Research @ Department of Neurology

Dear Reader,

With this newsletter, we have the pleasure to give you insights into ongoing research activities at our Department and to portrait the people behind it. In addition, we would like to inform you about upcoming events, recent publications and open calls for proposals.

We hope you will enjoy reading it!

The Research Board of the Department of Neurology

May / June 2022

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Dr. med. Adrian Scutelnic

What are your main research interests?

My main research interests are stroke and headache. In particular, I am interested in the clinical phenotyping of ischemic stroke and its differentiation from migraine aura. In addition, my team and I are planning a study to distinguish a transient neurologic attack from a transient ischemic attack. Other research topics of mine include imaging biomarkers for migraine, comorbidities of primary headache disorders that increase vascular risk, and cerebral sinus thrombosis associated with COVID-19.

What is your motivation to do research?

I was inspired by my attending physicians who constantly questioned the current state of knowledge on certain conditions our patients suffered. From them, I learned that research must begin at bedside and, when completed, return to bedside, thus helping us to better care for our patients. In some ways, doing research comes from necessity and is a natural consequence of practicing clinical neurology. In addition, there is the excitement of learning new research methods, discovering new findings, sharing knowledge with other researchers and mentoring medical students.

Adrian Scutelnic is a resident physician currently working at SWEZ, Department of Neurology, Inselspital Bern, University Hospital, University of Bern, Switzerland. Contact: adrian.scutelnic@insel.ch

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Congratulations

2) Awarded Grants (in chronological order)

Dr. med. Martina Göldlin

Funding Institution: ESO (Department-to-Department Visiting Programme, Link)

Host Institution: University College London; Mentor at UCL: Prof. David Werring Link

Awarded Grant: EUR 1’500 (research stay of 2 weeks)

Dr. phil. Aleksandra Eberhard-Moscicka

Funding Institution: SNF, Scientific Exchange (Science Communication) Link

Title: The role of sleep in consolidation of the beneficial effect of contralesional continuous theta burst stimulation (cTBS) in visual hemineglect

Awarded Grant: CHF 16’500 (research stay of 3 months in the USA)
Dr. Ludovic Mure (ZEN/ Department of Physiology)

Funding Institution: Novartis Foundation for Medical-Biological Research [Link]
Title: Functional and molecular reprogramming of ipRGCs in Alzheimer’s disease
Awarded Grant: CHF 80’000

Dr.med. David Schreier

Funding Institution: SNF, Postdoc.Mobility [Link]
Title: Modulation of Brain Networks Promoting Consciousness in Anaesthetised, Asleep, and Injured Brains (ARISE)
Host Institution: Massachusetts General Hospital/ Harvard, Boston, MA, USA;
Host-Supervisor: Prof. Emery Brown, Co-Host-Supervisors: Prof. Brian Edlow and Prof. Ken Solt
Awarded Grant: CHF 124’000
Dr. med. Thomas Meinel

**Funding Institution:** Vizerektorat Forschung der Universität Bern und Mittelbau-Vereinigung: Nachwuchsförderungs-Projektpool [Link]

**Title:** Swiss Translational Medical Imaging Network – Hands-on Workshop

**Awarded Grant:** CHF 5’000

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PD Dr. med. Anke Salmen

(Con-Applicant)

**Funding Institution:** SNF, Project Funding [Link]

**Title:** The MultiSCRIPT trial: personalized medicine in Multiple Sclerosis – pRagmatic Platform Trial embedded within the Swiss MS cohort

**Main Applicant:** PD Dr. Yaldizli (USB)

**Awarded Grant:** CHF 1’952’710 (total sum)
Internal Research Grants 2022

Research Grant Diversity and Excellence in Clinical Research (Protected Research Time)

Dr. med. Laura Alva (ZfPB)
Titel: Clinical and electrical profiling for adaptive Deep Brain Stimulation

Dr. med. Morin Beyeler (Stroke)
Titel: Discovery of new malignancy in the 1-year follow-up after ischemic stroke in patients at risk: The INVISIBLE-1 Study

Dr. med. Katharina Wohler (SWEZ/ e-lab)
Titel: ORACLE study (Onward Risk Advice and ControL in Epilepsy)
Stipendium für professionelle Lehre 2022 in der Neurologie (Protected Teaching Time)

Dr. med. Thomas Meinel

Title: Blended Learning in der klinischen Ausbildung von Medizinstudierenden: Überführen der Berner Neurologieschule ins digitale Zeitalter durch autonomes und motivationsgeleitetes Lernen

3) Awarded Prizes (in chronological order)

Dr. med. Andrea Seiler

has been elected “Teacher of the Year 2021”

Once a year, senior physicians, chief physicians and head physicians organize a vote among the residents to determine the "Teacher of the Year".

Dr. med. Eric Morel

has been awarded the Prix Fernand Tissot der Medizinischen Fakultät der Universität Genf for his dissertation

Troubles de la marche d'origine neurologique: Utilité de l'analyse clinique de la marche illustrée dans le cas de l'hydrocéphalie à pression normale

Prize money: CHF 10'000. Link
Janine Bühler, PhD

of the Psychosomatic Research Group (PI Prof. Selma Aybek) received a Prize for the Best Poster Presentation at the 4th International FND Society Conference in Boston. Link

Title: Neuromodulation of the agency network in Functional Neurological Disorder

4) Appointments

Prof. Dr.med. Christoph Schankin

has been appointed “Associated Editor for Neuro-Ophthalmology” at Frontiers Neurology. Link

Prof. Dr.med. Marcel Arnold

has been appointed Vice-President of the Swiss Heart Association. Link
5) Outstanding Publications

Prof. Antoine Adamantidis
Director of ZEN

Dr. Mattia Aime
Postdoc ZEN

Have a publication in Science:

doi:10.1126/science.abk2734

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Call for Grants and Prizes

EAN Research Fellowship 2022

**Focus of the grant:** Clinical Research/ research stay abroad

**Eligible for:** Residents of neurology with a minimum of 2 years of neurology training or certified clinical neurologist (with up to a maximum of 5 years beyond their final degree – PhD, MD, or equivalent).

- The purpose is to support training and experience for European Neurologists in any area of basic or clinical or applied research in neuroscience.

- The research work must be carried out at a European academic neurological department outside the country of residence. All applications should demonstrate experience/training of clear value to the home department/individual beyond that available in their own countries/institutions.

- **Research Training Fellowship:** Expected to be of typically 12 months and no less than 6 months duration, to lead either to completion of a higher degree, a grant application or peer-reviewed publication.

- **Research Training Fellowship:** Expected to be of typically no longer than 6 months. For applicants who may wish to pursue a research career.

- **Deadline:** 31 August 2022 [Link](#)

UniBE Short Travel Grants for (Post)Docs

**Focus of the grant:** Clinical and basic research/ short-term stays abroad

**Eligible for:** PhD, MD-PhD and Postdocs

- The “UniBE Short Travel Grants” provide funding for travel and accommodation for research stays abroad (field research stays, research stays at universities or other research institutions, scientific work in libraries, scientific collections, archives, laboratories, etc.), which last at least two weeks and no more than eight weeks.
Eligibility to apply extends to

- **doctoral candidates** who have been registered and involved in research at the University of Bern for at least six months, and
- **postdoctoral researchers**, in the categories early postdocs, advanced postdocs and senior research assistants, who have been employed at the University of Bern for at least three months and who will remain registered as a doctoral candidate or employed as a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Bern for at least one more semester.
- Funding is provided for travel and accommodation costs for research stays abroad; duration: min. 2 - max. 8 weeks; funding amount: CHF 8'000 per application.
- **Submission Deadline: 1 September 2022** [Link]

### Albrecht von Haller Young Investigator Award

**Focus of the grant:** Cardiovascular Research/ project funding and dissertation prize

**Eligible for:** Young researchers (age limit: 35 years)/ doctoral students

- The award intents to foster the academic progress of young scientists or physicians and/or to improve health outcomes of patients.
- It will be awarded to an **innovative project** of a young investigator in the amount of 25'000 Swiss Francs as well as to three outstanding doctoral theses in the amount of 2'000 Swiss Francs each.
- The scope of the award is quite broad covering cardiovascular research and interdisciplinary projects or theses in the humanities and arts.
- **Submission Deadline: 30 September 2021** [Link]
Other Open Calls for Proposals

- **Baasch-Medicus-Foundation**  
  Deadline: 30 June 2022 [Link]

- **Prof. Dr. Max Cloëtta Foundation: Medical Research Positions**  
  Deadline: 30 June 2022 [Link]

- **Bangerter-Rhyner Stiftung: Young Talents in Clinical Research**  
  Deadline: 30 June 2022 [Link]

- **Nachwuchs-Forschungs-Preis Mogens und Wilhelm Ellermann-Stiftung 2022**  
  Deadline: 30 June 2022 [Link]

- **SNG Preis 2022**  
  Deadline: 30 June 2022 [Link]

- **Preis der Mogens und Wilhem Ellermann-Stiftung**  
  Deadline: 30 June 2022 [Link]

- **Forschungsbeitrag Schweizerische Herzstiftung**  
  Deadline: 30 June 2022 [Link]

- **SNF Postdoc.Mobility**  
  Deadline: 1 August 2022 [Link]

- **UniBern ID Grants**  
  Deadline: 28 August 2022 [Link]

- **EAN Research Fellowship 2022**  
  Deadline: 31 August 2022 [Link]

- **FSRMM Grant for the Research on Muscular Diseases**  
  Deadline: 31 August 2022 [Link]

- **Robert-Bing-Preis**  
  Deadline: 31 August 2022 [Link]

- **UniBE Doc.Mobility**  
  Deadline: 1 September 2022 [Link]

- **UniBE Short Travel Grants for (Post)Docs**  
  Deadline: 1 September 2022 [Link]

- **Albrecht von Haller Young Investigator Award**  
  Deadline: 30 September 2022 [Link]
Important Dates

- **SNS Academy 2022**, 30 June – 2 July 2022, Inselspital Bern [Link]
- **Day of Biomedical Research 2022**: 6 July 2022, Auditorium Ettore Rossi, Kinderklinik, Inselspital Bern [Link]
- **ICTALS 2022, the tipping point**, 4 – 8 July 2022, University of Bern, Registration closes on 30 April 2022 [Link]
- **5. SFCNS Congress**, 28 – 30 September 2022, Basel [Link]
- **ECTRIMS 2022**, 26 – 28 October 2022, Amsterdam [Link]
- **SHS Headache-Symposium**, 24 November 2022, CHUV Lausanne [Link]

For further events of the Department, please check our [website].

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Support

1) Horizon Europe measures – Update

Find here all relevant information and documents concerning the transitional measures implemented by the SNSF on behalf of government as well as open calls. [Link]

2) First SNSF Webinar on the new CV format

The SNSF organizes on 29 June 2022 a first webinar for researchers on the new CV format. The new standardized CV will be introduced on 1 October for the project funding and subsequently extended step-by-step to all other SNSF schemes by 2023.

3) University Library Bern: Support for Research, Teaching and Studies

The comprehensive and often free of charge services of the University Library Bern offer support in research and teaching, such as courses on academic writing and research data management, or support in questions on open-sciences related issues. [Link]

5) Trainings and Workshop

CTU Trainings:

Clinical Investigators I: Basic GCP & clinical research training and

Clinical Investigators II: Advanced GCP & clinical research training

The course is designed to introduce basic concepts of patient-oriented clinical research to health care professionals involved in the recruitment of study participants. It is split in two parts. The first part consists of self-learning and home-based exercises. For the second part, participants will attend the lectures and workshops.

Next Course Dates 2022 Clinical Investigators I: [Link and Registration]

Next Course Dates 2022 Clinical Investigators II: [Link and Registration]
REDCap Database Implementation

The course will give an introduction to the Clinical Data Management System REDCap and is designed for persons who plan to set up their own study in REDCap. After the course researchers will be able to set up their own database in REDCap. Target audience: Clinical Researchers, Study Nurses and all persons who would like to set up their own study in REDCap.

**Next Training Dates 2022:** [Link and Registration]

Statistics using STATA

In this workshop we will learn how to do statistical inference with Stata. Basic statistical methods for the analysis of continuous, binary, count and time-to-event data will be covered, e.g. linear and logistic regression, or Cox proportional hazard models.

**Next Training Dates 2022:** [Link and Registration]

For other CTU Trainings and Courses, check the CTU website [here].

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Gender Equality and Diversity

If you come across interesting news and/or would like to read about a specific topic related to gender equality and diversity, please let us know (chantal.kottler@insel.ch).

Free Spots in Courses and Workshops: Gender and Diversity Competences for Students and Staff of the University of Bern/Inselspital

- Vorurteilsbewusste Teamkultur gestalten (02./09.09.2022)
- Bystander Training (03.10.2022)
- Better Science: Research culture and academic excellence (11.11.2022)

Course catalogue and registration

Swiss Study "Academic career, partnership and family"

In 2021, the BASS office (Büro für Arbeits- und Sozialpolitische Studien) conducted a survey of the academic staff of Swiss universities and the ETH Domain on the topic of "Academic career, partnership and family". The results are now available. Read the report here.

Diversity Lecture Series

In the fall semester of 2022, the Equal Opportunity Department is organizing a lecture series on the topic of "Diversity Research." The lectures will take place on Mondays from 6:15 - 8:00 p.m. at the UniS in room A022.

Have a look at the program
Recent Publications

Stroke


Neuroimmunology


Klinische Neurowissenschaften
Bern


Neuromuscular Center


ZfPB


**Headache**


**Psychosomatic Medicine**


**SWEZ**


**ZEN**


Neuropsychology


Neurorehabilitation


Contact

For any comments on the newsletter as well as all research related questions, please contact:

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