

# Press information

## Zoonoses - changing risk potential in a changing world

Zoonoses 2019: International Symposium on Zoonoses Research will be held in Berlin from October 16 to 18, 2019, with a focus on „Neglected Tropical Diseases“

Insel Riems, 9 October 2019. Globalisation and climate change also serve to promote the spread of zoonoses. In our modern world, zoonoses, infectious diseases which can be transmitted between animals and humans, are developing from local to global health risks, as demonstrated impressively by the first confirmed West Nile virus infection in humans in Germany. This increases the need for well-founded international and interdisciplinary research into the control of zoonoses. At the International Symposium on Zoonoses Research in Berlin, more than 350 scientists will get together to exchange information on the latest developments in zoonoses research across disciplines in order to meet the current challenges in this research field.

The occurrence of the Asian tiger mosquito (*Aedes albopictus*) and the Hyalomma tick in our country, as well as the consistent case numbers of tuberculosis and the overwintering of West Nile virus in Germany indicate that the risk potential of zoonotic infectious diseases in Germany is changing. On the global level, Dengue virus serves as an example for the increasing incidence of a zoonotic disease, favoured by population growth, international travel and global warming. The developments show that the importance of so-called „neglected tropical diseases“, including many zoonotic agents, for non-tropical countries is increasing. The localisation of zoonosis research at the interface of human and veterinary medicine as well as numerous other scientific fields makes interdisciplinary cooperation in this area indispensable. For this reason, the German Research Platform for Zoonoses every year organises the International Symposium on Zoonoses Research, which this year again will give experts the opportunity to present their research results and discuss them with an expert audience. At the same time, the symposium is the reporting meeting for the latest research results of networks and junior research groups within the BMBF-funded Research Network for Zoonotic Infectious Diseases. We cordially invite you as representatives of the press to participate in the Zoonoses symposium.

## At a glance: Zoonoses 2019 - International Symposium on Zoonoses Research

Date: 16 - 18 Oktober 2019

Official languages of the conference: English and German

Programme

Conference location: Hotel Steglitz International, Albrechtstraße 2, 12165 Berlin, [www.si-hotel.com](http://www.si-hotel.com)

Contact: German Research Platform for Zoonoses | [info@zoonosen.net](mailto:info@zoonosen.net) | [www.zoonosen.net](http://www.zoonosen.net)

### Highlights and Keynotes

Wednesday, 16 October 2019

15:00 h Opening Remarks: German Research Platform for Zoonoses and the Research Network of Infectious Zoonotic Diseases - Prof. Dr. Martin H. Groschup, Friedrich-Loeffler-Institute; Prof. Dr. Christian Drosten, Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin

Welcome Note of the Federal Government - Dr. Dietrich Rassow, Federal Ministry Bundesministerium of Food and Agriculture

15:30 h Keynote I: A massive West Nile virus epizootic in Germany, 2018/19

Martin H. Groschup, Friedrich-Loeffler-Institute, Greifswald - Isle of Riems, Germany

16:15 h Keynote II: Arboviruses as Neglected Tropical Diseases - Dengue, Zika, Chikungunya

Thomas Jänisch, Institute of Global Health, Heidelberg University Hospital, Germany

Thursday, 17 October 2019

14:30 h Keynote III: Animal tuberculosis: the challenge of controlling a global multi-host infection

Christian Gortázar Schmidt, Institute for Game and Wildlife Research, Universidad de Castilla, Spain

15:15 h Keynote IV: Situation of leishmaniosis in Europe from humans to wildlife



As Federal Research Institute for Animal Health, the Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut (FLI) addresses farm animal health and welfare. The work aims at the prevention, diagnostics and control of animal diseases, the improvement of animal welfare and animal nutrition as well as the preservation and use of farm animal genetic resources.

Laia Solana-Gallego, Department of Animal Medicine and Surgery, Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain

Friday, 18 October 2019

11:30 h Keynote V: Human filarial infections - a group of NTDs with a zoonotic relative of increasing importance

Achim Hörauf, Bonn University Medical Center, Germany

13:15 h Keynote VI: Nipah Virus: An Emerging Zoonosis and Global Health Threat

Jonathan H. Epstein, EcoHealth Alliance, New York, USA

### Contact und accreditation

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### German Research Platform for Zoonoses

The German Research Platform for Zoonoses is an information and service network, funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), for all working groups operating in Germany in the field of zoonoses research. With over ten years of experience and more than 800 members it is an established pillar of the zoonoses research community in Germany. In addition to the BMBF, the Platform is also supported by the Federal Ministry of Health (BMG), the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) and the Federal Ministry of Defence (BMVg). The Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut on the island of Riems close to Greifswald houses one of the three Platform offices.