



Personal Information Early Stage Researcher EUTRAIN project:

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Contact information

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EDUCATION & TRAINING

I am a EUTRAIN researcher in the laboratory of Prof. Andreas Radbruch at the German Rheumatism Research Center (DRFZ) Berlin. I studied medical Biotechnology at the Technical University Berlin (TU-Berlin) and spent one year during my studies at the Dongseo University in Busan (South Korea) as a participant of the Dual Degree Program between the TU-Berlin and the Dongseo University. I started to do immunological research as an intern in Prof. Stefan Kaufmann's Laboratory at the Max-Planck-Institute for Infection Biology in Berlin. Fascinated by the field of immunology, I joined the laboratory of Prof. Frank Buttgerit at the DRFZ and the Charité Berlin for my master's thesis to develop an in vitro fracture gap model for the characterization of immune cells during the inflammatory phase of bone fracture healing. For my graduate studies, I joined Prof. Florian Winau's laboratory at the Boston Children's Hospital, the Immune Disease Institute, and the Department of Microbiology and Immunobiology at Harvard Medical School in Boston, where I did research on hepatic stellate cells and their function in antigen presentation and T cell instruction, which was supported by a fellowship from the Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds.

MAJOR AREAS OF INTEREST

Professionally, I am interested in the immunology of T lymphocytes, in antigen presentation, and in T cell memory formation and maintenance. More specifically, I want to study how pathogenic memory T cells generate or perpetuate chronic inflammation in autoimmune patients and which genes render memory T lymphocytes pathogenic. Further, I want to develop mouse models to establish methods for the specific depletion of pathogenic, resting memory T cells in the bone marrow. Ultimately, these models should help us to design treatments for diseases of chronic inflammation in the future.

Privately, I am still very interested in science and technology. In addition, I enjoy hiking, travelling, and playing the drums. I like to play Tennis and Basketball, to go to concerts, and to read fiction and non-fiction literature.

EXPERTISE

During my graduate studies I worked in a laboratory studying antigen presentation by non-classical antigen presenting cells (i.e. hepatic stellate cells). Thus, I am familiar with the methods used in immunological research (e.g., flow cytometry and cell sorting, techniques in cellular and molecular biology, experiments in mice, histology, etc.). Most of my theoretical expertise lies in the field of antigen presentation, T cell maturation and activation, as well as lymphocyte migration. In addition, my undergraduate studies in the field of biotechnology equipped me with basic skills of bioengineering.

PERSONAL EXPECTATIONS FOR EUTRAIN

I personally hope that the EUTRAIN program will enable me to learn a wide variety of skills to tackle and solve scientific problems in both basic and translational biomedicine in the future. In addition, I hope to become part of a scientific network consisting of ambitious and gifted scientists, who will closely work together in order to advance our current understanding of the immune system and to develop new treatments for immune-mediated diseases.