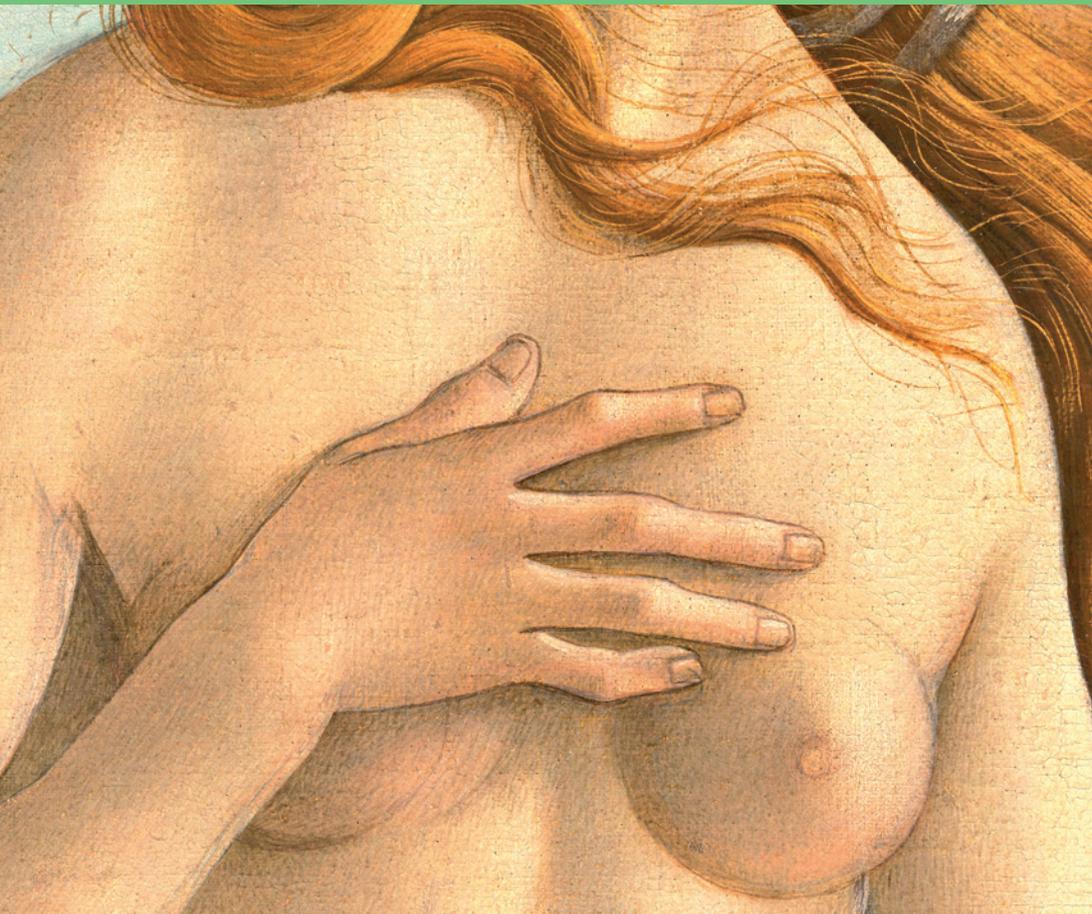


**Breast Cancer threatens lives**



**Discover the PATH Biobank**



### Why breast cancer survivors founded a biobank

“ I was diagnosed with breast cancer in January 2000 - a standard tumor, medium risk. For the systemic therapy, my doctors brought in the big guns. It was a “one size fits all” approach and “the stronger the treatment, the better,” though it was already known that most patients do not benefit from chemotherapy.

Molecular tumor biology and gene expression profiles were still in their infancy. Similarly, biobanks were only first beginning to be talked about. With today’s knowledge, I could have been spared the chemotherapy, an experience I would have gladly done without. This is one reason why I became a founding member of the “Foundation PATH – Patients’ Tumor Bank of Hope”.

PATH is a non-profit biobank run by survivors and intended for the sole purpose of supporting breast cancer research. For over 10 years, I have been volunteering my time for this patient-driven biobank, the only one of its kind in the world. I have served as its chairwoman since 2008. Today, most breast cancer cases are curable. Yet many women still develop aggressive forms of cancer with tragic outcomes. Since the time of my own diagnosis, I have seen many women lose their battle with breast cancer. That is why I support cancer research as a volunteer for PATH Biobank.

PATH has three board members, all of whom are breast cancer survivors. ”

Ulla Ohlms, Chairwoman of PATH

### What PATH Biobank offers

- Biomaterial from 7,500 breast cancer patients
- 6,900 tumor samples, 760 of which are triple negative
- 7,700 samples adjacent normal tissue
- 15,000 blood serum samples
- Fresh frozen quality, storage in the gas phase of liquid nitrogen, minus 160° Celsius
- Extensive annotating data sets
- Uniform SOPs
- Centralized data base and project management in Munich, Germany
- Follow-up data from 76% of all patients, median follow-up time 4.3 years
- Informed consent and high data security

### Using PATH Biobank

- Researchers write a request for samples or data
- These requests are reviewed by independent experts
- PATH's managing board decides on sample allocations
- Researchers and PATH sign a material transfer agreement
- PATH requests reimbursement for the samples and logistical arrangements
- PATH organizes the handling and transport of the samples
- PATH provides anonymized data with the biomaterial
- More info: [www.stiftungpath.org](http://www.stiftungpath.org)
- [info@stiftungpath.org](mailto:info@stiftungpath.org)



**Prof. Dr. Dr. Axel Ullrich, Director of the Department of Molecular Biology, Max-Planck Institute for Biochemistry, Martinsried, Germany**

“There is a shortage of fresh frozen tumor samples for breast cancer research. That is one reason why I encouraged the founding of PATH Biobank. I am glad that breast cancer survivors have taken the initiative and - through PATH - are making a major contribution to advancing cancer research. The PATH Biobank is well-stocked, professionally managed and, as a patient-run tumor bank, independent from individual interests.”



**Prof. Dr. Peter Lichter, Head of the Division of Molecular Genetics, German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ), Heidelberg, Germany**

“Together with my colleagues and junior researchers, I take advantage of the PATH Biobank's impressive collection of tumor tissue, normal tissue and serum. The samples are of high quality and the process of obtaining the material is professionally handled. Special requests are accepted and usually realized. I find it remarkable that former patients are running such an incredibly useful biobank.”



**Prof. Dr. Reinhard Büttner, Director of the Institute for Pathology at the University Hospital of Cologne, Germany**

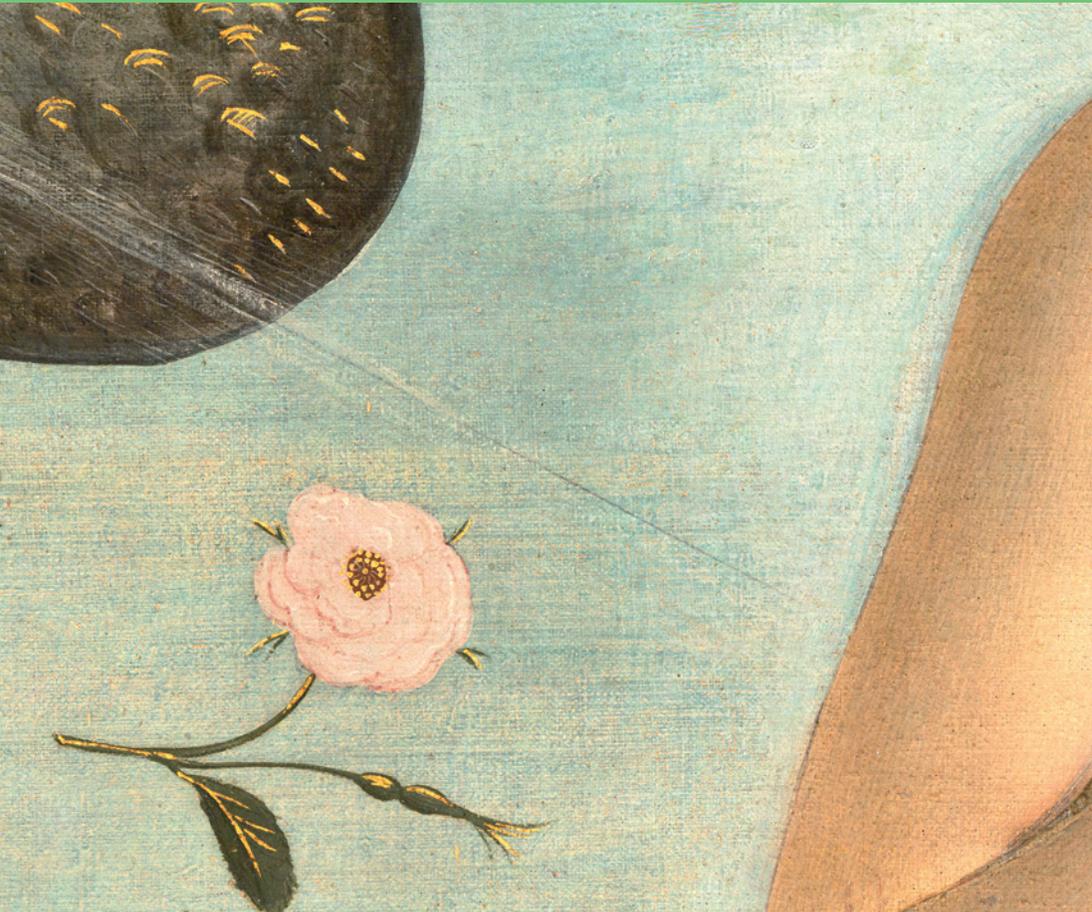
“I have been a cooperative partner of PATH since 2005. As head of the institute for pathology at the University of Cologne and with the help of my colleagues, I was able to collect more than 2,500 samples from 1,000 breast cancer patients for PATH Biobank. PATH's good work and our scientific collaboration make it easy for us to support PATH. To me, PATH stands for trust, commitment and patients taking responsibility for the advancement of science.”



**Dr. Marion Rudolph, Senior Biomarker Expert, Development Bayer HealthCare, GBM Strategy, Berlin, Germany**

“For an early research project, PATH supplied us with a large amount of biological samples and data. The size and quality of PATH Biobank's samples were impressive and the professional collaboration great. PATH always worked to meet our special requests for additional material and data in a timely fashion.”

# Contacting PATH



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