

Curriculum Vitae - Univ. Prof. Dr. rer. nat. Mathias Heikenwälder

Personal Data

Title	Univ. Prof. Dr. rer. nat.
First name	Mathias
Name	Heikenwälder
Current positions	Full Professor (W3, permanent)
Current institution/site, country	The M3 Research Center, University Hospital Tübingen, Tübingen, Germany
Identifiers/ORCID	0000-0002-3135-2274

Qualifications and Career

Stages	Periods and Details
Degree program	1994 - 1999 Studies of Microbiology and Genetics, Max-Perutz Laboratories and Institute of Molecular Pathology, University of Vienna, Austria
Doctorate	2000 - 2004 Ph.D. Thesis, Institute of Neuropathology, University Hospital Zurich, Switzerland. Grade: <i>summa cum laude</i>
Stages of academic/ professional career	Since 10/2022 Scientific/Executive director of The M3 Research Center, University of Tübingen Since 10/2022 Full Professor W3, University of Tübingen Since 2015 DKFZ, Head of the division "Chronic inflammation and cancer", Heidelberg, Germany 2015 - 2022 Full Professor W3, University of Heidelberg 2010 - 2015 W2-Professor, TU München 2010 - 2015 Helmholtz Young Group Investigator, Helmholtz-Zentrum München 2010 - 2015 Peter-Hans Hofschneider Professor for Chronic inflammation and Cancer, Stiftung Experimentelle Medizin 2009 Habilitation and Venia Legendi in Experimental Pathology, Medical Faculty, University Hospital Zürich, Switzerland (mentor Prof. Dr. Holger Moch; Prof. François Verrey) 2007-2010 Prof. Dr. Max-Cloëtta fellow (Ass. Prof.) and independent group leader, Department of Pathology and start as a principal investigator, University of Zurich, Switzerland 2006 Staff scientist and lecturer, Department of Pathology, Institute of Neuropathology, University of Zurich, Switzerland 2004 Postdoctoral fellow, Institute of Neuropathology, Pathology Department, University Hospital Zurich, Switzerland

Activities in the Research System

Committees and (inter)national boards (selection)

- Since 2023 Executive Board, Comprehensive Cancer Center Tübingen.
Since 2022 External Scientific Advisory Board, NIHR Birmingham BRC, UK.
Since 2020 Scientific Advisory Board, PSC/PBC program, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, USA.
Since 2024 Scientific Advisory Board, Deutsche Krebshilfe, Bonn.
Since 2018 Scientific Advisory Board, Peter-Hans Hofschneider Stiftung, Zurich, Switzerland.

Coordination of joint funding programs and organizer of scientific meetings

- 2025 Organizer of the Digestive Disease Mechanism (DDM) Summit at UEG, Berlin.
2023 Organizer of the EASL Liver Cancer Summit Estoril, Portugal.
2022 Organizer of the Scientific Summit, EASL conference, London, UK.
2017 - 2022 Scientific co-coordinator of the Helmholtz Alliance "Inflammation and Immunity", German Cancer Research Center, Heidelberg.

Scientific management education

- 2021 - 2022 Helmholtz Circle Advanced Management Course, Helmholtz Academy, Berlin.
2011 - 2013 Certified "Science Manager", Malik Management School, St. Gallen, Switzerland and Helmholtz academy for leadership.

Ad hoc referee for scientific journals (selection)

Nature, Nature Immunology, Nature Metabolism, Nature Medicine, Nature Cell Biology, Nature Methods, Nature Communications, Cell Metabolism, Cell, Science, Lancet Oncology, Cancer Research, Cancer Discovery.

Ad hoc referee for funding agencies and organizations (selection)

Cancer Research UK (GB), Swiss National Foundation (SNF), Deutsche Krebshilfe, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft.

Supervision of Researchers in Early Career Phases

- *Supervision of Postdoctoral Researchers and Clinician Scientists*
12 postdoctoral researchers (7 male, 6 female), 5 Clinician scientists (3 male, 2 female)
- *Supervision of PhD students*
21 PhD students completed (10 male, 11 female)
- *Supervision of Master students and Bachelor Students*
8 Master students (5 male, 3 female), 4 Bachelor students (3 male, 1 female)

Scientific Results

Category A

** senior author, §co-shared senior authors

1. ** Li X, Lebeaupin C, Kadianaki A, [...], Kaufmann R[§], **Heikenwalder M[§]**. „Chronically activated ATF6α is a hepatic tumor-driver metabolically restricting immunosurveillance". **Nature**, 2026 January, in press.
2. ** Kommos KS, Krishnarajah S, Bieler T, Friebel E, Rindlisbacher L, Ramadori P, Häne P, Kam S, Müller F, Prokosch S, Rothermel U, Wu Y, Barletta F, Czernel S, Nahnsen S, Helm D, Schneider M, Schäkel K, Enk A, Becher B, **Heikenwälder M.** „Single cell mapping identifies a distinct platelet-phenotype in psoriatic type III inflammation". **Nature Communications**, **2025**;16(1):10881. doi: 10.1038/s41467-025-65894-7.
3. ** Gallage S, Ali A, Barragan Avila JE, Seymen N, Ramadori P, Joerke V, Zizmare L, Aicher D, Gopalsamy IK, Fong W, Kosla J, Focaccia E, Li X, Yousuf S, Sijmonsma T, Rahbari M, Mathias Heikenwälder

- Kommoss KS, Billeter A, Prokosch S, Rothermel U, Mueller F, Hetzer J, Heide D, Schinkel B, Machauer T, Pichler B, Malek NP, Longerich T, Roth S, Rose AJ, Schwenck J, Trautwein C, Karimi MM, **Heikenwalder M**. “A 5:2 intermittent fasting regimen ameliorates NASH and fibrosis and blunts HCC development via hepatic PPAR α and PCK1”.
Cell Metabolism, **2024**; 36(6):1371-1393.e7. doi: 10.1016/j.cmet.2024.04.015
4. ** Pfister D, Núñez NG, Pinyol R, [...], Llovet JM[§], **Heikenwalder M[§]**. „NASH limits anti-tumour surveillance in immunotherapy-treated HCC”.
Nature, **2021**; 592(7854): 450-456. doi: 10.1038/s41586-021-03362-0.
 5. ** Conlon TM, John-Schuster G, Heide D, [...], Königshoff M, **Heikenwalder M***, Yildirim AÖ*. „Inhibition of LT β R signalling activates WNT-induced regeneration in lung”.
Nature, **2020**; 588(7836): 151-156. doi: 10.1038/s41586-020-2882-8.
 6. O'Connor T, Zhou X, Kosla J, [...], Keller U, **Heikenwalder M**. “Age-Related Gliosis Promotes Central Nervous System Lymphoma through CCL19-Mediated Tumor Cell Retention”.
Cancer Cell, **2019**; 36(3): 250-267.e9. doi: 10.1016/j.ccell.2019.08.001.
 7. ** Malehmir M, Pfister D, Gallage S, [...], Unger K, Zender L, Nieswandt B, Gawaz M, Weber A[§], **Heikenwalder M[§]**. “Platelet GPIIb α is a mediator and potential interventional target for NASH and subsequent liver cancer”.
Nature Medicine, **2019**; 25(4): 641-655. doi: 10.1038/s41591-019-0379-5.
 8. ** Lorentzen A, Becker PF, [...], Borsig L, **Heikenwalder M**. “Single cell polarity in liquid phase facilitates tumour metastasis”.
Nature Communications, **2018**; 9(1): 887. doi: 10.1038/s41467-018-03139-6.
 9. ** Yuan D, Huang S, Berger E, Pikarsky E, Hüser N, Davis RJ, Tschaharganeh DF, Rad R, Weber A, Zender L, Haller D[§], **Heikenwalder M[§]**. “Kupffer Cell-Derived Tnf Triggers Cholangiocellular Tumorigenesis through JNK due to Chronic Mitochondrial Dysfunction and ROS”.
Cancer Cell, **2017**; 31(6): 771-789.e6. doi: 10.1016/j.ccell.2017.05.006.
 10. ** Wolf MJ, Adili A, Piotrowitz K, [...], Knolle P*, Weber A*, **Heikenwalder M[§]**. “Metabolic activation of intrahepatic CD8⁺ T cells and NKT cells causes nonalcoholic steatohepatitis and liver cancer via cross-talk with hepatocytes”.
Cancer Cell, **2014**; 26(4): 549-564. doi: 10.1016/j.ccell.2014.09.003.

Category B

Heikenwälder M, Zender L, EP000003475425A1 Treatment of non-alcoholic steato-hepatitis (NASH)

Academic Distinctions, prizes

2026-2031	ERC Synergy grant “Hepatomodulator”
2018-2025	Most highly cited researcher (“Cross Topic” Web of Science)
2024-2028	EU Horizon Grant “THRIVE” (Co-Coordinator)
2022	German Cancer Award
2020-2021	ERC Proof of concept (POC) grant
2019	Elected Member of the Leopoldina, Section XIV
2018	Swiss Prize for Liver Gastroenterology
2015-2020	ERC Consolidator Grant
2012	Walther and Christine Richtzenhain Award, DKFZ, Heidelberg;

2010-2015	ERC Starting Grant
2009	Götz Prize, University of Zurich, Switzerland.
2006	Empiris Award for brain research, Empiris foundation for brain research, Zurich Switzerland
2004	Research grant from the University of Zurich, Switzerland, to initiate an independent research group
2004	Creutzfeldt Science Prize, Creutzfeldt-Stiftung, Kiel
1999-2000	Erasmus scholarship from the European Community and merit-based scholarship from the University of Vienna, Austria