

# Meet Siemens Healthineers

Siemens Healthineers: Our brand name embodies the pioneering spirit and engineering expertise that is unique in the healthcare industry. The people working for Siemens Healthineers are totally committed to the company they work for, and are passionate about their technology. In this section we introduce you to colleagues from all over the world – people who put their hearts into what they do.

## Florian Maier, Ph.D.

After earning his degree in computer science from Karlsruhe University, Florian began his career in interventional MRI (iMRI) as a doctoral student at the German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ) in Heidelberg in 2008. Upon successfully completing his Ph.D. in 2012, he accepted a position as a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, TX, USA, where he continued his work in iMRI. In 2014, Florian returned to DKFZ as a research scientist and, starting in 2016, led its MR-Guided Therapy project group. He joined Siemens Healthineers in 2017 as an application developer and was promoted to Senior Key Expert for MRI-guided therapies in 2023. In 2025, Florian was elected secretary of the ISMRM Interventional MR Study Group.



### How did you first come into contact with MRI?

My first hands-on experience with MRI came during my Ph.D. at the German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ) in Michael Bock's lab. I worked on implementing pulse sequences and image reconstruction software for MRI-guided interventions. At the time, we were using a 1.5T MAGNETOM Symphony scanner.

### What do you find motivating about your job?

What motivates me most about my work is knowing that our contributions directly support clinical teams in helping patients. It is incredibly rewarding to see our innovations make a tangible difference in healthcare. I am also deeply grateful to work with so many brilliant and kind colleagues – past and present – whose dedication forms the foundation of what we can achieve together.

### What are the biggest challenges in your job?

One of the biggest challenges in my role as Senior Key Expert is balancing a wide range of responsibilities – being actively involved in numerous topics, supporting multiple collaboration projects at partner sites, and carving out focused time to drive predevelopment initiatives forward. That said, it is incredibly rewarding to see research software successfully deployed at collaboration sites, and to see work-in-progress features eventually integrated into our products.

### What do you think are the most important developments in healthcare?

In the field of iMRI, I see a great opportunity for the technology to evolve from a niche application used primarily in research-focused university hospitals to a widely adopted clinical tool. I believe our close collaboration with Cook Medical could be a key enabler of this transformation. By combining high-quality MR imaging with advanced MR-compatible interventional tools in a single, integrated solution, we have the potential to overcome one of the major barriers to broader adoption. I am excited about the prospect of seeing advanced iMRI procedures become part of the standard of care in the near future.

### What would you do if you could spend a month doing whatever you wanted?

Earlier this year, I had the opportunity to spend several days at Cook Advanced Technologies in West Lafayette, IN, USA, collaborating with Jesse Roll and the team on predevelopment projects. The experience was both highly productive and intellectually stimulating. If given the chance to spend an entire month as I choose, I would gladly dedicate it to deepening that collaboration and further advancing our joint innovation efforts.