

PROF. DR. ALEXANDER WESTERMANN

Junior Group Leader

Helmholtz Institute for RNA-based Infection Research (HIRI)
& Institute of Molecular Infection Biology (IMIB), University of Würzburg
Josef-Schneider-Str. 2 / D15, D-97080 Würzburg, Germany

alexander.westermann@uni-wuerzburg.de
+49 931 31 83781

www.helmholtz-hiri.de
www.imib-wuerzburg.de



Education

2015 Dr. rer. nat., Molecular Infection Biology, University of Würzburg, Germany
2010 MSc, Molecular Biosciences, University of Heidelberg, Germany
2008 BSc, Biology, University of Heidelberg, Germany

Positions

2018 - present Junior Group Leader, Helmholtz Institute for RNA-based Infection Research (HIRI), Würzburg, Germany
2018 - present Junior Professor (W1), Institute of Molecular Infection Biology (IMIB), University of Würzburg, Germany
2017 - 2018 EMBO fellow, MRC Centre for Molecular Bacteriology & Infection, Imperial College, London, UK and visiting researcher, Department of Medical Microbiology & Immunology, UC Davis, CA, USA
2015 - 2017 Postdoc, RNA Biology, Institute of Molecular Infection Biology (IMIB), Würzburg, Germany
2009 Visiting Researcher, Department of Chemistry and Department of Molecular Cell Biology, UC Berkeley, CA, USA

Committee Work

2018 Co-organizer, RNA-seq Workshop, Graduiertenkolleg 3D Infect, Würzburg, Germany
2012 Co-organizer, RNA-seq Workshop, Medical Infection Genomics, Würzburg, Germany

Awards & Honors

Postdoc Award in Microbiology, Robert-Koch-Foundation (2016), Dissertation Prize of the German Center for Infection Research (DZIF) of the German Society for Hygiene and Microbiology (DGHM) (2016), PhD Stipend of the Elite Network of Bavaria (2012 - 2015)

Selected Publications

Westermann AJ, Venturini E, Sellin ME, Förstner KU, Hardt WD, Vogel J (2019)
The major RNA-binding protein ProQ impacts virulence gene expression in Salmonella enterica serovar typhimurium
MBio 10(1). pii:e02504-18

Stapels DAC, Hill PWS, Westermann AJ, Fisher RA, Thurston TL, Saliba AE, Blommestein I, Vogel J, Helaine S (2018)
Salmonella persists undermine host immune defenses during antibiotic treatment
Science 362(6419):1156-1160

Westermann AJ, Förstner KU, Amman F, Barquist L, Chao Y, Schulte LN, Müller L, Reinhardt R, Stadler PF, Vogel J (2016)
Dual RNA-seq unveils noncoding RNA functions in host-pathogen interactions
Nature 529(7587):496-501

Saliba A-E, Li L, Westermann AJ, Appenzeller S, Stapels DAC, Schulte L, Helaine S, Vogel J (2016)
Single-cell RNA-seq ties macrophage polarization to growth rate of intracellular Salmonella
Nature Microbiology 2:16206

Westermann AJ, Gorski SA, Vogel J (2012)
Dual RNA-seq of pathogen and host
Nature Reviews Microbiology 10(9):618-30