

Rainer Blasczyk, MD

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Rainer Blasczyk is Full Professor of Transfusion Medicine and Head of the Institute of Transfusion Medicine and Transplant Engineering at Hannover Medical School (MHH), Hannover, Germany since 1998 as well as board member of the Transplantation Center at Hannover Medical School since 2019. He graduated in medicine from the Universities Bochum and Essen before completing postgraduate training at the Universities of Marburg, Essen, Duesseldorf and Berlin, where he started to work on Molecular Immunogenetics in 1993. After being appointed to his current position he initiated the research on transplant engineering.

Professor Blasczyk has a long term research interest in solid organ transplantation and transplantation immunology with a main focus on transplant tolerance and transplant engineering. His work centers around the alloimmune response in organ transplantation and therapeutic interventions to combat rejection and infection. This includes cellular and humoral immunotherapy as well as genetic and transplant engineering approaches to achieve transplantation tolerance.

Professor Blasczyk is founder and chairman of the Immunotherapy Foundation. He has been a member of the Advisory Board on Blood Products of the German Ministry of Health, President of the German Society of Immunogenetics (DGI) and the German Society of Transfusion Medicine and Immunohematology (DGTI) as well as a Board Member of the European Society of Immunogenetics (EFI).

His research aims to prevent transplant rejection by genetic allograft engineering. Professor Blasczyk is considered a pioneer in transplant engineering and highly specialized in the field of histocompatibility and immunogenetics. He is particularly interested in the genetic structure, molecular function and regulation of histocompatibility systems in order to identify therapeutic targets for graft engineering to substantially improve clinical outcome of transplantation. Professor Blasczyk has initiated the Research Network on Invisible Organs, a pioneering project on transplant engineering to combat organ rejection.

Curriculum vitae

1981 – 1987	Medical School, Universities of Bochum and Essen, Germany
1987 – 1988	Research fellow and postgraduate training in Surgery, Dept. of Visceral Surgery, University of Marburg, Germany
1989 – 1991	Research fellow and postgraduate training in Immunology, Institute of Immunology, University of Essen, Germany
1992 – 1993	Research fellow and postgraduate training in Hematology and Oncology, Dept. of Hematology and Oncology, University of Düsseldorf
1993 – 1998	Research group leader on Molecular Immunogenetics and postgraduate training in Transfusion Medicine, Institute of Transfusion Medicine, Humboldt-University of Berlin, Germany
1996	Board Certification, Transfusion Medicine
1997	Habilitation in Transfusion Medicine, Member of the Faculty and Senior Lecturer, Humboldt-University of Berlin, Germany
Since 1998	Full Professor of Transfusion Medicine and head of the Institute of Transfusion Medicine and Transplant Engineering, Hannover Medical School, Hannover, Germany

Research fields

- Transplant Engineering
- Transplant Immunology
- Genetic Engineering

Additional Activities

2001	Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board, Imusyn Ltd. (Biotech)
2005	Founder and chairman, Foundation of Immunotherapy
Since 2006	Editorial Board, <i>HLA</i> (formerly known as Tissue Antigens; Wiley)
2006 – 2008	President, German Society for Immunogenetics (DGI)
2007 – 2010	Executive Board, European Federation for Immunogenetics (EFI)
2007 – 2014	Scientific Advisory Board, Integrated Research and Treatment Center Transplantation (IFB-Tx), Hannover Medical School, Germany
2009 – 2019	Scientific Advisory Board, European Federation for Immunogenetics (EFI)
Since 2011	Editorial Board, <i>Transfusionsmedizin</i> (Thieme)
2012 – 2014	President, German Society for Immunogenetics (DGI)
2014 – 2018	Management Board, Integrated Research and Treatment Center Transplantation (IFB-Tx), Hannover Medical School, Germany

2015 – 2016	President, German Society for Transfusion Medicine and Immunohematology (DGTI)
2016 – 2019	Advisory board on blood products, German Ministry of Health
since 2018	Chairman of the Management Board, Research Network Invisible Organs
since 2019	Management Board, Transplantation Center at Hannover Medical School
since 2021	International Advisory Board, Transplant Immunology Research Centre of Excellence at Koç University, Istanbul, Turkey

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