

Bioscetch of Prof. Dr. med. Wolf Alexander Lagrèze

Wolf Lagrèze is an ophthalmologist and neuroscientist. He holds a full professorship for Neuroophthalmology, Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabology at the Eye Center of the University Medical Center of Freiburg. He also heads the Interdisciplinary Center for Orbital Diseases. He is an internationally well-connected clinical researcher specializing in diseases of the visual pathway and oculomotor system as well as childhood eye diseases. Together with his team of physicians and orthoptists, his aim is to be a competent physician for patients with complex and serious diseases at the interface with neurology, endocrinology and pediatrics. Prof. Lagrèze is a renowned university lecturer and speaker who is committed to education and training. He has been particularly active in establishing pediatric ophthalmology as a subspecialty of ophthalmology in Germany. His work in neuroophthalmology is interdisciplinary and he is particularly committed to fostering this discipline within ophthalmology.

Wolf Lagrèze studied medicine at the University of Frankfurt and completed his doctorate at the Max Planck Institute for Brain Research in the Department of Neurophysiology under the supervision of Prof. Wolf Singer. In 1992, he began his specialist training at the University Eye Clinic in Freiburg. In 1995, he completed a Fellowship in Neuroophthalmology at Harvard Medical School in Boston and qualified as a Professor of Ophthalmology in 1999 with a thesis on neuroprotection in the retina. In 2000, he took over from his clinical teacher Prof. Kommerell as head of the Department of Neuroophthalmology and Strabismus, together with the management of the Freiburg School of Orthoptics. In 2008, he founded the Interdisciplinary Centre for Orbital Diseases. Prof. Lagrèze is a broadly qualified ophthalmic surgeon with > 14,000 procedures, half intra- and half extraocularly. His current portfolio includes intraocular surgery for infants and young children as well as patients with eye movement disorders. In the orbit, he performs procedures on complex tumors and inflammatory diseases.

After 20 years of basic research on the neuroprotection of retinal ganglion cells, partly funded by the DFG, he coordinated the interdisciplinary, multicenter clinical TONE study funded by the BMBF with the aim of translating preclinical therapeutic approaches into the clinic. At the same time, he has expanded his profile in recent years with his research on myopia in children. He is currently coordinating the DFG-funded, Germany-wide AIM study to evaluate topical atropine therapy. In surgical ophthalmology, he and his team have published the results of pioneering studies on cataract and glaucoma in children at a high international level. He is the author of 331 publications. His H-index is 39, his cumulative IF is 937 and he has raised > €5 million in third-party funding mainly by DFG and BMBF.

Prof. Lagrèze is chair of the German Society for Strabology, Neuroophthalmology and Pediatric Ophthalmology GSNK, a member of the Scientific Board of German Ophthalmologic Society DOG and a member of its Presidium. Further his is part of the Neuroophthalmoogy commission of the German Neurologic Society DGN. He has received six research awards for his scientific work to date, including the Young Investigator Award from the North American Neuro-Ophthalmology Society and the Innovative Ophthalmology Research Award from the ARVO Foundation.

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