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Krzysztof Kalwak
PDWP Chair
Germany

Major achievements

The third year of the current PDWP term under the chairmanship of Krzysztof Kalwak was marked by exceptional **scientific productivity**, strengthened **multicentre collaboration**s, and a strong **commitment to education**.

Several large **retrospective and registry-based studies** were advanced or initiated, leading to high-quality publications in leading international journals. These included analyses comparing αβ T-cell–depleted versus post-transplant cyclophosphamide–based haploidentical HSCT in acute leukaemia, accepted as an oral presentation at ASH. Overall scientific output in 2025 reached a cumulative impact factor of 71, the second highest in the Working Party's history, highlighting the PDWP's ability to address clinically urgent questions and generate robust long-term outcome data through international collaboration.

New projects addressed emerging topics such as MSD cord blood transplantation in malignant and non-malignant disorders, allogeneic SCT for paediatric relapsed/refractory KMT2A-rearranged AML in complete remission, and outcomes in children with early post-transplant relapse in AML. Numerous abstracts were submitted to the Annual Meeting of EBMT and to ASH, many as joint initiatives with other EBMT Working Parties, underscoring the PDWP's collaborative spirit. Close collaboration within the Westhafen International Group, including colleagues from the US and Canada, resulted in the publication of two important white papers in top-ranked scientific journals.

Education remained a central pillar of PDWP activities. The **PDWP Educational Meeting** held in June 2025 in Wrocław brought together international faculty and highly engaged young investigators in a strong atmosphere of mentorship and scientific exchange. The **paediatric track at the 10th International Transplant and Cellular Therapy Course** further strengthened structured paediatric education within EBMT.

At the **Annual Meeting of EBMT** in March 2025 in Florence, the **Dietrich-Niethammer Award was presented to Professor Peter Bader** (Frankfurt), honouring his outstanding lifetime contributions to paediatric stem cell transplantation and his role as a leading figure within the PDWP community.

Dietrich-Niethammer Award to Peter Bader (Germany)

Throughout 2025, the PDWP continued to support **young investigators**, promote **harmonisation initiatives**, and foster inclusive, high-quality **scientific collaboration** across Europe and beyond.

Principal research studies

Outcomes of pediatric patients with acute leukemias who received either post-transplant cyclophosphamide or a haploidentical transplant with TCR αβ/CD19+ lymphocyte depletion
Study type
Retrospective Studies
Diseases
Acute Lymphatic Leukaemia (ALL)
Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (AML)
Group
Paediatric Diseases Working Party (PDWP)
Type of treatment
Allogeneic - Haploidentical
Principal investigator

Franco Locatelli
Allogeneic vs autologous HSCT in B-cell NHL (D. Przystupski)
Study type
Retrospective Studies
Diseases
Non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma (NHL)
Group
Paediatric Diseases Working Party (PDWP)
Type of treatment
Allogeneic
Principal investigator
D. Przystupski
Outcomes of children with AML relapse within 6 months post HSCT (C. Horgan/R. Wynn)
Study type
Retrospective Studies
Diseases
Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (AML)
Group
Paediatric Diseases Working Party (PDWP)
Type of treatment
Allogeneic
Principal investigator
Claire Horgan / Rob Wynn
Second allogeneic HSCT for relapsed pediatric ALL: a collaborative study on behalf of the Brazilian PDWP (SBTMO) and the European EBMT PDWP (J. Silva, C. Bonfim)
Study type
Retrospective Studies
Diseases
Acute Lymphatic Leukaemia (ALL)
Group
Paediatric Diseases Working Party (PDWP)
Type of treatment
Allogeneic
Principal investigator
Julia Silva, Carmen Bonfim
HSCT in patients with GLIS2+ AML study
Study type

Retrospective Studies
Diseases
Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (AML)
Group
Paediatric Diseases Working Party (PDWP)
Type of treatment
Allogeneic
Principal investigator
Kanchan Rao

Key publications

2025
International expert consensus statement on PICU admission and early critical care management for paediatric patients following haematopoietic cell transplant and immune effector cell therapy
Group
Paediatric Diseases Working Party (PDWP)
WP/Committee not specified
1st listed author
Matteo Di Nardo
Journal
Lancet Child Adolesc Health.
2025
The hallmarks of hematopoietic stem cell transplantation for pediatric acute myeloid leukemia
Group
Paediatric Diseases Working Party (PDWP)
1st listed author
Eva Rettinger
Journal
Leukemia.
2025
Late effects after hematopoietic stem cell transplantation in patients with HLH: A Histiocyte Society, PDWP, IEWP, and TCWP EBMT Study
Group
Inborn Errors Working Party (IEWP)
Complications Working Party (CWP)

Paediatric Diseases Working Party (PDWP)
1st listed author
Kim Ramme
Journal
J Allergy Clin Immunol.
2025
Single unrelated umbilical cord blood versus unmanipulated haploidentical HCT using PTCy in pediatric AML: a retrospective study on behalf of the EBMT PDWP and CTIWP
Group
Cellular Therapy & Immunobiology Working Party (CTIWP)
Paediatric Diseases Working Party (PDWP)
1st listed author
Benedetta Elena Di Majo
Journal
Bone Marrow Transplant.
2025
Harmonized immune recovery monitoring after HCT: evidence and practical guidance from the Westhafen Intercontinental Group
Group
Paediatric Diseases Working Party (PDWP)
1st listed author
Taymour Hammoudi
Journal
Blood Adv.
See the full list of the PDWP 2025 publications

Indicators

	2023	2024	2025
Impact factor	26.20	65.50	**71.10**
Oral presentations	4	6	6
Poster presentations	2	4	**5**
Educational events	1	1	**2**

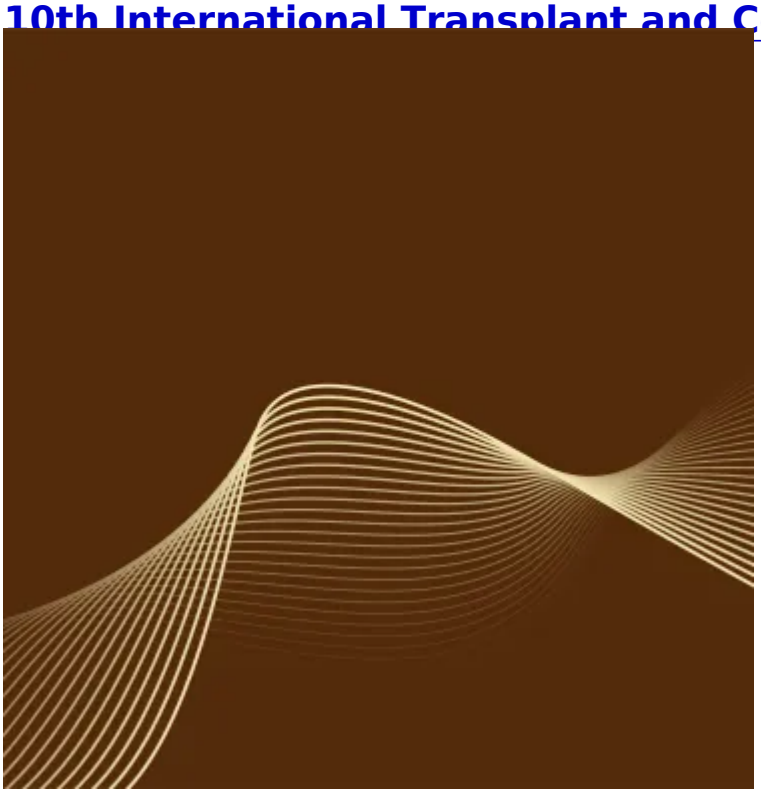
Major educational events

Event

51st Annual Meeting of the EBMT

Event

10th International Transplant and Cellular Therapy Course



Event

Paediatric Diseases Working Party Educational Course

Jun 20, 2025 - Jun 22, 2025 / Wroclaw, Poland
Discover more
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