

Curriculum Vitae

Paolo Panza Professor, Dr. rer. nat.
d.o.b. May 2nd, 1986, in Camposampiero, Italy

University Education

Since 2025 W1 Tenure-track Professor for Lung Organoids and Tissue Engineering for Advanced Disease Modeling, Justus Liebig University Giessen (JLU)
2015 Doctorate in Biology, Eberhard Karls University Tübingen
2010 Master of Science, Molecular Biology, University of Padova, Italy
2008 Bachelor of Science, Molecular Biology, University of Padova, Italy

Scientific Career

Since 2025 Head, Research Group “Lung Organoids and Tissue Engineering”, JLU
2017–2024 Postdoctoral fellow, Max Planck Institute for Heart and Lung Research
2016 Postdoctoral fellow, University of California San Francisco, USA
2011–2015 PhD, Max Planck Institute for Developmental Biology, Tübingen

Awards and Honors

2024 ERS-sponsored participant and session co-chair, ERS Lung Science Conference 2024
2022 NAVBO travel scholarship

Citation Record

Total citations: 380; *h-index:* 8 (Google Scholar, March 31st, 2026)

Top-10 selected Publications

Han HJ, Baasankhuu A, Kim B, Prameswari AAS, Kalani K, **Panza P**, Lee S, Kim WK, Choi IG, Kim CH, Kim HT. Molecular biomarkers associated with environmental naphthalene exposure in the respiratory system. *Sci Total Environ.* 2026 Jan 20;1013:181323. doi: [10.1016/j.scitotenv.2025.181323](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2025.181323)

Panza P*, Kim HT, Lautenschläger T, Piesker J, Günther S, Alayoubi Y, Cleaver O, Looso M, Stainier DY. The lung microvasculature promotes alveolar type 2 cell differentiation via secreted SPARCL1. *Stem Cell Reports.* 2025;20(4):102451. doi: [10.1016/j.stemcr.2025.102451](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.stemcr.2025.102451)

Kim HT, **Panza P**, Kikhi K, Nakamichi Y, Atzberger A, Guenther S, Ruppert C, Guenther A, Stainier DY. WNT/RYK signaling functions as an anti-inflammatory modulator in the lung mesenchyme. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A.* 2022;119(24):e2201707119. doi: [10.1073/pnas.2201707119](https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2201707119)

Westphal M, **Panza P**, Kastenhuber E, Wehrle J, Driever W. Wnt/ β -catenin signaling promotes neurogenesis in the diencephalospinal dopaminergic system of embryonic zebrafish. *Sci Rep.* 2022;12:1030. doi: [10.1038/s41598-022-04833-8](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-022-04833-8)

Panza P**, Gkatzis K#, Peruzzo S, Stainier DY. Differentiation of mouse fetal lung alveolar progenitors in serum-free organotypic cultures. *Elife.* 2021;10:e65811. Published 2021 Sep 29. doi: [10.7554/eLife.65811](https://doi.org/10.7554/eLife.65811)

Kim HT, Yin W, Nakamichi Y, **Panza P**, Grohmann B, Buettner C, Guenther S, Ruppert C, Kobayashi Y, Guenther A, Stainier DYR. WNT/RYK signaling restricts goblet cell differentiation during lung development and repair. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A.* 2019 Dec 17;116(51):25697-25706. doi: [10.1073/pnas.1911071116](https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1911071116)

Kim HT, Yin W, Jin YJ, **Panza P**, Gunawan F, Grohmann B, Buettner C, Sokol AM, Preussner J, Guenther S, Kostin S, Ruppert C, Bhagwat AM, Ma X, Graumann J, Looso M, Guenther A, Adelstein RS, Offermanns S, Stainier DYR. Myh10 deficiency leads to defective extracellular matrix remodeling and pulmonary disease. *Nat Commun*. 2018 Nov 2;9(1):4600. doi: [10.1038/s41467-018-06833-7](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-018-06833-7)

Panza P*, Sitko AA, Maischein HM, Koch I, Flötenmeyer M, Wright GJ, Mandai K, Mason CA, Söllner C. The LRR receptor Isr2 is required for retinal axon routing at the vertebrate optic chiasm. *Neural Dev*. 2015 Oct 22;10:23. doi: [10.1186/s13064-015-0050-x](https://doi.org/10.1186/s13064-015-0050-x)

Gao X, Metzger U, **Panza P**, Mahalwar P, Alsheimer S, Geiger H, Maischein HM, Levesque MP, Templin M, Söllner C. A Floor-Plate Extracellular Protein-Protein Interaction Screen Identifies Draxin as a Secreted Netrin-1 Antagonist. *Cell Rep*. 2015 Jul 28;12(4):694-708. doi: [10.1016/j.celrep.2015.06.047](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.celrep.2015.06.047)

Panza P*, Maier J, Schmees C, Rothbauer U, Söllner C. Live imaging of endogenous protein dynamics in zebrafish using chromobodies. *Development*. 2015 May 15;142(10):1879-84. doi: [10.1242/dev.118943](https://doi.org/10.1242/dev.118943)