

Frank Heppner

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Curriculum vitae

Since 2018	Executive member of Charité Research Strategy 2025 Team
2018	Acting Science Director Charité-BIH Centrum Therapy and Research CC4, Charité
2017 – 2018	Vice dean for research, Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin
2010 – 2016	Spokesperson, Transregional Collaborative Research Center TRR 43, ‘The brain as a target of inflammatory processes’, German Research Foundation (DFG)
Since 2007	Professor (W3) and chair, Department of Neuropathology, Charité, Berlin
2005	Venia legendi (Habilitation) for Pathology/Neuropathology, Universität Zürich, CH
2004 – 2007	Senior consultant and board certified neuropathologist, Institute of Neuropathology, Universität Zürich, CH
2003	Resident in Neuropathology, Institute of Neuropathology, Universität Bonn
2002 – 2003	Resident in Surgical Pathology, Institute of Surgical Pathology, Universität Zürich, CH
1999 – 2002	Postdoctoral fellow and resident, Department of Neuropathology, Universität Zürich, CH
1999	Doctoral degree (MD), Institute of Anatomy, Charité, Berlin
1991 – 1998	Studies in medicine, Universities in Lübeck, Hamburg, Berlin, and London, UK

Research fields

Our group is active in the field of experimental and translational neuropathology and neuroscience with the following major areas:

- Immunological aspects of neurological disorders such as neurodegenerative diseases
- Mechanisms of immunotherapeutic approaches
- Impact of neuroinflammation on systemic metabolism
- Biology of microglia

Activities in the scientific community, honors, awards

2018	Member, Leopoldina – German National Academy of Sciences, Section Pathology and Forensic Medicine
Since 2016	Member, Steering Committee Berlin, German Cancer Consortium (DKTK)
Since 2016	Member, Scientific Committee, Berlin Institute of Health (BIH)
2015 – 2018	Neuropathology representative in the Steering Committee of the Federation of German Pathologists (Bundesverbandes Deutscher Pathologen)
2006	Siegenthaler-Habilitation Award, Universität Zürich, CH
2003	Leopoldina Postdoc Scholarship, German National Academy of Sciences
2003	Pfizer Research Award for Neurosciences and Diseases of the Nervous System, CH
Since 2002	Reviewer for Nature, Nature Medicine, Nature Neuroscience, Nature Communications, Journal of Experimental Medicine, Science Translational Medicine, EMBO Journal, Lancet Neurology, Acta Neuropathologica, amongst others.
Since 2001	Member, review board, Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), German Research Foundation (DFG), amongst others
2001 – 2003	Fellowship, Stammach-Foundation on Alzheimer's disease, CH
1999 – 2001	Long-Term Fellowship, Human Frontier Science Program (HFSP)
1997 – 1998	PhD Fellowship, Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds
1996 – 1997	Member, Graduate College, German Research Foundation (DFG)

Selected publications

- Houtman J, Freitag K, Gimber N, Schmoranzer J, Heppner FL*, Jendrach M*. Beclin1-driven autophagy modulates the inflammatory response of microglia via NLRP3. *EMBO J.* 2019; 38: e99430 | *shared senior authorship
- Kalin S, Miller KR, Kalin RE, Jendrach M, Witzel C, Heppner FL. CNS myeloid cells critically regulate heat hyperalgesia. *J Clin Invest* 2018; 128: 2774-2786
- Prokop S, Miller KR, Drost N, Handrick S, Mathur V, Luo J, Wegner A, Wyss-Coray T, Heppner FL. Impact of peripheral myeloid cells on amyloid-beta pathology in Alzheimer's disease-like mice. *J Exp Med* 2015; 212:1811-1818
- Heppner FL, Ransohoff RM, Becher B. Immune attack: the role of inflammation in Alzheimer disease. *Nat Rev Neurosci* 2015; 16:358-372
- Vom Berg J, Prokop S, Miller KR, Obst J, Kalin RE, Lopategui-Cabezas I, Wegner A, Mair F, Schipke CG, Peters O, Winter Y, Becher B*, Heppner FL*. Inhibition of IL-12/IL-23 signaling reduces Alzheimer's disease-like pathology and cognitive decline. *Nat Med* 2012; 18:1812-1819 | *shared senior authorship
- Grathwohl SA, Kalin RE, Bolmont T, Prokop S, Winkelmann G, Kaeser SA, Odenthal J, Radde R, Eldh T, Gandy S, Aguzzi A, Staufenbiel M, Mathews PM, Wolburg H, Heppner FL*, Jucker M*. Formation and maintenance of Alzheimer's disease beta-amyloid plaques in the absence of microglia. *Nat Neurosci* 2009; 12:1361-1363 | *shared senior authorship
- Heppner FL, Greter M, Marino D, Falsig J, Raivich G, Hovelmeyer N, Waisman A, Rulicke T, Prinz M, Priller J, Becher B, Aguzzi A. Experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis repressed by microglial paralysis. *Nat Med* 2005; 11:146-152
- Greter M, Heppner FL, Lemos MP, Odermatt BM, Goebels N, Laufer T, Noelle RJ, Becher B. Dendritic cells permit immune invasion of the CNS in an animal model of multiple sclerosis. *Nat Med* 2005; 11:328-334
- Heppner FL, Musahl C, Arrighi I, Klein MA, Rulicke T, Oesch B, Zinkernagel RM, Kalinke U, Aguzzi A. Prevention of scrapie pathogenesis by transgenic expression of anti-prion protein antibodies. *Science* 2001; 294:178-182
- Heppner FL, Christ AD, Klein MA, Prinz M, Fried M, Kraehenbuhl JP, Aguzzi A. Transepithelial prion transport by M cells. *Nat Med* 2001; 7:976-977