

Özlem Türeci, M.D., Co-Founder and Chief Medical Officer of BioNTech, is a physician, immunologist, and cancer researcher with translational and clinical experience. Türeci has helped lead the discovery of cancer antigens, the development of mRNA-based individualized and off-the-shelf vaccine candidates and other types of immunotherapies which are currently in clinical development. Türeci leads the clinical development of BioNTech's "Project Lightspeed," the company's successful effort to develop and distribute an mRNA-based vaccine against COVID-19, a historic achievement completed in less than one year. Türeci previously served as CEO and Chief Medical Officer of Ganymed Pharmaceuticals AG, which she co-founded with Ugur Sahin and Christoph Huber. The company was acquired by Astellas in 2016. She currently serves as President of the Association for Cancer Immunotherapy (CIMT) in Germany. She is a recent recipient of the German Sustainability Award, among other notable recognitions. Türeci is married to Prof. Ugur Sahin.

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Dr. med. Özlem Türeci kam 2008 als Mitglied des klinischen und wissenschaftlichen Beirats zu BioNTech, bevor sie 2018 zur medizinischen Geschäftsführerin (CMO) ernannt wurde. Dr. Türeci war 2001 Mitgründerin von Ganymed Pharmaceuticals (heute Tochtergesellschaft von Astellas Pharma Inc.), wo sie 2008 die Funktion des Chief Executive Officers (CEO) übernahm. Dr. Türeci ist Vorsitzende und Mitinitiatorin der gemeinnützigen Organisation Ci3 (Clusterinitiative für Individualisierte Immunintervention) sowie Vorstandsmitglied der Association for Cancer Immunotherapy (CIMT). Dr. Türeci promovierte an der Medizinischen Fakultät des Saarlandes in Homburg. Sie ist verheiratet mit Prof. Dr. Ugur Sahin.