

## **Hans-Martin Jäck**

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Hans-Martin Jäck is a Professor for Immunology and the director the Division of Molecular Immunology at the University of Erlangen, Germany. He organizes the immunology program in various undergraduate and graduate programs at the University of Erlangen. Most importantly, he established in Erlangen the first doctoral training program based on a US PhD program that is entirely funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG) and allows doctoral students with a Bachelor degree to receive a PhD without a master degree (which was a small revolution in the German academic teaching environment). He served as the President of the German Society of Immunology (DGfI) from 2013-2015, and until recently, he was an elected member of the DFG study section Molecular Biology. Currently is a member of the executive editorial board of the European Journal of Immunology.

He received his doctoral training in Tübingen (Germany), the Basel Institute of Immunology and the University of California at San Francisco (UCSF). After obtaining his PhD in 1988 from the University of Tübingen, he worked for 2 years as a postdoctoral fellow at UCSF in the lab of Matthias Wabl and for 6 years as Assistant and Associate Professor at Loyola University of Chicago's Medical School. In 1998, he moved to Erlangen (Germany) to become the director of the Division of Molecular Immunology at the University Hospital.

He has solved the genetic mechanism of the immunoglobulin heavy chain class switch, isolated the first mammalian gene of the nonsense-mediated mRNA decay (NMD), and identified the first ligand for the pre-B cell receptor. His current research concentrates on the generation of therapeutic human antibodies against multiple myeloma in a transgenic mouse platform expressing the entire human antibody repertoire and the development of mature B cells into effector cells (memory B- and plasma cells). In particular, he wants to understand the physiological and pathologic function of miRNAs during an adaptive humoral immune response as well as their role in the control the longevity of plasma cells and the pathogenesis of multiple myeloma.