

PROF. DR. MED. MARKUS G. MANZ

The Otto Naegeli Prize 2016 is awarded to Prof. Markus Manz, the current Chairman of the Department of Hematology at Zurich University Hospital in recognition of his exceptional achievements as a clinician and scientist in the fields of hematology and hematological malignancies. His research has focused on investigating the development and function of the hematopoietic and immune system with the aim of also better understanding the genesis of hemato-lymphoid malignancies.

The research of Prof. Manz has contributed to major advances in understanding the regulation of dendritic cell development, notably showing in mice and then in humans that dendritic cell development is conserved along both lymphoid and myeloid developmental pathways, a so far unique finding in hematopoiesis. Furthermore, by transplanting human hematopoietic stem and progenitor cells over xenogeneic barriers into the liver of newborn immunodeficient mice, Prof. Manz and his team were able to establish, for the first time, human T cell, B cell, and dendritic cell development in a small animal model. This unique mouse model of human hemato-lymphopoiesis is now used by researchers worldwide to study human hemato-lymphopoiesis, human hematologic malignancies, as well as human lymphoid system specific infectious diseases and human hemato-lymphoid cell gene therapy. The relevance of the above scientific milestones is recognized by publications in leading research journals including "Science" and the "Journal of Experimental Medicine". The scientific contributions made by Prof. Manz not only provide a better understanding of the role of hematopoietic stem cells in health and disease, but also insight into novel therapeutic options for patients suffering from hematological diseases.

ZÜRICH, 14. April 2016

DER PRÄSIDENT DES PREISRATES:

