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# Automated Lab at Fraunhofer Translational Center for Regenerative Therapies

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Danish-Bavarian Workshop on Robotics/ICT in Horizon 2020



# The Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft at a Glance

The Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft undertakes applied research of direct utility to private and public enterprise and of wide benefit to society.





## Fraunhofer Institute for Silicate Research ISC, Würzburg







### Fraunhofer Institute for Silicate Research ISC, Würzburg Translational Center Regenerative Therapies TLC-RT





**Biomaterials** 



**Clinical development** 



In-vitro test systems



Lab automation and bioreactors



## **Automated Lab at Fraunhofer TLC-RT**

#### **HUMAN VS. ROBOT**



- Humans are individuals → tendency to repeat actions slightly differently
- Ability to adapt to the surroundings
- Fine-motor skills
- Cognitive skills



- Speed, strength, predictability, repeatability, efficiency, precision and logic
- Increasing reproducibility and accuracy of measurements
- Reduction of the error rate in comparison to manual processes

Process and laboratory equipment is designed for human operates
Automation requires precision of the production process



#### Automated Lab at Fraunhofer TLC-RT Modular Design





## Fields of Activity – (Nano)particles

- (Nano)particle development from profound literature research, feasibility studies and pre-tests to complete prototype manufacturing
- Customized synthesis and surface modification of particle systems
- Upscaling and automatization
- GMP compliant manufacturing
- Biocompatibility and functional testings in human 3D in vitro models (alternative for animal studies)





### Flexible Robot-based Platform for the Automated Production of Nanoparticles

#### **CURRENT PROJEKT – APRONA**



- Funding code 03VNE1049B
- BMBF-funding program KMU-NetC
- Project volume: 1.6 Mio. Euro
- Launch: September 2017
- Duration: 2.5 years



# Automated Production of Nanoparticles

#### SYNTHESIS OF DYE DOPED SURFACE MODIFIED SIO<sub>2</sub> NANOPARTICLES



# Automated Production of Nanoparticles





### **Field of Activity:** In-vitro Tissue Models – Alternative to Animal Studies





reproducibility

- Tissue models as alternatives to animal models
- **Reproducible production over years**
- More complex models for preclinical studies



#### *In-vitro* Test Systems **Portfolio**





### Automated Lab at Fraunhofer TLC-RT









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# **Automation in Endpoint Analysis**





Schmid F., Schwarz T., Schuberthan W., Klos M., Walles H., Hansmann J., **Groeber F**.; Automated assessment of the barrier function of in vitro epidermal models using a dual-arm robotic system; Biotechnologie Journal; submitted



# Our Offer for ICT-46(47)-2020

- Development and manufacturing of synthetic and biologically based materials
- Modular plant design
- Lab automation for cell-based therapies
- Automated production of *in-vitro* testing models and material testing
- Reproducible manufacturing of nanoparticles with narrow defined specifications
  - Tailor-made products
  - Production of unique and small scale series
- Precise synthesis steps under GMP-compliant conditions





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