

Matthias Tschöp

He is the Research Director of the Helmholtz Diabetes Center, the Director of the Institute for Diabetes and Obesity at Helmholtz Zentrum München, and serves as the Chair of Metabolic Diseases at Technische Universität München. He is the first physician to receive the prestigious Alexander-von-Humboldt Professorship. Prof. Tschöp discovered the orexigenic, adipogenic, and metabolic effects of the “hunger hormone” ghrelin as well as its secretory control by nutrients. He also discovered how specific CNS circuits directly “remote control” lipid metabolism of fat tissue and liver to modulate circulating cholesterol, fatty acids and triglycerides. Together with the chemist Richard DiMarchi, Tschöp discovered and functionally characterized a series of novel gut hormone-based single molecule combinatorial therapeutics, which are currently in clinical development for the treatment of diabetes and obesity. Most recently, DiMarchi and Tschöp engineered and validated peptides capable of delivering small molecules to distinct cell populations. Prof. Tschöp has been awarded numerous awards including the 2010 NIH/NIDDK Scholar Award, the 2011 Outstanding Scientific Achievement Award of the American Diabetes Association, the prestigious Paul Martini Prize for clinical pharmacology in 2014 and the Erwin Schrödinger Prize, the highest German Award for interdisciplinary biomedical research (2014). He was elected into the German National Academy of Sciences (Leopoldina) in 2013.