

Curriculum Vitae Professor Dr Harald zur Hausen

Name: Harald zur Hausen

Life dates: 11 March 1936 – 28 May 2023



Image: DKFZ

Research Priorities: Development of cancer forms from viral infections, human papilloma viruses, cervical cancer

Harald zur Hausen was a German physician. Since the 1960s, he had pursued the question as to what role viruses play in the development of cancer in humans. Together with his research team, he succeeded in identifying different types of human papilloma viruses responsible for the development of cervical cancer. His research made it possible to develop a vaccine against cervical cancer, one of the most common forms of cancer in women. In 2008, Harald zur Hausen was awarded the Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine for his scientific achievements.

Academic and Professional Career

since 2003	Professor Emeritus
2002	John H. Blaffer Visiting Professor, M.D. Anderson Center, The University of Texas, Austin, USA
1998	Link Visiting Professor, Institute of Cancer Research, London, UK
1988	General Motors Visiting Professor, F. Hutchinson Cancer Center and University of Seattle, Seattle, USA
1988	Honorary Professorship, University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany
1985	General Motors Visiting Professor, McArdle University, Madison, USA
1983 - 2004	Chairperson and Scientific Member, Management Board, German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ), Heidelberg, Germany

1981	Visiting Professor, Microbiological Society of Western Australia, Perth, Australia
1977 - 1983	Chairperson and Professor of Virology and Hygiene, Centre for Hygiene, University of Freiburg, Freiburg, Germany
1976	Queensland Professor, Queensland Institute of Medical Research, Brisbane, Australia
1974	Visiting Professor, University of Belo Horizonte, Belo Horizonte, Brazil
1972 - 1977	Professor, Head, and Chairperson, Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen- Nuremberg (FAU), Erlangen, Germany
1969- 1972	Assistant and Head Assistant, Institute for Virology, Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg (JMU), Würzburg, Germany
1969	Habilitation in Virology, University of Würzburg, Würzburg, Germany
1968	Assistant Professor of Virology, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, USA
1966 - 1969	Research Associate, Division of Virology, The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, USA
1962 - 1966	Research Associate, Institute of Medical Microbiology and Hospital Hygiene, Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf (HHU), Düsseldorf, Germany
1962	Licence to practise medicine
1960 - 1962	Medical Resident, Wimbern, Isny and Gelsenkirchen
1960	Ph.D. in Medicine, University of Düsseldorf, Düsseldorf, Germany
1955 - 1960	Degree in Medicine, University of Bonn, Universität Hamburg and University of Düsseldorf, Germany

Functions in Scientific Societies and Committees

2014 - 2017	Chairperson, Board of Trustees, Paul Ehrlich Foundation, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
since 2010	Vice President, European Academy of Cancer
until 2010	Editor in Chief, International Journal of Cancer
2007 - 2011	Member, Scientific Advisory Board, Zukunftskolleg, University of Konstanz, Konstanz, Germany
2007 - 2009	Member, Scientific Advisory Board, Vienna Science and Technology Fund (WWTF), Vienna, Austria
since 2007	Member, International Advisory Committee, National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA), Bangkok, Thailand

2006 - 2009	Member, Board of Directors, International Union against Cancer, Geneva, Switzerland
2005 - 2009	Member, International Advisory Board, Institut National du Cancer, Paris, France
2003 - 2009	Vice President, German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, Germany
2003 - 2006	Member, Board of Trustees of the Scientific Advisory Board, University of Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany
2003 - 2005	Member, Board of Health Research, Federal Ministry of Education and Research, Germany
2001 - 2003	Vice President, Helmholtz Association of German Research Centres, Germany
1999 - 2009	Member, Advisory Board, International Network for Cancer Treatment and Research (INCTR), Brussels, Belgium
1999 - 2000	Vice Chairperson, German-American Academic Council (DAAK)
1998 - 2002	Member, Scientific Advisory Board, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Erlangen, Germany
1998 - 2000	Member, DAAK
1996 - 2006	Member, Scientific Advisory Board, Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Cancer Research (LBI-CR), Vienna, Austria
1994 - 1998	Member, Scientific Advisory Board, Imperial Cancer Research Centre (ICRF), London, UK

Honours and Awarded Memberships

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2020	Order of Merit of North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany
2017	Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science, USA
2012	Ernst Wertheim Prize, Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Gynäkologische Onkologie (AGO), Vienna, Austria
2011	Bavarian Maximilian Order for Science and Art, Germany
2011	Tsungming-Tu Prize, National Science Council, Taiwan
2011	Member, Ludwig Heilmeyer Society, Cologne, Germany
2010	Grand Georgios Papanicolaou Award, Hellenic Society, New York City, USA
2010	Hall of Fame of German Research, Manager Magazin, Berlin, Germany
2010	The Economist's Innovation Award, The Economist, London, UK
2010	Foreign Member, Societas Scientarum Fennica, Finland

2010	Member, American Association for Cancer Research, USA
2010	Member, German Society of Gynaecology and Obstetrics, Germany
2010	Member, International Association for Dental Research, Barcelona, Spain
2010	Honorary Member, Australian Society for Microbiology, Australia
2010	Member, Ecuadorial Society of Pathology of the Genital Tract and Colposcopy, Ecuador
2010	Honorary Citizen, Quevedo, Ecuador
2010	Member of the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities, Germany
2009	Great Cross of Merit with the Star of the Order of Merit, Federal Republic of Germany
2009	Foreign Member, National Academy of Sciences, USA
2008	Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine, Nobel Foundation, Stockholm, Sweden
2008	Canada Gairdner International Award, Gairdner Foundation, Toronto, Canada
2008	AACR Lifetime Achievement Award, American Association of Cancer Research, USA
2008	Fellow, World Academy of Arts and Sciences
2008	Honorary Member, European Academy of Sciences and Arts
2007	Warren Alpert Foundation Prize, Warren Alpert Foundation, Providence, USA
2007	Loeffler Frosch Award, Society of Virology, Erlangen, Germany
2007	Johann-Georg-Zimmermann Prize, Medizinische Hochschule Hannover (MHH), and Deutsche Hypothekenbank AG, Hanover, Germany
2006	Order of Merit of Baden-Württemberg, Germany
2006	William B. Coley Award, Cancer Research Institute, New York City, USA
2006	Raymond Bourgine Award, Laboratoires Pierre Fabre, Castres, and Association pour la Vie-Espoir contre le Cancer, Paris, France
2006	Member, Sociedad Peruana de Cancerologia, Lima, Peru
2005	Prinz Mahidol Award, Thailand
2005	Award, Panamerican Society for Clinical Virology, Clearwater, USA
2005	Honorary Member, German Dermatological Society, Germany
2004	Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany
2003	Member, Academy of Cancer Immunology, New York City, USA
2003	Honorary Member, German Society of Virology, Germany
2002	Isaac Berenblum Memorial Lecture, Rehovot, Israel German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina

1999	Charles Rodolphe Brupbacher Prize for Cancer Research, Charles Rodolphe Brupbacher Foundation, Vaduz, Liechtenstein
1998	Member, American Philosophical Society, USA
1996	Jacob Henle Medal, Faculty of Medicine, University of Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany
1996	Ernst Jung Prize, Jung Foundation for Science and Research, Hamburg, Germany
1994	Behring Lecture, Philipps-Universität Marburg, Marburg, Germany
1994	Paul Ehrlich and Ludwig Darmstaedter Prize, Paul Ehrlich Foundation, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
1986	Member, Heidelberg Academy of Sciences and Humanities, Heidelberg, Germany
1986	German Cancer Prize, German Cancer Foundation, Germany
1986	Charles S. Mott Prize, General Motors Cancer Research Foundation
1975	Robert Koch Award, Robert Koch Foundation, Berlin, Germany

Research priorities

Harald zur Hausen was a German physician. Since the 1960s, he had pursued the question as to what role viruses play in the development of cancer in humans. Together with his research team, he succeeded in identifying different types of human papilloma viruses responsible for the development of cervical cancer. His research made it possible to develop a vaccine against cervical cancer, one of the most common forms of cancer in women. In 2008, Harald zur Hausen was awarded the Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine for his scientific achievements.

Aside from his research, which is considered revolutionary in the field of tumour virology, Harald zur Hausen has dedicated himself to many other tasks. During his long tenure as the editor-in-chief of the International Journal of Cancer as well as in his roles as a member, chairperson and president of many institutions, he was able to advance the scientific and networking aspects of the field of oncology. Until his retirement in 2003, he was the head of the German Cancer Research Center in Heidelberg for 20 years. For his work, Harald zur Hausen has been awarded numerous national and international prizes, honorary professorships, and honorary doctorates.