

LAURA MAINZ, PhD

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Scientific Engagement Liaison with a PhD in Oncology and 10+ years of experience translating complex clinical and translational data into meaningful scientific exchange with Healthcare Providers (HCPs) and researchers. Actively engaging stakeholders across 18 international sites, driving insight generation and contributing to disease-state education and strategy in rare and oncology-related conditions. Demonstrated experience in Key Opinion Leader (KOL) engagement, facilitating evidence-based discussions aligned with evolving standards of care, and translating multidisciplinary research into actionable medical insights. Background in translational oncology research (Salk Institute) supporting therapeutic understanding. Brings field-facing experience, strong scientific credibility, and cross-functional collaboration to support effective Medical Affairs execution in a Medical Science Liaison role.

CORE COMPETENCIES

Scientific Communication	Relationship Building
Cross-functional Collaboration	KOL Engagement
Disease State Education	Insight Generation
Compliance and Regulatory Awareness	Real-World Evidence
Strategic Thinking	Knowledgeable in Clinical Trials

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

TEAM TELOMERE | Telomere Biology Disorders (Rare Disease)

Scientific Engagement Liaison (part-time)	Mar 2026 – Present	remote (US)
Manager, Center of Excellence (volunteer-based)	Mar 2025 – Feb 2026	remote (US)

- Build and maintain relationships with HCPs and researchers across 18 international sites, capturing actionable medical insights to inform disease-state education and stakeholder strategy.
 - Engage KOLs in Telomere Biology Disorders, facilitating compliant, evidence-based discussions that support best practices and evolving standards of care.
 - Translate insights from multidisciplinary research roundtables into strategic recommendations that shape advocacy alignment and clinical education priorities.
 - Partner cross-functionally with clinical, research, and advocacy stakeholders to advance real-world evidence generation and rare disease awareness initiatives.
 - Contribute to the design of targeted educational programs addressing unmet needs in bone marrow failure, pulmonary fibrosis, and liver disease associated with telomere dysfunction.
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WithinOncology | Oncology/Hematology

Founder & Health Content Creator	Feb 2025 – Present	remote
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- Translate complex oncology data, including mechanisms of action and biomarker insights, into clear, evidence-based education materials that enhance HCP and patient understanding.
- Distill emerging data on KRAS inhibitors, ADCs, and bispecific T-cell engagers into clinically actionable insights supporting informed treatment discussions.

- Foster engagement with 300+ oncology professionals and patients monthly through data-driven dialogue on evolving therapeutic landscapes and unmet clinical needs.
- Author and curate 25+ oncology-focused articles that strengthen disease state awareness and support evidence-based decision-making across multidisciplinary audiences.

BLOOD CANCER UNITED | Hematology/Oncology

Community and Patient Outreach Lead (volunteer-based) Jan 2023 – Present remote (SoCal)

- Lead virtual and in-person scientific education forums (50-150 participants), delivering hematologic malignancy updates and facilitating clinician-led Q&A sessions that enhance patient understanding.
- Develop and execute a regional outreach strategy reaching 1,200+ newly diagnosed hematology patients annually, improving access to educational and support resources.
- Organize educational and fundraising initiatives that expand awareness of clinical trials, patient support programs, and emerging therapies, driving community engagement and scientific literacy.
- Collect and synthesize community insights in pediatric hematology to inform structured advocacy recommendations presented to state-level policymakers, amplifying patient voice in healthcare policy.

SALK INSTITUTE FOR BIOLOGICAL STUDIES | Translational Oncology

Sr. Research Associate (part-time) Apr 2026 – Present San Diego, CA
Postdoctoral Fellow Nov 2020 – Mar 2026 San Diego, CA

- Lead translational research in hepatocellular carcinoma, interpreting mechanistic data to inform potential therapeutic strategies and biomarker development.
- Present complex preclinical and translational findings to cross-functional audiences, facilitating scientific exchange and alignment on emerging oncology insights.
- Collaborate with academic and translational partners to generate early development insights supporting novel therapeutic approaches.
- Mentor junior researchers in data interpretation and scientific communication, strengthening team capability and elevating scientific presentation quality.

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF WUERZBURG, GERMANY

- **Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)** | Molecular Oncology | Targeted Therapies in Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma | Oct 2015 – Oct 2020
- **Master of Science (MS)** | Tumor Biology and Human Genetics | Nanogels in Multiple Myeloma Therapy | Oct 2013 – Sep 2015
- **Bachelor of Science (BS)** | Tumor Biology and Molecular Cell Biology | Theragnostic Potential of Oncolytic Virus | Oct 2010 – Sep 2013

MEDICAL AFFAIRS EDUCATION AND CONTINUOUS LEARNING

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- The Aspire MSL Program | MSL Mastery
 - Introduction to the Principles and Practice of Clinical Research 2025-2026 | NIH
 - 12th and 13th Annual MSL Society Conference | MSL Society | Miami, FL
 - Clinical shadowing | Rady Children’s Hospital, Hematology/Oncology | San Diego, CA
 - Building a HIPAA Compliance Program | LinkedIn Learning

- ORAQ Regulatory Affairs Training Program | Duke University School of Medicine
- Good Clinical Practice (GCP) | NIDA Clinical Trials Network

SELECTED CONFERENCES AND SCIENTIFIC/MEDICAL PRESENTATIONS

- 2025 | Invited speaker on Citizen Health’s mission, presenting to the global TBD patient community and TBD research community.
- 2025 | Organizer and moderator of the virtual patient education program on “Molecular Drivers and Genetic Predisposition to Blood Cancers”.
- 2021-2025 | Bi-annual presentation within the Molecular Cell Biology Department | Salk Institute for Biological Studies, San Diego.
- 2019 and 2023 | Poster presentation at Mechanism and Models of Cancer Conference | Salk Institute for Biological Studies, San Diego.
- 2019 | Poster presentation and flash talk at Beatson International Cancer Conference | Beatson Institute for Cancer Research, Glasgow (UK).

SELECTED SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

- Weber, J., Rade, M., Michael, J., Tony, L.T., Freitag, F., Spieler, P., Mueller, C., Kalogirou, C., **Mainz, L.**, et al. (2025) ROR2-specific CAR T cells are effective against hematologic and solid tumors and well tolerated in mice. *Cell Reports Medicine*.
- Jones-Weinert, C. *, **Mainz, L.** * & Karlseder, J. (2024) Telomere function and regulation from mouse models to human ageing and disease. *Nat Rev Mol Cell Biol*.
*authors contributed equally
- **Mainz, L.**, et al. (2022) Autophagy Blockage Reduces the Incidence of Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma in the Context of Mutant Trp53. *Frontiers in Cell and Developmental Biology*. 10:785252.
[Complete List](#)

PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT

Awards

- Salk Women & Science Conference and Course Attendance Grant recipient (5 out of 100+ applicants) | \$2,500 to support participation and presentation at an international research conference | Sep 2022
 - Paul F. Glenn Center for Biology of Aging Research Fellowship Recipient (3 out of 50+ applicants) | \$65,000/year for postdoctoral research project on tumor initiation | May 2021 – Apr 2023
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Society Memberships

- MSL Mastery
- Aspiring Medical Science Liaisons at Emory (AMSLE)
- Medical Science Liaison Society (MSLS)
- American Association for Cancer Research (AACR)
- Women in Autophagy (WIA)