



It is with great sadness that we received notification of the passing of our colleague, collaborator, and friend Prof. Ulrich Vogel. MD. He died after a serious illness on October 4, 2022.

Ulrich Vogel had started his career as a microbiologist in Würzburg 1991 as a physician trainee. He moved to Hannover Medical School as a research assistant and returned in 1996 with the appointment of Matthias Frosch from Hannover to Würzburg. He was a world-renowned expert in the molecular biology and epidemiology of *Neisseria meningitidis*. Most recently as its director, he was instrumental in the successful operation of the National Reference Center for Meningococci (and later additionally for *Haemophilus influenzae*). His scientific work covers various aspects of meningococcal research including meningococcal carriage, sequence-based epidemiological analysis of infectious agents, and the role of the complement system in the immune response against meningococcal infections. He also contributed his expertise in molecular biology and epidemiology of meningococci to the evaluation of vaccines.

He played a leading role in the establishment of the European Meningococcal and Haemophilus Disease Society (EMGM) together with Matthias Frosch. He served our society as president from 2011 to 2019. Ulrich Vogel has also held key positions in the German Society for Hygiene and Microbiology, as coordinator of the Working Group for Reference Centers and Consiliary Laboratories and as spokesperson for the specialist groups.

On behalf of the EMGM Society

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