



## ABOUT

The Helmholtz Institute for RNA-based Infection Research (HIRI) is the first institution worldwide to combine ribonucleic acid (RNA) research with infection biology. Based on novel findings from our strong basic research program, our long-term goal is to develop innovative therapeutic approaches to better diagnose and treat human infections.

HIRI is a location of the Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research (HZI) in Braunschweig in cooperation with the Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg (JMU) and is located on the Würzburg Medical Campus.

## OUR MAJOR GOALS ARE

- to better understand infections at the single-cell level
- to detect regulatory RNA in infection processes
- to identify RNA-based mechanisms in viral infectivity and host defense
- to harness RNA in medical diagnostics, prevention and as anti-infectives
- to develop innovative application techniques for this purpose

## RESEARCH GROUPS

- **Prof Jörg Vogel**  
RNA Biology of Bacterial Infections
- **Prof Chase Beisel**  
RNA Synthetic Biology
- **Dr Antoine-Emmanuel Saliba**  
Single-Cell Analysis
- **Jun Prof Lars Barquist**  
Integrative Informatics for Infection Biology
- **Jun Prof Neva Galiskan**  
Recoding Mechanisms in Infections
- **Jun Prof Redmond Smyth**  
Genome Architecture and Evolution of RNA Viruses
- **Jun Prof Alexander Westermann**  
Host-Pathogen-Microbiota Interactions
- **Jun Prof Mathias Munschauer**  
LncRNA and Infection Biology
- **Jun Prof Franziska Faber (associated)**  
RNA Biology of gram-positive Bacteria

## HIRI AT A GLANCE



**HZI + JMU = HIRI**  
Foundation **May 2017**



**Managing Director**  
**Prof Jörg Vogel**



**Team**  
**8+1** research groups  
Over **100** employees  
from more than **20** nations



**Funding**  
Sound annual core funding from  
**federal government** and **Free State of Bavaria**  
Third party funding rate of **30%**  
**4 ERC Grants**



**New Building**  
**State-of-the-art** facilities, financed  
by **Free State of Bavaria** and **EU**  
Completion spring **2026**



**Profile Areas & Programs**  
**Single-Cell Center Würzburg**  
**Graduate Training Programs**  
“RNA & Infection” and  
“RNA-based Medicine”



info@helmholtz-hiri.de  
**www.helmholtz-hiri.de**  
Twitter @Helmholtz\_HIRI

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