

Media release

Bern, 19 September 2017 / stf

Successful crowdfunding for brain tumor patients

The Department of Neurosurgery at Inselspital, Bern University Hospital has done it: It successfully completed the crowdfunding campaign for the project HORA0. Now the HORA0 team are preparing the competition. It should motivate research and development teams worldwide to develop a microscope that allows surgeons to recognise tumors even more easily.

Neurosurgeon Prof. Dr. med. Philippe Schucht, Head Physician at the Department of Neurosurgery at Inselspital, Bern University Hospital, and his team had 45 days to achieve the target amount of 50 000 CHF on the Swiss crowdfunding platform wemakeit. It was reached early after just 29 days and the HORA0 team could breathe a sigh of relief. By the end of the campaign yesterday, Monday, 18 September 2017 at 5 p.m., a total of 69 060 CHF was raised. "We are overwhelmed by the generous support for our project and thank all donors from the bottom of our hearts for their financial help," says Philippe Schucht.

The crowdfunding project was a novelty for the Department of Neurosurgery at Inselspital, Bern University Hospital. Chief Physician and Clinic Director Prof. Dr. med. Andreas Raabe says: "The success of HORA0 shows us that it taking unconventional paths is also worth it when looking for ideas. Thanks to the successful crowdfunding, we can now motivate researchers all over the world to think about our problem, even and especially outside of the usual medical research."

Project phase II: Global crowdsourcing competition

With the end of the campaign on wemakeit, the HORA0 project goes into phase two. The HORA0 team is now preparing the global competition between research and development teams. The money collected on wemakeit will be available as a prize to the winner. "Our goal remains to develop a technology for a microscope, together with the brightest brains, which shows the healthy tissue, so that we neurosurgeons can better distinguish this healthy tissue from a tumor. A technology that will make brain tumor operations even safer in future," emphasises Philippe Schucht.

The **HORA0 campaign** on wemakeit: <https://wemakeit.com/projects/horao?locale=en>

Captions:

[The HORA0 team consisting of Prof. Dr. med. Philippe Schucht, Dr. med. Irena Zubak, Dr. med. Michael Murek and Dr. med. Johannes Goldberg \(l to r\).](#) (Photo: Insel Gruppe AG)

Media enquiries:

Prof. Dr. med. Philippe Schucht, Head Physician, Department of Neurosurgery, Inselspital, Bern University Hospital

Information today, Tuesday, 19 September 2017, from 13.00–14.00 via Kommunikation Insel Gruppe AG, kommunikation@insel.ch, +41 (0)31 632 79 25.