

A Word of Introduction

At the GSF we work on the foundations of a medicine and health care future as well as on ecosystems with significant impact on human health. A better understanding of environmental influences on health and diseases helps us to derive effective measures for prevention in terms of causal therapies. Therefore, environmental diseases are the focus of our research. We are committed to ensure that patients benefit quickly from the results.

Translational research – the transfer of knowledge from basic research to clinical applications and vice versa – is our key to success.

Our objective task is not classical pharmaceutical research. Our approach is based on a very interactive network of expertise and capabilities from basic research on biological mechanisms through to phase III studies. We have the expertise and the resources to conduct research from **target to phase III** studies, i.e. from the search of the relevant biological mechanism all the way to the application on the patient. With this new approach we distinguish ourselves from classical pharmaceutical research, e.g. in the pharmaceutical industry.

Quite within the spirit of the central theme of the **Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft Deutscher Forschungszentren** (Helmholtz Association of German Research Centers), of which our research center is a member, we want to contribute to preserving and improving the basis for human life by embarking on new ways to individualized diagnosis, prevention and causal therapy also in the future.

This brochure was prepared to give you an understanding of the diversity of our translational efforts in to research. In the first part you will become acquainted with our **Clinical**

Cooperation Groups, which are most essential instruments of translational research at the GSF. In the second part you will be given an insight into our **Clinical Research Platforms**, where GSF scientists find the latest methods and technology for their joint work with external clinical partners under one roof with excellent scientific support. In the last part of this brochure you will be able to take a closer look at four **highlights** from our current translational research program.

Prof. Dr. Günther Wess
President and CEO


