RALPH FRITSCH, M.D.

Senior Consultant Medical Oncology Head of Visceral Oncology Center, Head of Medical GI Oncology

Comprehensive Cancer Center Zurich University Hospital of Zurich (USZ)



SHORT BIOGRAPHY

I am a medical oncologist responsible for gastrointestinal oncology in the Department of Medical Oncology and Hematology at University Hospital of Zurich. Following clinical training in Munich, I moved to London for postdoctoral studies in the field of oncogenic signal transduction, working on the molecular interplay between RAS GTPases and Pl3-kinases. In 2014, I moved to Freiburg (Germany), clinically specializing in gastrointestinal (GI) and precision oncology and setting up a junior research group. In 2019, I moved to University Hospital of Zurich as head of medical GI oncology and Comprehensive Cancer Center Zurich visceral oncology center. Our research focuses on oncogenic signalling, GI cancer precision treatment, organoid modelling, and liquid biomarkers.

Professional Employment and Functions

06/2022	Senior Consultant (Leitender Arzt), Department of Medical Oncology and Hematology, University Hospital of Zurich
04/2020	Head of Neuroendocrine and Endocrine Cancer Center, Comprehensive Cancer Center Zurich
04/2019	Head of Colorectal and Visceral Oncology Centers; Deputy Head of Esophageal, Liver and Pancreatic Cancer Centers, Comprehensive Cancer Center Zurich
01/2019	Head of Medical GI Oncology, Department of Medical Oncology and Hematology, University Hospital of Zurich
07/16 – 12/18	Consultant GI Cancers, Coordinator Pancreatic Cancer and GI Cancer Center Freiburg, Comprehensive Cancer Center Freiburg, Germany
04/14-07/16	Specialty Training in Hematology and Medical Oncology, Department of Medicine I, University of Freiburg Medical Center, Freiburg, Germany
2000-2008	Residency in Medicine, Technical University of Munich, Germany
Research positions	
01/19	Group Leader, Translational GI Oncology Laboratory, University

01/19	Hospital Zurich, Department of Medical Oncology and Hematology (MOH)
2015-2022	Junior Research Group Leader, Department of Medicine I, University of Freiburg Medical Center, Germany
2008-2014	Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Cancer Research UK London Research Institute, Signal Transduction Laboratory (Dr. Julian Downward), London, UK
1998–2002	MD thesis on "Nitric oxide-dependent signaling in the gastrointestinal tract", Department of Gastroenterology, Technical University of Munich, Germany

Professional qualifications

04/2022 Acceptance of Habilitation, Faculty of Medicine, University of Zurich

01/19	Swiss Board Qualification Internal Medicine and Hematology
07/2016	German Board Qualification Hematology and Medical Oncology
05/2008	German Board Qualification Internal Medicine
2002	MD research degree (Dr. med., magna cum laude)
2000	Medical School Graduation (grade 1.16; top 5%)
1993-2000	Medical School – University of Regensburg and Technical University of Munich, Germany; Visiting Student Tulane University, New Orleans, LA, USA

Memberships

2022	SWISS-NET
2020	ENETs
2019	SAKK
2019	Swiss Society for Medical Oncology (SGMO)
2018	European Society of Medical Oncology (ESMO)
2018	American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO)
2018	Arbeitsgemeinschaft Internistische Onkologie (AIO)
2015	European Association for Cancer Research (EACR)
2015	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Hämatologie und Medizinische Onkologie (DGHO)

2014 Deutsche Krebsgesellschaft (DKG)

Research funding as main applicant

2022-2024	USZ Innovation Pool, project grant: "Tumor-informed multitarget digital
	PCR (ddPCR) assays for molecular monitoring in GI cancers"; CHF
	100.000

- 2022-2024 Clinical Research Foundation USZ, project grant: "Liquid biopsy-guided precision treatment for pancreatic cancer"; CHF 100.000
- 2022-2026 Pierre Fabre Pharma, IIT support grant: "Primary and acquired resistance to targeted treatment in BRAF V600E-mutated metastatic colorectal cancer (PARTACER-Suisse)"; CHF 500.000
- 2021-2023 Novartis Foundation, project grant: "Targeting cyclin-dependent kinase 7 (CDK7) in pancreatic cancer"; CHF 60.000
- 2020-2022 Iten-Kohaut Foundation, project grant: "Uncovering therapeutic vulnerabilities in patient-derived 3D pancreatic cancer organoid cultures"; CHF 200.000
- 2018–2022 German Cancer Foundation (DFG) Collaborative Research Grant 850: "Integrated Co-clinical Analysis of 3-D Tumor Organoids to Target Invasion and Metastasis in Pancreatic Cancer"; EUR 251.600
- 2018-2020 Research Foundation Tumorbiologie Freiburg, project grant: "Integrated liquid biopsy for pancreatic cancer"; EUR 170.358
- 2017-2019 German Cancer consortium (DKTK), project grant: "Emerging roles and therapeutic targeting of class II PI3 kinases in cancer"; EUR 186.000