

Short CV: Niki Romani

Dr. Romani, a native of the westernmost tip of Austria, obtained his Ph.D. in biology at the University of Innsbruck, Austria in 1983. He did his post-doctoral training (1987/88) at the Rockefeller University in the lab of Dr. Ralph Steinman, Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine laureate 2011. Together with his mentor and colleague Dr. Gerold Schuler he helped make Innsbruck one of the first "dendritic cell strongholds" outside the United States. He became associate professor in 1990 and full professor in 2012. He is a co-editor of Handbook of Dendritic Cells, Biology, Diseases and Therapies (2006) and is a recipient of several awards. At the Department of Dermatology, Venereology & Allergology of the Medical University of Innsbruck Niki's team has been studying dendritic cells of the skin to dissect their roles in the generation of immunity and tolerance in cancer and infection models in vivo. Currently, the Experimental Dermatology Unit is using immunization approaches that target defined subsets of skin dendritic cells by means of antibodies against antigen uptake receptors. He initiated and fostered the development of a strong dendritic cell research group and the establishment of the Laboratory for Langerhans Cell Research under the guidance of Dr. Patrizia Stoitzner.