

Association of Gene Diagnostics (AGD) e.V.
- Invitation to the Annual Meeting 2020 -



Dear colleagues

The general topic of this year's AGD Meeting will be »**Genomics for Health**«.

Recent developments of the pandemic have prompted us to change our plans. Instead of having a meeting in Bonn we will organise a virtual meeting this year. The fight against SARS-CoV-2 has also shaped the program of the meeting, as it is compellingly demonstrating the power of genomics to protect and foster our health. Therefore, we are going to dedicate a whole session to latest breakthroughs in COVID-19 research. Further, we will address the value of polygenic risk scores and its integration into clinics. Recently, genomics approaches have also been instrumental in the discovery of new disease mechanisms, which we want to hear of. But the broad application of genomics in diagnostics poses challenges with respect to the security of health-related data, which we need to discuss as well.

The scientific program is arranged in four sessions.

Session 1 – The Power of Genomics in the COVID-19 Combat

Session 2 – Polygenic Risk Scores (PRS)

Session 3 – New Disease Mechanisms

Session 4 – Genome Diagnostics and Health Data Security

The detailed program can be downloaded from the AGD homepage (<http://www.agdev.de/programm.html>).

Please **register at the AGD homepage** (<http://www.agdev.de/anmeldung.html>) at your earliest convenience. **Deadline for registration is December 10.**

We are still accepting **poster abstracts until 1 December 2020**. Feel free to encourage your students and younger colleagues to submit an abstract (<http://www.agdev.de/poster.html>). We will waive the registration fee for students with accepted posters. Moreover, three poster prizes (300, 200 and 100 EUR) will be awarded.

The preparatory committee is convinced that the meeting program is very attractive, and that the excellent speakers will manage to inspire you and your future work.

As in former years, we will have a concert in the evening of the first conference day. Since we are celebrating the 250th anniversary of Ludwig van Beethoven's birthday this year, Soheil Nasser (<https://soheilnasser.com/de/>) will play some of the famous piano sonatas by this exceptionally gifted composer for us.

I look forward to seeing you at our virtual meeting in the last week before Christmas on December 17 and 18, 2020.

Yours sincerely

Peter Nürnberg
President of the AGD e. V.