

Liliana Schaefer



Liliana Schaefer, M.D. has trained in Internal Medicine and Nephrology at the University of Poznan, School of Medicine, Poland. She graduated as a Medical Doctor from the University of Wuerzburg, Germany. After working as a Postdoc at the University of Wuerzburg, she became Principal Investigator in the Department of Medicine at the University of Muenster, Germany. Since 2006 she is a Professor of Nephropharmacology at the Institute of Pharmacology and Toxicology, University of Frankfurt/Main with an area of expertise in matrix biology. Her laboratory is addressing the role(s) of the two TGF-beta-binding, small leucine-rich repeat proteoglycans decorin and biglycan in inflammation and fibrosis. Her work gave rise to the novel concept that, under certain conditions, matrix components in their soluble form may act as endogenous “danger” signals. These molecules are recognized by innate immunity receptors and are capable of triggering inflammatory response reactions. Currently, Dr. Schaefer is a member of the Editorial Board of Matrix Biology, of the Journal of Histochemistry & Cytochemistry and President of the German Society for Matrix Biology and Council Member of the International Society for Matrix Biology.