

Extension of the DFG research group on colon cancer

The research group "Cell Plasticity in Colorectal Carcinogenesis" under spokesperson Florian Greten has been extended for another three years.

Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of death among male and female cancers. Although there are advances in diagnosis, treatment for metastatic patients in the past 60 years has been successful in only a few patients. The group headed by Prof. Florian Greten, Director of the Georg Speyer House and spokesman for the LOEWE Center "Frankfurt Cancer Institute", has been investigating the connection between inflammatory processes and the growth of tumors for several years. This is also the topic of the research group, which is now entering the second funding period.

"Given that patients with colorectal cancer do not respond adequately to therapies that target the selective killing of cancer cells, we believe it is more effective in influencing the local immune system around the tumor," explains Greten. An important condition for the development of such elements is to decode the complex signaling pathways in the tumor microenvironment.

The research group carries out this task in seven subprojects. The members are members of various universities that either belong to the German Consortium Cancer Research Consortium, DKTK, or to a top-level Oncology Center.