

Educational course

Methods and application of minimal residual disease measurement in childhood acute lymphoblastic leukaemia

This educational course is for people as scientists, physicians and technical assistants who have interest and plan to measure sensitively response to treatment in childhood acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL) - especially in a background of a running or planned treatment protocol.

In a two-day course (6h/day) the currently most implemented techniques for minimal residual disease (MRD) quantification in childhood ALL: multicolour flow cytometry using aberrant cell surface or intracellular markers or polymerase chain reaction (PCR) using T-cell receptor/Immunoglobulin gene rearrangements will be presented. For both flow cytometry and PCR the course will be divided in a theoretical and a practical part held directly in the specific laboratories. The participants will learn about background, applicability, feasibility, potential and limitations of both techniques. Further, they will get an impression how to integrate MRD measurements in treatment protocols: as the *ALL-BFM 2000* and the *ALL-REZ BFM 2002* treatment protocol for newly diagnosed and relapsed ALL. A special part will be the demonstration and discussion of interesting 'case reports'.

It is aimed that people who plan to measure MRD, but do not have sufficient own experiences will get a useful overview of the two most established and used technologies and their integration in treatment protocols. Participants are invited to ask questions and to discuss.

Day (time)		Group 1	Group 2
02-10-2008	10.00 - 13.00	Flow-Cytometry Lab part 1	PCR-Lab part 1
	14.00 - 17.00	Flow-Cytometry Lab part 2	PCR-Lab part 2
03-10-2008	10.00 - 13.00	PCR-Lab part 1	Flow-Cytometry Lab part 1
	14.00 - 17.00	PCR-Lab part 2	Flow-Cytometry Lab part 2