

## The Public Health Institute for the Nation

The Robert Koch Institute's aim is to protect the population against disease and improve its state of health. To this end, 1,100 individuals from 90 different occupational fields work together at RKI every day, among them 450 scientists.

### Administration

Prof. Dr. Lothar H. Wieler (President)  
Prof. Dr. Lars Schaade (Vice President)

### Locations

- ▶ Nordufer 20, 13353 Berlin-Wedding (main site)
- ▶ Seestraße 10, 13353 Berlin-Wedding
- ▶ General-Pape-Straße 62–66, 12101 Berlin-Tempelhof
- ▶ Burgstraße 37, 38855 Wernigerode

### National Reference Centres

- ▶ Influenza
- ▶ Measles, Mumps, Rubella
- ▶ Poliomyelitis and Enteroviruses
- ▶ Salmonellosis and Other Enteric Pathogens
- ▶ Staphylococci and Enterococci

### Consultant Laboratories

- ▶ Bacillus anthracis
- ▶ Neurotoxin-Producing Clostridia
- ▶ Cryptococcosis and Rare Systemic Mycoses
- ▶ Electron Microscopic Diagnostics in Infectious Diseases
- ▶ Listeria
- ▶ Noroviruses
- ▶ Poxviruses
- ▶ Respiratory Syncytial Viruses, Parainfluenza Viruses, Metapneumoviruses
- ▶ Rotaviruses
- ▶ Tularemia

### Cooperations with the World Health Organisation

- ▶ WHO Regional Reference Laboratory for Poliomyelitis
- ▶ WHO Regional Reference Laboratory for Measles and Rubella
- ▶ WHO Collaborating Centre for Emerging Infections and Biological Threats

### Selected Publications

- ▶ Bundesgesundheitsblatt (co-editor)
- ▶ Epidemiological Bulletin
- ▶ Journal of Health Monitoring
- ▶ Publications on Federal Health Reporting
- ▶ Epidemiological Yearbook of Notifiable Infectious Diseases
- ▶ RKI fact sheets for physicians
- ▶ Publications in peer-reviewed scientific journals

### Scientific Committees

- ▶ Advisory Committee of the German Centre for Cancer Registry Data
- ▶ Central Ethics Committee for Stem Cell Research
- ▶ Commission for Hospital Hygiene and Infection Prevention (KRINKO)
- ▶ Commission on Anti-Infectives, Resistance and Therapy (ART)
- ▶ Commission on Genetic Testing
- ▶ Committee for Environmental Medicine
- ▶ Committee for Health Reporting and Health Monitoring
- ▶ Competence and Treatment Centres for High Consequence Infectious Diseases (STAKOB)
- ▶ Editorial Board of the Bundesgesundheitsblatt
- ▶ Expert Advisory Board on Influenza
- ▶ National Advisory Committee Blood
- ▶ National Certification Committee for Polio Eradication
- ▶ National Verification Committee for Measles and Rubella Elimination in Germany
- ▶ Scientific Advisory Board for Public Health Microbiology
- ▶ Standing Committee on Vaccination (STIKO)

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The Robert Koch Institute is a Federal Institute  
within the portfolio of the German Federal Ministry of Health



## Main Areas of Activity

### Department of Infectious Diseases

Head: Prof. Dr. Martin Mielke

#### Public health microbiology

- ▶ molecular epidemiology of pathogens
- ▶ pathogenetic and resistance mechanisms; pathogen-host-interaction

#### Healthcare-associated infections and hospital hygiene

- ▶ prevention and control of healthcare-associated infections
- ▶ inactivation of infectious agents/tolerance

#### Viral infections

- ▶ viral infections in newborns and immunosuppressed patients
- ▶ HIV, retrovirology
- ▶ influenza and other respiratory viruses
- ▶ measles, mumps, rubella
- ▶ herpesviruses
- ▶ poliovirus and other enteroviruses
- ▶ gut-associated viruses (norovirus, rotavirus)
- ▶ hepatitis viruses

#### Bacterial infections

- ▶ healthcare-associated infections and antimicrobial resistance
- ▶ salmonella and other enteric pathogens (EHEC, Listeria)
- ▶ legionella
- ▶ chlamydia and other sexually transmitted bacterial pathogens

#### Fungal and parasitic infections

- ▶ diagnosis of invasive mycotic infections

#### Persistent infections

### Department of Epidemiology and Health Reporting

Head: Dr. Bärbel-Maria Kurth

#### Nationwide continuous health monitoring

- ▶ KiGGS: study on the health of children and adolescents in Germany (longitudinal study)
- ▶ DEGS: study on the health of adults in Germany (longitudinal study)
- ▶ GEDA: regular population survey on health-related issues (cross-sectional study)

#### Federal Health Reporting

- ▶ comprehensive reports on health in Germany
- ▶ Journal of Health Monitoring

#### Epidemiological research amongst others on

- ▶ health and care of the elderly
- ▶ risk factors of common non-communicable diseases (lifestyle, environment, nutrition, social determinants)
- ▶ prevention concepts and their evaluation

#### German Centre for Cancer Registry Data

- ▶ pooling and quality control of data from regional cancer registries
- ▶ regular publication of a verified overall dataset
- ▶ analyses on cancer incidence, prevalence and survival
- ▶ reporting on cancer in Germany

#### Network of public health players in Germany

### Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology

Head: Dr. Osamah Hamouda

#### National surveillance of infectious diseases

- ▶ notifiable diseases
- ▶ early warning, risk assessment, reporting

#### Focal point for infectious disease control

- ▶ German public health service
- ▶ international Health Regulations
- ▶ ECDC, WHO, European Commission

#### Research in infectious disease epidemiology

#### Investigation of national and international outbreaks

#### Disease prevention

- ▶ immunisation strategies
- ▶ influenza pandemic preparedness
- ▶ prevention of HIV/AIDS

#### Training in infectious disease epidemiology

- ▶ courses for public health professionals
- ▶ Postgraduate Training for Applied Epidemiology (PAE), M. Sc. in Applied Epidemiology with Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin

#### Epidemiologic assessment and analysis

- ▶ vaccine-preventable diseases
- ▶ sexually transmittable diseases
- ▶ foodborne diseases
- ▶ zoonotic diseases
- ▶ respiratory infections
- ▶ antimicrobial resistance and consumption

### Centre for Biological Threats and Special Pathogens

Head: Prof. Dr. Lars Schaade

- ▶ Health threats caused by highly pathogenic and relevant bioterrorist biological agents (microbes and toxins): identification, assessment, support of management
- ▶ Federal Information Centre for Biological Threats and Special Pathogens (IBBS)
- ▶ Cooperation with national and international partners in the field of biological security
- ▶ Diagnostics and rapid diagnostics
- ▶ Providing support during international health emergencies
- ▶ Research in diagnostics, epidemiology, pathogenesis and countermeasures of highly pathogenic agents
- ▶ Planning and operating a biosafety level 4 laboratory (BSL-4)

### Methodology and Research Infrastructure

Head: Prof. Dr. Lothar H. Wieler

- ▶ Bioinformatics: developing new methods for data analysis for high-throughput processes, machine learning
- ▶ Genome sequencing, next generation sequencing, mass spectrometry
- ▶ Provision of the appropriate housing and handling of laboratory animals, refinement and replacement of animals tests

### Global Health and Biosecurity

Head: Dr. Walter Biederbick

- ▶ Promoting global health by technical assistance and collaborative research
- ▶ Carrying out projects on biological security on a bi-national and international level

### Project Groups and Junior Research Groups

- ▶ Immune defense mechanisms
- ▶ Acinetobacter baumannii
- ▶ Emerging zoonoses
- ▶ Epidemiological modelling of infectious diseases
- ▶ Virulence factors in salmonella and campylobacter
- ▶ Microbial genomics (Junior Research Group)
- ▶ Metabolism of microbial pathogens (Junior Research Group)

