



# iNOVA4Health

- Conference -

**March 19<sup>th</sup>, 12h30**  
**IPO Auditorium**  
**Host: Prof. Paula Chaves**



***“Towards Precision Oncology Through Multidimensional Tumor Characterization and Innovative Clinical Trials: The NCT Master and NCT PMO Program”***

**Richard Schlenk, MD PhD**

*Acting head of NCT clinical trials center, German Cancer Research Center Heidelberg*

**Short CV:**

Richard Schlenk is the acting Head of NCT clinical trials center of the German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ) and Head of the Clinical Trials Office in the area of Hematology/Oncology at the University Hospital of Heidelberg, Germany. His research interests include cross-entity clinical trials, acute myeloid leukemia (AML), trial design, and causal inference studies.

**Abstract:**

To leverage whole-exome/genome and RNA sequencing for cancer care, we have established MASTER (Molecularly Aided Stratification for Tumor Eradication Research), a nationwide registry trial for biology-driven stratification of younger adults with advanced-stage cancer across all histologies and patients with rare tumors. This prospective trial demonstrates that broad molecular profiling in a multi-institutional clinical setting is feasible, complements and advances molecular diagnostics, and creates therapeutic opportunities in a relevant proportion of patients. To improve clinical translation and promote robust data acquisition, MASTER is linked to a growing portfolio of controlled clinical trials within the NCT Precision Medicine in Oncology (PMO) Program. In the intermediate term, genomic analysis within MASTER will be integrated with additional layers of patient characterization (e.g. epigenomic, proteomic, and functional profiling) and extended to additional treatment modalities (e.g. radiotherapy and surgical interventions).