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APRIL 2021

THE PROS AND CONS OF PERSONALIZED MEDICINE

Elana Simon was diagnosed with a rare form of liver cancer when she was twelve. Defying prognoses, she beat the disease, and at fifteen she decided to help others overcome it as well. With the backing of scientists and researchers in New York City, she sequenced the whole RNA genome of her disease and found a single deletion in the DNA of one copy of chromosome 19 in every affected individual. She published a paper in *Science*, set up two clinical trials and created a blood test for the cancer.

This is precision medicine at its finest. Rather than taking a one-size-fits-all approach to ailments and disease, precision medicine, also called “personalized medicine,” investigates individual patients, looking at genetics, environment and lifestyle to find the best individualized treatment option.

In our latest slate of news from Germany, we investigate the pros and cons of precision medicine, from immunotherapies curing cancer to concerns about privacy and equity. We look at what BioNTech does when

not busy creating COVID-19 vaccines and learn about an A.I.-powered medical app. We get an overview of the cancer research landscape in Germany and talk to a cancer genomics researcher about what her work can teach us about dealing with uncertainty. Follow along below.

SPOTLIGHT



Precision Medicine Demystified

Learn about new developments in cancer research, undercover onco-cell warriors and what precision medicine can teach us about life in an interview with Dr. Marie-Laure Yaspo, a Research Group Leader at the Max Planck Institute for Molecular Genetics.

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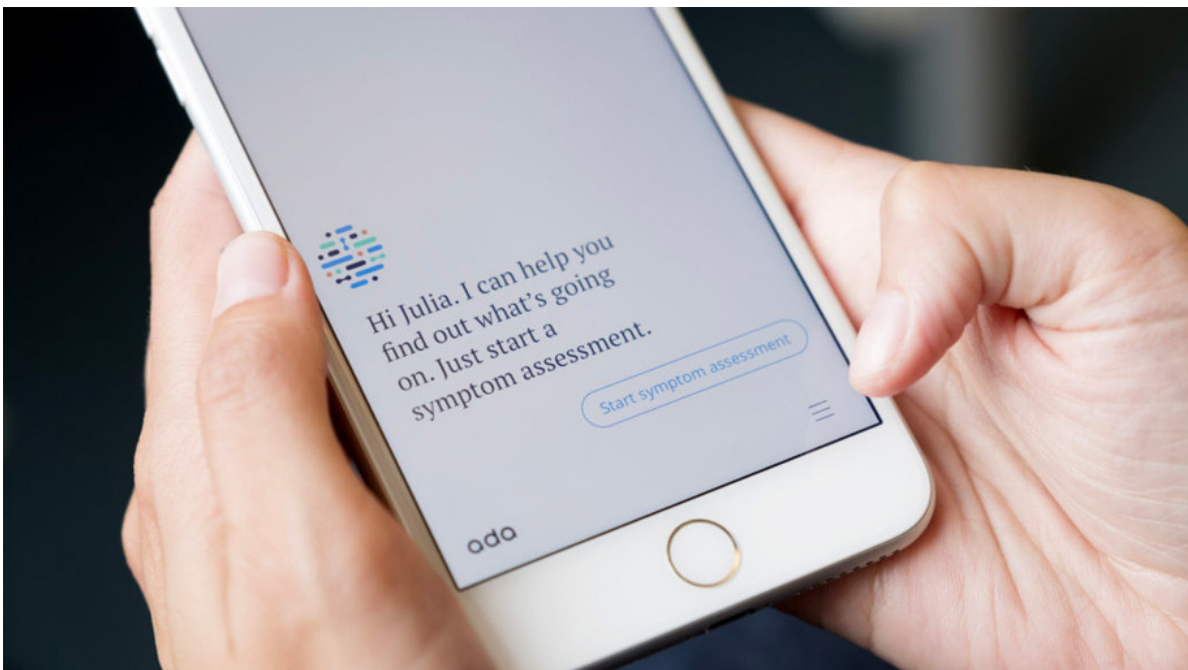
WHAT'S NEW



How a Once-Dismissed Idea Is Ending the Pandemic

BioNTech rose to global fame in 2020 for the successful COVID-19 vaccine they developed with Pfizer. But the vaccine is only the beginning for the German biotech. Their immunotherapy science may soon revolutionize medicine.

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The Doctor App Will See You Now

Forget WebMD! Using A.I. to provide personalized medical advice, Ada Health is bringing the doctor one click away.

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Research
in Germany

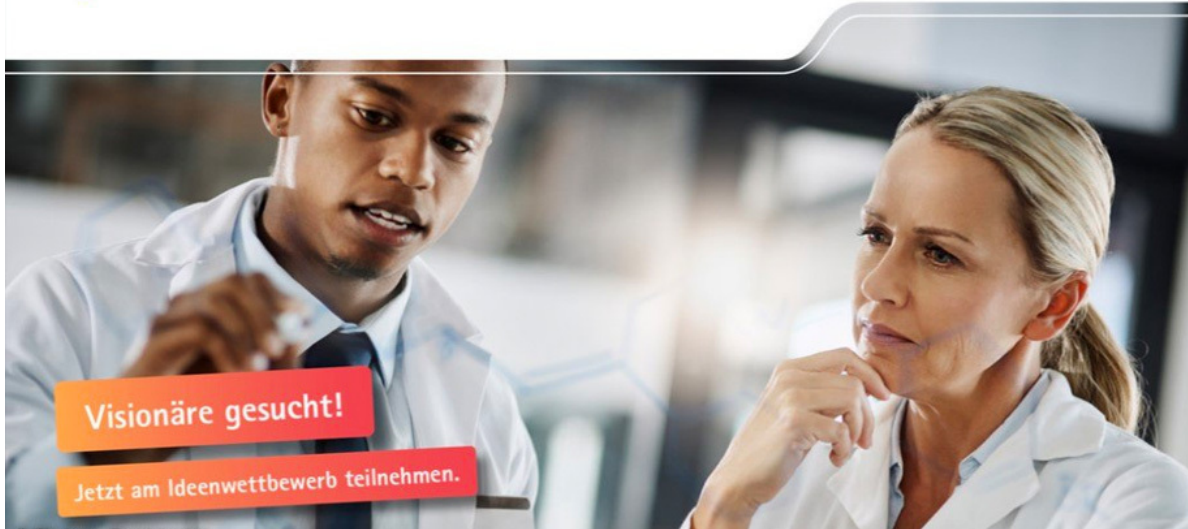


Cancer Research in Germany

Germany is one of the leading actors in the pursuit of researching, fighting and ultimately annihilating cancer. Check out Research in Germany's content series on the cancer research landscape in Germany.

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THE LATEST FROM OUR SUPPORTERS



Open Proposals for New Research Centers

A new ideas competition is aimed at outstanding scientists both in Germany and abroad who have an innovative idea for two new large-scale research centers in the German state of Sachsen.

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Fellowship for Science Communicators

Freie Universität's MIP.lab seeks fellows to work in their lab for science communication on mathematics, computer science and physics.

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Universität Hamburg

DER FORSCHUNG | DER LEHRE | DER BILDUNG

News from Hamburg

The Universität Hamburg is funding five [research projects](#), including one on language and digitization building off their close partnership with the University of Indiana. Also from Hamburg, a [research expedition](#) into the southern Atlantic and [new funding](#) for promising technologies.

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