

B-TOL

Project partners
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Project duration / Awarded funding
15/04/2024 – 15/10/2025 / 32,400€
Short description of the project
B-TOL is a Franco-German research project on B-cell tolerance in autoantibody-mediated diseases. The partners combined their complementary expertise to develop shared experimental tools to identify, clone and functionally characterise human autoreactive B cells. Using antiphospholipid syndrome as a first disease model, the project aimed to understand how defects in B-cell checkpoints lead to pathogenic autoantibodies and to establish a sustainable platform for future joint projects on systemic autoimmune diseases.
Concrete implementation of the project (What was the funding used for?)
Seed Money funded travel, meetings and lab costs to create a shared set of methods focused on autoreactive B cells, immune cells that mistakenly attack the body. It supported the experimental workflow we selected and allowed us to validate complementary strategies to grow, track and analyse human B cells, paving the way for broader studies in systemic autoimmune diseases.
Project result(s) and continuation of collaboration
The project generated shared tools and first datasets on autoreactive B cells and contributed to a joint publication on defective B-cell tolerance in antiphospholipid syndrome. The collaboration has been consolidated and will be extended through a planned joint ANR–DFG proposal on B-cell tolerance.
Further information (links, articles, photos)
Joint publication (open access): Gies V, Rizzi M et al., <i>Nature Communications</i> 2024, PMID: 39548093 https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/39548093/