reserve the dates in your calendar. We very much look forward to welcoming you!

## Member presentation

We would like to welcome the following member in our network:

**Prof. Dr. Christian Stockmann**

*Institute of Anatomy, University of Zurich*

The research focus of the Stockmann group is in the field of regenerative immunology:

We study how immune cells contribute to organ homeostasis, tissue regeneration as well as aberrant healing responses that result in fibrotic disease, including classical organ fibrosis involving the liver, lung and kidney fibrosis as well as fibrosis in the context of scleroderma, Graft versus Host disease and desmoplastic tumors. We ultimately aim to leverage this knowledge and to develop future immunotherapies that support tissue regeneration and the resolution of fibrosis.



## Congratulations

Congratulations to our long-standing member **Yvonne Achermann** on her appointment as professor at the University of Zurich. Her main research area is implant-associated infections, focusing on diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of periprosthetic joint infections.

We would like to extend our warmest congratulations to CABMM member **Stefan Dudli** from the Center of Experimental Rheumatology who was appointed "Titularprofessor" from the University of Zurich at the end of 2024.

We would like to congratulate our member **Michael Hugelshofer** on his appointment as senior lecturer. His habilitation thesis dealt with "Intracerebroventricular haptoglobin treatment as new therapeutic concept to prevent secondary brain injury after aneurysmal subarachnoid hemorrhage".

## Publications

Secretome from Magnetically Stimulated Muscle Exhibits Anticancer Potency: Novel Preconditioning Methodology Highlighting HTRA1 Action. Tai YK, Iversen JN, Chan KKW, Fong CHH, Abdul Razar RB, Ramanan S, Yap LYJ, Yin JN, Toh SJ, Wong CJK, Koh PFA, Huang RYJ, Franco-Obregon A. *Cells*, 2024 Mar 5;13(5):460

Functionalization of Ceramic Scaffolds with Exosomes from Bone Marrow Mesenchymal Stromal Cells for Bone Tissue Engineering. Maevskaia E, Guerrero J, Ghayor C, Bhattacharya I, Weber FE. *Int J Mol Sci*. 2024 Mar 29;25(7):3826

Mechanistic Insights into the Multiple Functions of Nicotinamide: Therapeutic Implications and Cosmeceutical Applications in Functional Skincare Products. Marques C, Hadjab F, Porcello A, Lourenço K, Scaletta C, Abdel-Sayed P, Hirt-Burri N, Applegate LA, Laurent A. *Antioxidants (Basel)*. 2024 Mar 30;13(4):425

Haptoglobin Attenuates Cerebrospinal Fluid Hemoglobin-Induced Neurological Deterioration in Sheep. Thomson BR, Schwendinger N, Beckmann K, Gentinetta T, Couto D, Wymann S, Verdon V, Buzzi RM, Akeret K, Kronen PW, Weinberger EM, Held U, Seehusen F, Richter H, Schaer DJ, Hugelshofer M. *Transl Stroke Res*. 2024 Apr 23 [Epub]

Murine iPSC-Loaded Scaffold Grafts Improve Bone Regeneration in Critical-Size Bone Defects. Kessler F, Arnke K, Eggerschwiler B, Neldner Y, Märsmann S, Gröninger O, Casanova EA, Weber FA, König MA, Stark WJ, Pape HC, Cinelli P, Tiziani S. *Int J Mol Sci*. 2024 May 20;25(10):5555

Targeted knock-in of NCF1 cDNA into the NCF2 locus leads to myeloid phenotypic correction of p47 phox -deficient chronic granulomatous disease. Siow KM, Gungör M, Wrona D, Raimondi F, Pastukhov O, Tsapogas P, Menzi T, Schmitz M, Kulcsár PI, Schwank G, Schulz A, Jinek M, Modlich U, Siler U, Reichenbach J. *Mol Ther Nucleic Acids*. 2024 May 24;35(3):102229

Optical coherence tomography quantifies gradient refractive index and mechanical stiffness gradient across the human lens. Kling S, Frigelli M, Aydemir ME, Tahsini V, Torres-Netto EA, Kollros L, Hafezi F. *Commun Med (Lond)*. 2024 Aug 12;4(1):162

Influence of N- and/or P-restriction on bone metabolism in young goats. Zillinger LS, Liesegang A, Hustedt K, Schnepel N, Sauerwein H, Schmicke M, Schwennen C, Muscher-Banse AS. *Br J Nutr*. 2024 Oct 15;132(7):874-886

In vivo performance of lean bioabsorbable Mg-Ca alloy X0 and comparison to WE43: Influence of surface modification and alloying content. Berger L, Dolert S, Akhmetshina T, Burkhard JP, Tegelkamp M, Rich AM, Rubin W, Darwiche S, Kuhn G, Schäublin RE, von Rechenberg B, Schaller B, Nuss KM, Löffler JF. *Bioact Mater*. 2024 Nov 5;44:501-515

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