

Speaker's Biosketch

ICoLA 2024

Joerg Heeren (University of Hamburg, Germany)

Joerg Heeren (born 1970) studied Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the University of Hamburg and received his PhD in 1998. He has been appointed Heisenberg Professor of Immunometabolism at the University Medical Centre Hamburg-Eppendorf (Germany) in 2015. His research group investigates the mechanisms of the development of obesity-associated chronic inflammatory diseases. As head of national and international collaborative projects in this context, he is particularly interested in the role and regulation of brown adipose tissue in energy metabolism. His group has shown that activated brown and beige adipocytes have profound metabolic effects and can lower blood triglycerides and atherogenic lipoprotein levels. In the context of cardiometabolic disease, his group also demonstrated that activation of BAT favorably affects atherosclerosis, lipoprotein remodeling, and cholesterol metabolism. By using state-of-the-art technologies to visualize and quantify metabolite flux, his group aims to further define the systemic and local mechanisms that control energy metabolism and adipose tissue homeostasis under conditions of adaptive thermogenesis.