

Curriculum Vitae

Peter K. Plinkert, M.D.

Department of Otorhinolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery
(ORL-HNS)

University of Heidelberg

Professor and Chairman

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Im Neuenheimer Feld 400

Personal Information

Date of birth: November 26, 1956

Education

- 1962 – 1978 German Elementary, Middle- and High School at the Rheingau-Gymnasium in Geisenheim; Diploma from German secondary school qualifying for university admission and matriculation
- Conscription duty in the Medical Corps
 - Apprenticeship training as pharmaceutic-technical assistant
- 1978 – 1985 Medical School at the University of Goettingen
- 1985 State medical examination for human medicine and receipt of “License to Practice Medicine”.
- 1981 - 1985 Doctorial thesis, Department of Chemistry and Neurotoxicology, University of Goettingen

Training and Qualification

- 1985 – 1986 Residency at the Department of General Surgery, Krankenhaus der Borromäerinnen Trier, University Mainz
- 1986 – 1990 Residency at the Department of ORL-HNS, University Wuerzburg (Professor Dr. J. Helms)

Professional Career

- 1988 Consultant surgeon at the Department ORL-HNS, University Tuebingen (Professor Dr. Dr. H. P. Zenner)
- 1989 Post-doctorial fellowship from the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) at the Institute for Neurochemistry and Neurotoxicology, University Stockholm (Prof. Dr. E. Heilbronn, WS1989/90): Innervation of cochlear hair cells
- 1992 Venia Legendi for ORL-HNS, University Tuebingen (Assistant professorship)
- 1992 Additional specialist designation “Plastic Surgery”
- 1993 Additional specialist designation “Allergology”

1994 - 2000	Vice Director at the Department of ORL-HNS, Eberhard-Karls-University Tuebingen
1996	Additional specialist designation "Special ORL-HNS"
1998	Guest Professor at the MD Anderson Cancer Center, University of Texas, Houston
2000	Appointed the position of chairman of the Department of ORL-HNS, University Greifswald (declined)
2000 – 2004	Chairman and Director of the Department of ORL-HNS, Saarland University
2001 – 2004	Member of the Board of Directors of the Cancer Center Saarland
2002 – 2004	Dean (Vice) of the Medical Faculty, Saarland University
Since October 2004	Chairman and Director of the Department of ORL-HNS, University Heidelberg
2005	Member of the Board of Directors of the Department "Kopfklinik", University Heidelberg
2007	Granting of a honorary doctorate (Honoris causa) Universitas Medicinae et Scientiae Pharmaceuticae "Victor Babes" Timisiensis, Timisoara Rumania
2009	Re-elected as member of the Board of Directors of the Department "Kopfklinik", University Heidelberg

Interdisciplinary structures established during the chairmanship at the Department of ORL-HNS at the Saarland University (2000 - 2004)

- Establishing a general screening program for a SNHL in all newborns in the Saarland Area
- Interdisciplinary Center of Skull Base Surgery at the Saarland University (Speaker)
- Rehabilitation Center for Children with Cochlear Implants in Saarland

Awards, Stipendiates

- 1994 Anton von Töltzsch Prize of the German Society for ORL-HNS on merits of scientific studies in inner ear biology.
- 1889 Stipendiate from DFG at the Institute for Neurochemistry and Neurotoxicology, University Stockholm
- 1993 Stipendiate from DAAD for being a Guest lecturer at Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, Bangalore India (Prof. Dr. Ashok Shenoy) and for the implementation of modern reconstructive surgical procedures in head and neck oncology.

Memberships

- German Society for ORL-HNS
- German Society for Base Skull Surgery
- German Society for Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
- Association for Research in Otolaryngology (ARO), USA
- Association for Endoscopy in the German Society for ORL-HNS (member of the board of directors)
- President of the Association for German speaking Audiologists and Neurootologists (ADANO)
- Member of Collegium Oto-Rhino-Laryngologicum Amicitiae Sacrum (CORLAS)

Clinical and Research Fellowships

- Washington University, School of Medicine, Department of Otolaryngology, Prof. Dr. R. Thalmann, St. Louis, Missouri, USA: Experimental studies on endolymphatic hydrops (7-8/ 1988).
- Institute for Neurochemistry and Neurotoxicology, University Stockholm, Sweden, Prof. Dr. E. Heilbronn (DFG-Stipendiate, WS 1989/90): Research project about the efferent innervation of the cochlea.
- Department of ORL-HNS, Kantonsspital Basel, Switzerland, Prof. Dr. R. Probst (WS 1991/92): Suppression experiments in distortion product otoacoustic emissions.

Emphasis: Otology, lateral skull base surgery and functional and reconstructive ORL-HNS.

The following visits were conducted to acquire special surgical techniques.

- Department of ORL-HNS, University Wuerzburg (Prof. Dr. J. Helms): Middle ear and skull base surgery, July 1992
- Department of ORL-HNS, Kantonsspital Zuerich (Prof. Dr. U. Fisch): Techniques in skull base surgery procedures, February 1995
- MD Anderson Cancer Center, University of Texas, Houston, USA (Prof. Dr. H. Goepfert) SS 1998.

Current Scientific Emphases

- **Skull Base Surgery and Robotics (DFG-Project 1124 –Medical Navigation and Robotics):**
 - Multi sensor technology for automated milling in skull base surgery
 - New technical developments in endoscopic surgical techniques among other things vibrotactile sensor, facial neuromonitoring via milling head.
 - Implementation of operative ultrasound in robotics
- **Audiology**
 - Optimised speech processor fitting in cochlear implant patients with the help of subjective scaling of electrical and acoustical stimuli.
 - Examination of the relation between otoacoustic emissions (OAE) parameters and the amount of inner ear hearing loss in consideration to age.
 - Objective determination of hearing threshold from input/output function of transitory evoked otoacoustic emissions (TEOAE).
- **Otology**
 - Examination of treatment options in auditory or vestibular dysfunctions of the inner ear via gene therapy
 - Pilot study of the plasticity in auditory cortex with long-lasting relative deprivation

- **Oncology** (in cooperation with Dr. Simon, Dr. Herold-Mende and Dr. Dyckhoff)
 - Investigation of molecular mechanisms underlying cancer cell invasion and metastasis
 - Anti-tumor vaccination with autologous virus-modified tumor cells and bi-specific antibodies
 - Functional role of angiogenic growth factors and clinical implications
 - Pre-clinical testing of new therapeutical substances in a NOD/SCID-mouse model