

# 6th International Stroke Conference

## Competence Network Stroke & the Center for Stroke Research Berlin

March 6th – March 7th, 2015 in Berlin

**Dear Friends and Colleagues,**

We invite you to the 6th International Stroke Symposium in Berlin. This event will be taking place on March 6th and 7th 2015, and is being organized by the Competence Network Stroke together with the Center for Stroke Research Berlin.

Many areas in biomedicine are struggling to bridge the gap between preclinical and clinical research. Only a very small fraction of the so called ‚breakthroughs‘ in our pathophysiological understanding actually lead to improvements in the outcome of patients (‚translational roadblock‘). Stroke research appears to be particularly hard hit, with hundreds of promising drug candidates which appear to work in models of the disease, but fail in large clinical trials. In the session *What’s wrong with stroke research?* we will explore underlying causes, and focus on preclinical research (Ulrich Dirnagl), brain imaging as the epitome of translational tools (Arno Villringer), and clinical trials (Kennedy Lees).

Furthermore World leading experts will give an update on much-discussed topics in stroke research. There is considerable hope that biomarkers will facilitate diagnosis and provide prognostic input. In the session *Never ending breakthroughs* Joan Montaner will inform us whether there will be a „troponin-equivalent“ for stroke. Kári Stefánsson, the initiator of the world’s first population-wide genomic biobank, will give insights on the genetic susceptibility to stroke and other common diseases such as myocardial infarction, atrial fibrillation, and type-2 diabetes. Lastly, Sean Savitz will give an update on the never-ending breakthrough of stem-cell therapy in stroke.

While most stroke research focuses on events in the brain, it is important to emphasize that stroke is not a disorder of the brain only, but it involves the entire body. This is evident in the development of stroke, in the acute phase, as well as in the recovery period. In the session *Brain-body interaction in stroke*, talks will address the role of the autonomous



nervous system, body weight, the cardio-vascular system and immunological factors in all phases of stroke. Interestingly, all these factors mutually influence each other, hence, a complex web of pathophysiological interactions awaits to be understood.

In the Academy for Continued Education the main themes of the Symposium will be taken up in discussion with our colleagues in practices and clinics, so that new scientific insights can become useful in everyday practice. We are delighted that the world’s leading stroke experts have responded positively to our invitation. A further highlight is the evening lecture by Christian Büchel from the Department for Systems Neuroscience at the University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf. He investigates the neuronal basis of placebo and nocebo effects.

The entire event has been certified by the Berlin Chamber of Physicians with 16 CME points. The meeting will take place in the historic walls of the Kaiserin Friedrich-Haus on Robert-Koch Platz and thus in immediate vicinity of the Charité. We would like to thank the sponsors who have helped us to make this symposium possible. We hope the days you spend with us in Berlin will be eventful and inspiring.

Arno Villringer, Matthias Endres, Ulrich Dirnagl

Handwritten signatures of the three men mentioned in the text above.

## Venue and Accommodation



### Symposium and Training Academia

Kaiserin Friedrich-Haus  
Robert-Koch-Platz 7  
10115 Berlin



### Dinner and Evening Lecture

**6th of March 2015, 6.30 pm**

Lecture Hall Ruin in the Berlin Museum of  
Medical History  
Campus Charité Mitte  
Charitéplatz 1, 10117 Berlin

University-Campus-Adress

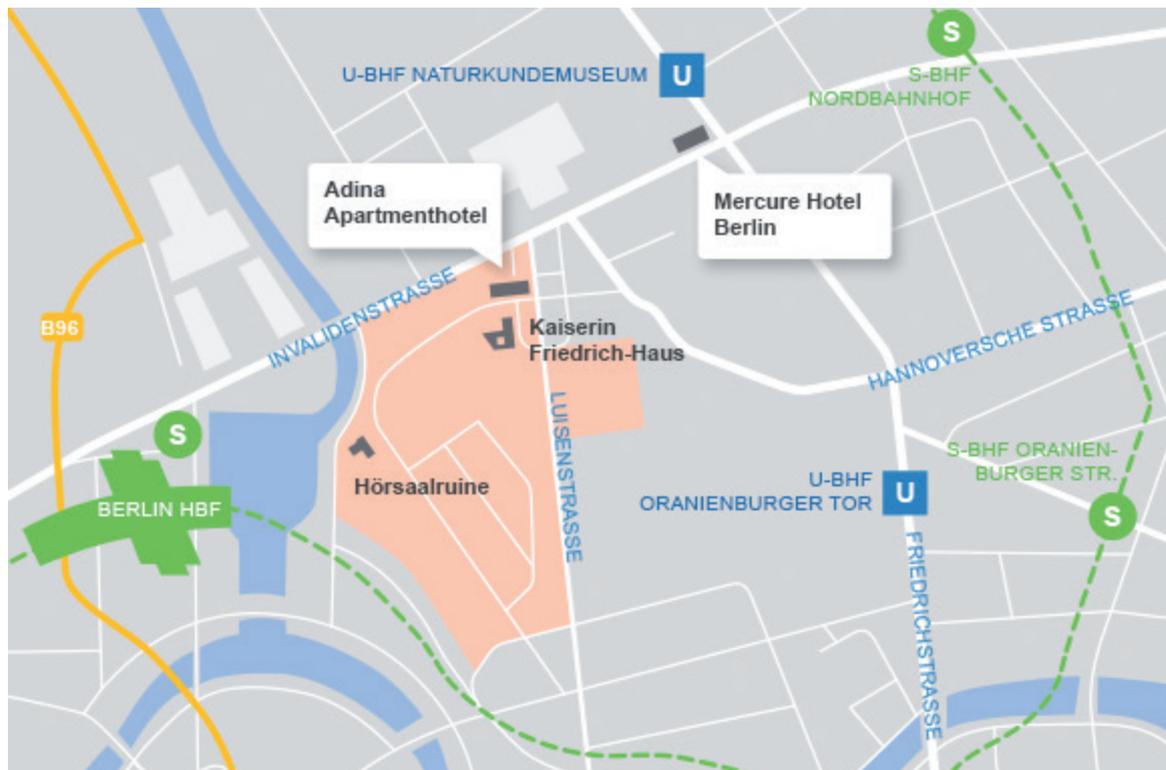
Lecture Hall Ruin: Virchowweg 16

### Evening Lecture

Before admission new drugs must prove that they work better than a placebo. Besides placebos themselves have quite significant, biological effects. Christian Büchel has contributed some exciting findings about the neural underpinning of the placebo effect.

### Lecture Hall Ruin in the Berlin Museum of Medical History

The Rudolf Virchow Lecture hall in Virchow's former Pathological Museum was destroyed by bombing towards the end of the 2nd World War. After the war the building was given a stop gap renovation and was then all but forgotten. Since the mid-1990's the partly restored „Ruine“ with its historic atmosphere and rustic charm has served as a unique venue for festive events, social gatherings and scientific discourse.



### Hotel Accommodation

We reserved a contingent of hotel rooms. To book a room, please contact the hotel directly, the keyword is "Stroke". We recommend booking your hotel in time. Please check the booking time limit. Rates shown are per room; per night and inclusive taxes.

#### Mercure Hotel Berlin an der Charité

Invalidenstrasse 38  
10115 Berlin  
+49 (0)30 30826 0

Single room 79€ / double room 106€, incl. breakfast  
Please book until 15.02.2015

*Please note!*

*On the 5th of march single room is 149€ / double room 168€ incl. breakfast*

### General Information

You can find more information about the program, speakers and organizers at [www.kompetenznetz-schlaganfall.de/symposium2015](http://www.kompetenznetz-schlaganfall.de/symposium2015)

#### For further information please contact

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