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Management Structure

RWTH cBMB is headed by a medical director biobank (MDB) and a scientific director biobank (SDB). Prof. Dr. Ruth Knüchel-Clarke (MD) is the medical director and speaker of the RWTH cBMB. Prof. Edgar Dahl (PhD) is the scientific director.

The executive board of the RWTH cBMB is formed by the directors of the Departments of Internal Medicine I (Cardiology), II (Nephrology), III (Gastroenterology) and IV (Oncology), the director of Surgery, the director of Neuropathology, the head of IT and the MDB and SDB.

The meeting of members of the RWTH cBMB is the top level control organ of the biobank. The meeting of members includes all directors of clinics and institutes at UKA that contribute biomaterial to the RWTH cBMB. The meeting of members has approved the constitution. In the meeting of member, the managing board of the RWTH cBMB reports on the progress of the RWTH cBMB and changes in overall strategy are discussed and consented.

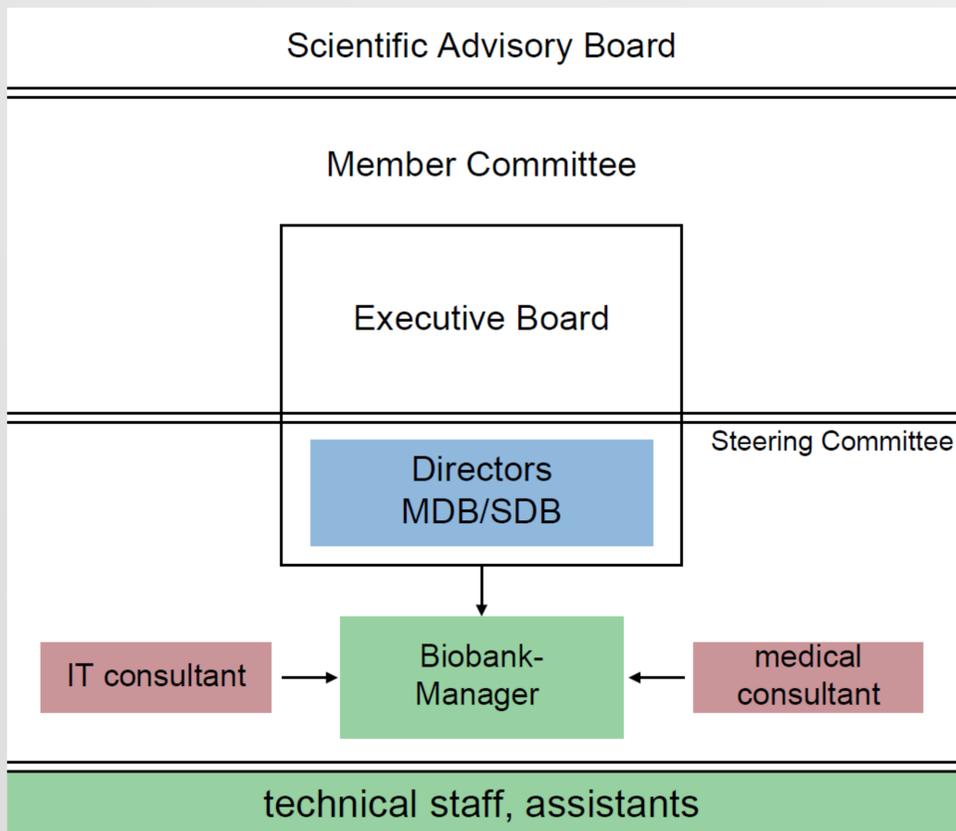


Figure 1: Management structure of the RWTH cBMB

The daily work of the RWTH cBMB is managed by two biobank managers, one manager being responsible for the IT part (Philipp Leusmann) and a second biobank manager being responsible for the laboratory part (Dr. Jürgen Veeck (PhD)). Every other week the so-called Biobank Steering Committee (BSC) meets on current topics of biobank development and issues of daily biobank work. The BSC is composed of the two biobank managers mentioned above, the MDB, the SDB and two further experts: Dr. Jörg Jäkel (MD), senior physician ("Oberarzt") and Dr. Cord Spreckelsen (PhD), group leader at the Institute of Medical Informatics, UKA.

The Scientific Advisory Board (SAB)

Prof. Dr. Rita Schmutzler (MD, Cologne University, Germany)
 Prof. Rita Schmutzler is an internationally renowned oncologist. She has been involved in biobanking processes and research projects since 20 years. She is also well known nationally for her continuous support of patient self-help groups.

Dr. Esther Herpel (MD, BMBH Heidelberg, Germany)
 Dr. Herpel is the head of the BMBH (Biomaterial Bank Heidelberg). The forerunner NCT biobank was the first accredited tissue biobank in Germany and has been active highly successfully since more than 10 years.

Prof. Dr. Thomas Berlage (PhD, Fraunhofer FIT, Sankt Augustin, Germany)
 Prof. Berlage is the director of the Fraunhofer Institute of Life Science Informatics. He is an expert in high content analysis and information intense medical projects.

Jürgen Franz (Aachen, Germany)
 Mr. Franz is a former presidency judge of the district court in Aachen. He has headed the court for medicine law. Mr. Franz is a general expert in medical legal issues.

Organizational Structure

RWTH cBMB is a unit of the Medical Faculty of the RWTH Aachen University that is operated by the Institute of Pathology. The university hospital is associated with the Medical Faculty by a cooperation contract, and thus supports RWTH cBMB with resources from its central IT unit and from the central housing facility management. RWTH cBMB provides the central umbrella for standardization and consenting of all biobanking relevant issues and biobank data collection in various database systems. Most of the biomaterial is collected and stored in the RWTH cBMB's storage core facility allocated by the faculty dean. Some clinics still hold biomaterial collections in their own freezer facilities but it is our intention to merge these collections into the RWTH cBMB central storage facility.

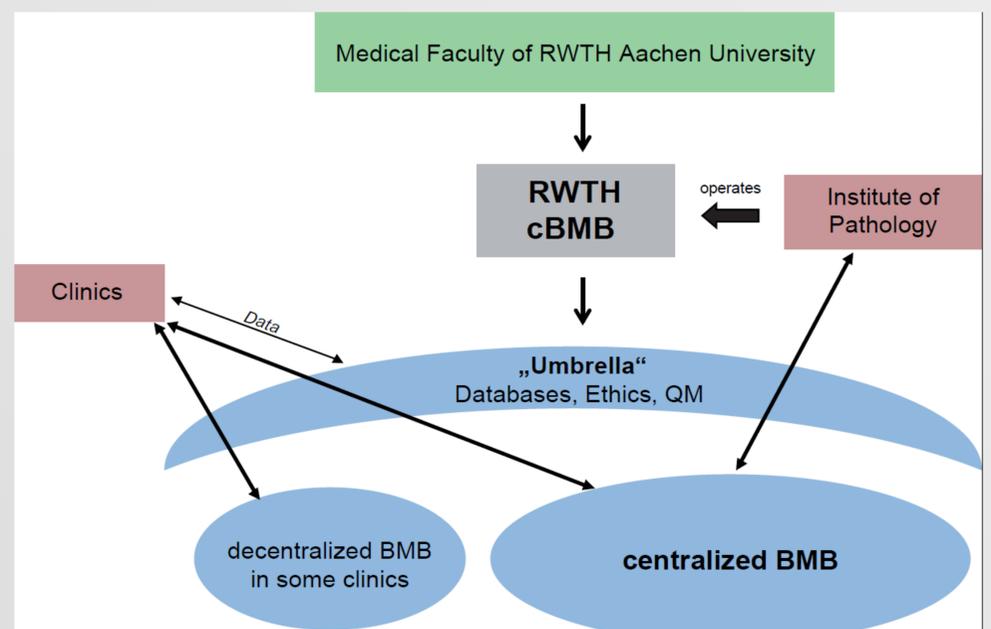


Figure 2: Organizational structure of the RWTH cBMB