



Prof. Dr. Niels Schaft
Group leader / PI

Niels Schaft did his PhD in tumor immunology at the Erasmus MC in Rotterdam (the Netherlands), after which he got a post-doc position at the Department of Dermatology in Erlangen (Germany) in 2002. In 2006, he became the group leader of the RNA-group, later renamed in RNA-based Immunotherapy group, performing research in developing dendritic cell-based vaccination strategies and chimeric antigen receptor (CAR)-T cells. Since 2008, he focuses on using RNA-transfection technologies to generate CAR-T cells for clinical application against solid tumors, mainly melanoma. Furthermore, he worked on the optimization of CAR-T cells, CAR-NK cells, CAR-monocytes, and CAR-macrophages specific for several cancer antigens, and on the identification of new, more specific tumor antigens for CAR-T cell therapy.