The German Center for Lung Research (Deutsches Zentrum für Lungenforschung, DZL) is an association of 29 leading university and non-university institutions dedicated to pulmonary research. The DZL coordinates and conducts basic scientific, disease-oriented, and patient-centered research in the field of lung disease meeting the highest international standards. The aim is to translate basic scientific knowledge into new clinical approaches to improve patient care as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Research is focused on eight Disease Areas:

- Asthma and Allergy
- Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)
- Cystic Fibrosis (CF)
- Pneumonia and Acute Lung Injury
- Diffuse Parenchymal Lung Disease (DPLD)
- Pulmonary Hypertension (PH)
- End-Stage Lung Disease
- Lung Cancer (LC)

There are overlaps between the lung diseases investigated at the DZL in terms of the mechanisms underlying these conditions. Following an integrative research approach, our DZL scientists study the dynamic relationships between three mechanisms:

- regeneration, repair, and development processes
- inflammation including remission
- proliferation (excessive cell growth) and its control

„Translational Research to Combat Widespread Lung Diseases“ is the joint mission of the DZL that aims to better understand the causes of lung diseases and transfer findings from laboratory research into clinical practice more rapidly (bench to bedside).

At the DZL, more than 240 scientists and their teams cooperate closely for the benefit of the patient to rapidly develop new approaches to the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of lung diseases. Basic researchers, whose primary goal is the gain of scientific knowledge, and clinical researchers, whose objective is the safe, successful application of new medical findings, collaborate more intensively than ever before. Interdisciplinary teams look at lung diseases from various perspectives and close the gaps in the translational research chain.

Our patients
- with our partner www.lungeninformationsdienst.de with easy-to-understand information from research and clinical practice about pulmonary diseases
- with regular Patient Events at the DZL Sites
- with Round Tables with representatives of patient organizations

Our scientists
- with our Biobanking & Data Management Platform for centralized networking of research data and exchange of biomaterials through a joint Data Warehouse
- with our Imaging Platform to ensure the availability of state-of-the-art imaging technology

Our Early Career Scientists
- with our DZL Academy, offering an ever-evolving program that provides opportunities for skill development, networking, and leadership experience