

Curriculum Vitae

Last updated Sept. 20th, 2020

Personal Details

Name: Florian W. Kiefer, MD, PhD
Date of Birth: Februar 10, 1981
Place of Birth: Vienna, Austria
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Education and Professional Appointments

Since 03/2019: Head of the Endocrine Outpatient Clinic, Clinical Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism, Department of Medicine, Vienna General Hospital, Medical University of Vienna, Austria

06/2018: Board Certification in Endocrinology & Metabolism

Since 01/2017: Associate Professor of Medicine

Since 06/2016: Attending Physician, Clinical Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism, Department of Medicine, Vienna General Hospital, Medical University of Vienna, Austria

06/2016-12/2016: Assistant Professor of Medicine

06/2106: Board Certification in Internal Medicine

06/2015: Venia docendi (habilitation) in Internal Medicine (Privatdozent)

2012-2016: Clinical Fellow in Endocrinology, Department of Medicine, Vienna General Hospital, Medical University of Vienna, and Hospital Rudolfstiftung, Vienna, Austria

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- 2010-2012: Postdoctoral Fellow, Cardiovascular Division, Department of Medicine, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA
- 2008-2010: Clinical Residency, Department of Medicine, Vienna General Hospital, Medical University of Vienna, Austria
- 2006-2010: PhD studies in the international PhD program *Cell Communication in Health and Disease* at the Medical University of Vienna, Austria (12 participants were elected from over 200 international applicants)
- 04/2010: Graduation to Doctor of Philosophy - PhD. Final exam with summa cum laude (N094)
- 2000-2006: Studies in Human Medicine at the Medical University of Vienna, Austria and the Medical Faculty of the University of Heidelberg, Germany
- 03/2006: Graduation to Doctor of Human Medicine (N201) with magna cum laude
- 2005: Studies in English at the Department of English and American Studies, University of Vienna, Austria
- 1991-1999: Secondary school in Laa/Thaya, Austria with emphasis on foreign languages. Final exam with magna cum laude

Research Experience

- Since 2012: Principal Investigator in multiple basic science and clinical/translational research projects related to brown fat function, obesity, and global energy metabolism. Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism, Medical University of Vienna
- 2010-2012: Postdoctoral Fellowship focused on the role of retinoids in energy metabolism and particularly "browning of white fat". Cardiovascular Division, Department of Medicine, Brigham

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and Women's Hospital, Harvard University, Boston, MA, USA

Group leader: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jorge Plutzky

2006-2010:

PhD studies focused on obesity-induced inflammation and insulin resistance. Clinical Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism, Department of Medicine III, Medical University of Vienna

Group leader: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Thomas M. Stulnig

Thesis title: "*Osteopontin in obesity-associated adipose tissue inflammation and insulin resistance and its interaction with monocyte chemoattractant protein-1*"

08/2008:

Training course for euglycemic-hyperinsulinemic clamp tests in mice at the German Mouse Clinic, Helmholtz Center Munich, Germany

09/2004:

Research internship focussed on arterial inflammation and atherosclerosis. Biomedical Center Lund, Sweden

Group leader: Prof. Dr. Anna Hultgårdh-Nilsson

Research Interests

Our laboratory focuses on two major areas: 1) identification of novel molecular pathways related to energy metabolism with particular emphasis on brown adipose tissue (BAT), "browning of white fat", and thermogenesis; and 2) clinical/translational research including functional imaging (PET/CT, PET/MRI) to understand the physiology of human brown adipose tissue and its relevance for metabolic disease. Current projects involve the role of endocrine mediators and particularly the vitamin A/retinoid axis in thermogenic programming of the adipose tissue and energy metabolism. In this context, an interorgan crosstalk between liver and adipose tissue is studied. Additional ongoing work is directed at the identification of novel clinical biomarkers for BAT activity and at investigating an association between the microbiome and brown fat function in the context of weight loss. Previous work has been related to obesity-induced inflammation and insulin resistance in adipose tissue and liver.

Teaching & Mentoring

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- Since 2014: Curriculum coordinator of the medical teaching program “Endocrinology & Metabolism” at the Medical University of Vienna
- 2014-2015: Senior Mentor in the Mentoring Program of the Medical University of Vienna
- Since 2013: Continuing Education Coordinator at the Division of Endocrinology & Metabolism, Medical University of Vienna
- Since 2013: Lecturer in the PhD program *Endocrinology and Metabolism* at the Medical University of Vienna
- Since 2012: Research group leader: Mentoring and supervision of Bachelor, Master and PhD students
- 2009: Tutor in the PhD program *Cell Communication in Health and Disease* at the Medical University of Vienna
- 2008: Tutor in Physical Examination as part of the Medical Curriculum Vienna, Medical University of Vienna
- 2006-2007: Tutor in problem-based learning, Core Unit for Medical Education, Medical University of Vienna
- 2003-2006: Tutor at the Institute of Physiology, Center for Physiology, Pathophysiology, and Immunology, Medical University of Vienna

Funded Projects

- 2018-2020: **Research Fund of the Mayor of Vienna – 17094**
The effects of bariatric surgery on brown fat activity and its association with gut microbiota remodeling and bile acid composition - € 15.000
- 2016-2019: **Austrian Diabetes Association Research Fund**
The role of brown fat activity and the natriuretic peptide system in bariatric surgery-mediated metabolic improvements - €40.000
- 2014-2019: **Austrian Science Fund – P 27391**
The Role of Vitamin A in Brown Fat Activation
Stand-alone project - €415.779

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- 2012-2017: **Vienna Science and Technology Fund – LS12-059:**
Vitamin A Metabolism in the Regulation of Energy Balance
Life Science Call - €469.000
- 2011-2013: **Austrian Science Fund – J 3107-B19:** The Role of
Retinaldehyde in Bone Metabolism
Erwin Schrödinger Fellowship – \$90.260

Prizes and Awards

- 2013: Paracelsus Prize – Austrian Society of Internal Medicine
- 2013: Theodor Koerner Prize – The Theodor Koerner Fund
- 2012: Seahorse Bioscience Travel Award
- 2012: Outstanding Abstract Award – American Endocrine Society
- 2012: Endocrine Trainee Day Travel Award – American Endocrine Society
- 2012: Young Investigators Best Thesis Award – European Association for the Study of Obesity (EASO)
- 2012: Travel grant of the European Association for the Study of Obesity (EASO)
- 2011: PhD Thesis Award of the Austrian Association of Molecular Life Sciences and Biotechnology
- 2010: Theodor-Billroth Prize of the Austrian Medical Chamber
- 2009: 1st Abstract Prize of the Austrian Society for Endocrinology and Metabolism
- 2009: Travel grant of the European Association for the Study of Obesity (EASO)
- 2009: CCHD award dedicated to the three class winners of 2008 in the PhD program *Cell Communication in Health and Disease*
- 2008: 1st Prize for best project presentation at the 5th International Conference of Postgraduate Medical Students, Hradec Králové, Czech Republic
- 2008: 1st Abstract Prize of the Austrian Diabetes Association at the 36th Annual Meeting of the Austrian Diabetes Association, Baden, Austria

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2008:	Research Award of the ERSTE Bank, Austria
2008:	Travel Award of the Austrian Obesity Association (ASO) for best oral presentation at the 9 th Annual Meeting of the ASO, Seggau, Austria
2008:	1 st Poster Prize of the 4 th PhD-Symposium of the Medical University of Vienna
2008:	Travel Award of the Austrian Society of Allergology and Immunology
2008:	Travel Award “International Communication” by the Austrian Research Association
2006:	Siegfried Ludwig-Fond scholarship for postgraduate studies
2005:	Sokrates/ERASMUS mobility scholarship
2005:	NÖ-Top-Stipend for studies abroad of the Lower Austrian State Academy
2004 and 2005:	Student scholarship for outstanding success of the Medical University of Vienna
2003 and 2004:	Siegfried Ludwig-Fond scholarship for undergraduate studies

Patents

Retinaldehyde Mimetics and Inhibitors of Retinaldehyde Dehydrogenase 1 in the Treatment of Disorders – Publication No: WO2013116721 A1, Publication Date: August 8, 2013.

Memberships and Board Function

2020/2021:	Secretary – Austrian Obesity Association (ASO)
2019/2020:	Secretary – Austrian Society of Endocrinology and Metabolism
2017/2018:	Section Head – Experimental Endocrinology – Austrian Society of Endocrinology and Metabolism
2016-2018:	Auditor Austrian Obesity Association (ASO)
Since 2014:	The European Association for the Study of Diabetes
Since 2012:	The American Endocrine Society
Since 2008:	Alumni Club Medical University of Vienna, Austria

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Since 2008: Austrian Obesity Association (ASO)
2013-2016: Clinical Fellow Committee
2007-2008: President of the Young Scientist Association (YSA) of the
Medical University of Vienna
2006-2007: Vice president of the Young Scientist Association (YSA) of
the Medical University of Vienna
Since 2006: Alumni Club University Heidelberg, Germany

Peer Review and Editorial Activities

Since 2020: Senior Editor at Endocrine Connections
Since 2017: Editor at Austrian Journal of Clinical Endocrinology

Ad-Hoc Reviewer for American Journal of Pathology, Annals of Internal Medicine, Biochemical Pharmacology, Biomarker Research, Biomaterials, Biomed Research International, Cardiovascular Diabetology, Diabetic Medicine, Diabetologia, EBioMedicine, Endocrine Journal, Inflammation, Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism, Medical Science Monitor, Molecular and Cellular Endocrinology, Obesity, Pediatric Diabetes, PlosOne, Trials.