

Prof. Dr. ROHINI KUNER

Date of birth: 28 July, 1970
Gender: Female
Address: Heidelberg University
Institute of Pharmacology
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Position: Professor for Pharmacology & Toxicology
(W3), Chair of the Department of Molecular
Pharmacology,
Director of the Institute of Pharmacology
Children: Two (* 2001, * 2007)
Maternity leave: None



CURRICULUM VITAE

University education

1987 - 1991 Studies in Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Bombay, India

Scientific degrees

2005 Habilitation and Venia legendi in Pharmacology and Toxicology,
Mentor: Prof. Dr. Stefan Offermanns, Heidelberg University, Germany
1994 Doctoral dissertation in Pharmacology, Mentor: Prof. Gerald Gebhart, Dept.
of Pharmacology, College of Medicine, University of Iowa, Iowa City, USA

Professional experience

Since 2009 Institute Director, Institute of Pharmacology, Medical Faculty of Heidelberg,
Heidelberg University, Germany
Since 2009 Chair of the Department of Molecular Pharmacology
Since 2006 W3 (Full) Professor for Pharmacology & Toxicology, Medical Faculty of
Heidelberg, Heidelberg University, Germany
2002 - 2006 Group leader of an independent research unit established via an Emmy
Noether Award from the German Research Foundation, Heidelberg
2000 - 2001 Postdoctoral fellow with Prof. Dr. Stefan Offermanns, Institute of
Pharmacology, Heidelberg University, Germany
1998 - 2000 Scientist, Axaron AG, Heidelberg, Germany
1995 - 1998 Postdoctoral fellow with Prof. Dr. Peter H. Seeburg, Centre for Molecular
Biology, Heidelberg University and Department for Molecular Neurobiology,
Max-Planck Institute for Medical Research, Heidelberg, Germany

Academic functions and awards:Panels and coordinating functions:

2015 - 2019	Spokesperson of the DFG Collaborative Research Center 1158 'Structure-function properties of neural pathways underlying acute and chronic pain and their reorganization'
Since 2018	Member of the University Council of Heidelberg University
Since 2016	Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Chica and Heinz Schaller Foundation for Biomedical Research
2015 - 2017	Chairperson of the IASP international task force 'Research Consortia'
Since 2014	Steering Committee member for the DFG Collaborative Research Center 1118 (Diabetic late complications)
Since 2013	Scientific Director of the Interdisciplinary Neurobehavioural Core Facility, Heidelberg
Since 2010	Coordinator of Research Area C and Steering Committee member of the Excellence Cluster 'CellNetworks'
Since 2009	Diverse university committees of Heidelberg University

Reviewing Boards:

Since 2013	Jury panel member for ERC Starting Investigator grants of the European Research Council
2013 - 2016	Member of the Study Section panel 'Neurosciences' and the 'Emmy Noether Panel' of the German Research Foundation

Awards and honours:

2018	Phönix Pharma Prize for basic research in Pharmacology
2018	Feldberg Prize
2017	Novartis Prize for therapy-relevant research
2017	Heidelberg Molecular Life Sciences Award
2016, 2014	Research Prize of Heidelberg University
2015	Elected into 'Academia Europea', Academy of Europe
2011	ERC Advanced Investigator Grant Award of the European Research Council (2012-2017)
2010	Pat Wall International Young Investigator Award of the International Association for the Study of Pain
2007	Ingrid zu Solms Award for Medicine of the Ingrid zu Solms Foundation
2007	1st Prize for Basic Pain Research, German Society for the Study of Pain (DGSS)
2006	Bergius-Kuhn-Meyerhof Young Scientist Prize of the Rotary Club Heidelberg
2006	Chica and Heinz Schaller Research Award
2005	Rudolf-Buchheim Prize of the German Society for Pharmacology and Toxicology (DGPT)
2001	Emmy Noether Program grant award of the German Research Foundation
1991	Maganmal Kriplani Award for Merit and Service to the Institution, University of Bombay, India
1991	Ichalkaranji Trust Prize for Studies Abroad, Pune, India
1988 - 1991	Book Bank Merit Scheme, University of Bombay, India

Editorial boards:

Since 2018	Editorial Board member, 'Physiological Reviews'
Since 2016	Associate Editor at 'Neurobiology of Pain'
Since 2015	Section Editor at 'Neuroscience', the flagship journal of the International Brain Research Organisation (IBRO)
Since 2015	Associate Editor at 'Journal of Neuroscience', the flagship journal of the Society for Neuroscience (SFN)
Since 2013	Section Editor at 'Pain', the flagship journal of the International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP)
Since 2012	Editorial Board member, 'Molecular Pain'
2012 - 2015	Scientific Advisory Board member, Pain Research Forum
2011 - 2014	Associate Editor, 'European Journal of Neuroscience', the flagship journal of the Federation of European Neurosciences (FENS)
2010 - 2012	Associate Editor, 'The Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics'

A) Publications:

- Tan LL, Pelzer P, Heintz C, Tang W, Gangadharan V, Flor H, Sprengel R, Kuner T, Kuner R. A pathway from midcingulate cortex to posterior insula gates nociceptive hypersensitivity. **Nature Neuroscience** 2017;20(11):1591-1601.
- Selvaraj D, Gangadharan V, Michalski CW, Kurejova M, Stösser S, Srivastava K, Schweizerhof M, Waltenberger J, Ferrara N, Heppenstall P, Shibuya M, Augustin HG, Kuner R. 1. A functional role for VEGFR1 expressed in peripheral sensory neurons in cancer pain. **Cancer Cell** 27:780-96, 2015
- Vicuna L, Strohlic DE, Latremoliere A, Bali KK, Simonetti M, Husainie D, Prokosch S, Riva P, Griffin RS, Njoo C, Gehrig S, Mall MA, Arnold B, Devor M, Woolf CJ, Liberles SD, Costigan M, Kuner R. The serine protease inhibitor SerpinA3N attenuates neuropathic pain by inhibiting T cell-derived leukocyte elastase. **Nature Medicine** 2015;21(5):518-523.
- Simonetti M, Agarwal N, Stösser S, Bali KK, Karaulanov E, Kamble R, Pospisilova B, Kurejova M, Birchmeier W, Niehrs C, Heppenstall P, Kuner R. Wnt-Fzd signaling sensitizes peripheral sensory neurons via distinct noncanonical pathways. **Neuron** 2014;83(1):104-121.
- Simonetti M, Hagenston AM, Vardeh D, Freitag HE, Mauceri D, Lu J, Satagopam VP, Schneider R, Costigan M, Bading H, Kuner R. Nuclear calcium signaling in spinal neurons drives a genomic program required for persistent inflammatory pain. **Neuron** 2013;77(1):43-57.
- Schweizerhof M, Stösser S, Kurejova M, Njoo C, Gangadharan V, Agarwal N, Schmelz M, Bali KK, Michalski CW, Brugger S, Dickenson A, Simone DA, Kuner R. Hematopoietic colony-stimulating factors mediate tumor-nerve interactions and bone cancer pain. **Nature Medicine** 2009;15(7):802-807.
- Agarwal N, Pacher P, Tegeder I, Amaya F, Constantin CE, Brenner GJ, Rubino T, Michalski CW, Marsicano G, Monory K, Mackie K, Marian C, Batkai S, Parolaro D, Fischer MJ, Reeh P, Kunos G, Kress M, Lutz B, Woolf CJ, Kuner R. Cannabinoids mediate

analgesia largely via peripheral type 1 cannabinoid receptors in nociceptors. **Nature Neuroscience** 2007;10(7):870-879.

Tappe A, Klugmann M, Luo C, Hirlinger D, Agarwal N, Benrath J, Ehrenguber MU, During MJ, Kuner R. Synaptic scaffolding protein Homer1a protects against chronic inflammatory pain. **Nature Medicine** 2006;12(6):677-681.

Hartmann B, Ahmadi S, Heppenstall P, Zeilhofer HU, Lewin G, Schott C, Seeburg PH, Sprengel R, Kuner R. The AMPA receptor subunits, GluR-A and GluR-B reciprocally modulate spinal synaptic plasticity and inflammatory pain. **Neuron** 44:637-50, 2004

Kuner R, Kohr G, Grunewald S, Eisenhardt G, Bach A, Kornau HC. Role of heteromer formation in GABAB receptor function. **Science** 1999;283(5398):74-77.

B) Patents:

Application:

U30594WO: Selective inhibitors of neutrophil elastase for treating neuropathic pain and chronic pain states harbouring a neuropathic component

Granted:

WO/2001/081623 (PCT/EP2001/004311) - Neuronally expressed protein having apoptotic activity and use thereof

20080182314 (US Patent 7361502) - [Neuronal serine threonine protein kinase](#)

Scientific collaborations beyond the planned Collaborative Research Centre

Gary Lewin, Max-Delbrück Center, Berlin-Buch, Germany

Hanns Ulrich Zeilhofer, University of Zürich, Switzerland

Irmgard Tegeder, Pharmazentrum, Frankfurt, Germany

Klaus Armin Nave, MPI for Experimental Medicine, Göttingen, Germany

Clifford Woolf & Mike Costigan, Harvard Medical School, USA

Marshall Devor, Hebrew University, Israel

Ari Waisman, University of Mainz, Germany

Beat Lutz, University of Mainz, Germany

Betty Eipper, University of Connecticut, USA

Johannes Gräf, EPLF, Switzerland

Ana Gomis, University Alicante, Spain