

## Curriculum Vitae

Prof. Dr. med. HansJoachim Schäfers

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### Personal Data

Date of birth 09.08.1957  
Place of birth Lünen/Westfalen, Germany  
Citizenship German  
Marital status Married to Sabine Schäfers, 4 children

### Education

1964-76 Primary and Secondary School, Lünen, Germany  
1976 Graduation („Abitur“), Gymnasium Altlünen, Lünen, Germany  
1976-82 Medical School (Universität Essen), Essen, Germany  
1982 Ärztliche Prüfung, Universität Essen, Germany  
1983 Doctoral thesis, Universität Essen, Germany

### Postdoctoral Training

1982-83 Resident, Dept. of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, University Hospital Essen, Essen, Germany  
1984-89 Resident, Surgical Center, Hannover Medical School, Germany  
-88 Fellow, Dept. of Thoracic Surgery, University of Toronto, Toronto,  
1992 Ph. D. thesis („Habilitation“): Experimental and clinical concepts to improve bronchial circulation in lung transplantation

### Academic Appointments

-95 Staff surgeon (Assistant Professor of Surgery, Dept. of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, Hannover Medical School, Germany  
-96 Interim Director, Dept. of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, University Hospitals of Saarland, Homburg/Saar, Germany  
1996-present Director, Dept. of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery University Hospitals of Saarland, Homburg/Saar, Germany  
1996-present Professor of Surgery, University of Saarland

### Other Professional Positions

1983-84 Captain, Army Medical Corps, Dept. of Surgery, Military Hospital Detmold, Germany

### Licensure and Certification

1982 German Physician's license ("Approbation")  
1982 ECFMG (# 333-624-5)  
1983 Visa Qualifying Examination Part I and II  
1987-88 Educational License, Ontario (# 59119)  
1989 General Surgery (Germany)  
1991 Vascular Surgery (Germany)  
1991 Cardiothoracic Surgery (Germany)  
1998 European Board of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgeons  
2007 Temporary License, British Medical Council (# 6144947)

### Administrative Leadership Positions

1997-2003 Chairman, Surgical Center, University Hospitals of Saarland,

2009-2011  
 2000 – present Director & Coordinator for the Final Medical School Year  
 2003 – present Course director, workshop Innovative Heart Valve Repair  
 2006 – present Course director, workshop Aortic Valve Repair

**Academic Committee Assignments**

1998 - present Council of Clinical Medicine, University of Saarland  
 2002 - present Committee for Improvement of Teaching, Faculty of Medicine, University of Saarland  
 2005 – 2010 Research Committee, Faculty of Medicine  
 1998 – 2002 Board of Directors, German Society of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery  
 1999 – 2011 Delegate to Board of Directors, German Society of Thoracic Surgery  
 2000 – 2002 Postgraduate Education Committee, European Association for Cardiothoracic Surgery

**Membership in Academic Societies**

American Association for Thoracic Surgery  
 Society of Thoracic Surgeons  
 European Association for Cardio-Thoracic Surgery  
 American College of Chest Physicians  
 International Society for Heart Transplantation  
 German Society for Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery  
 German Society of Thoracic Surgery  
 German Society for Cardiology  
 German Society for Surgery  
 German Transplant Society

**Awards**

1991 Research Award for Cardiovascular Surgery, University of Giessen, Giessen, Germany  
 1993 Presidential Award of the International College of Chest Physicians (Clinical contributions to lung transplantation)  
 2007 Award for Teaching Excellence, State of Saarland (Seminar “teach the teachers”)

**Editorial Activities**

**Ad hoc Reviewer**

Circulation, Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, Annals of Thoracic Surgery, Chest, European Heart Journal, European Journal of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Clinical Cardiology, Cardiology of the Young, Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgeon

**Editorial Board**

2002 – 2009 Journal of Heart and Lung Transplantation,  
 2006 – present General Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery  
 2006 – 2010 Clinical Cardiology

#### Funded Projects (German Research Council)

Experimental heart-lung transplantation, as part of the research group organ transplantation (Pi 48/11-1, Antrag B 3) 1988-91

Relationship between rejection and infection after lung transplantation as part of a special research group (Teilprojekt des SFB 265, Antrag B 4) 1995-97

Transplantation of allogeneic cardiomyoblasts and intraindividual transplantation of satellite cells (Scha 438/2-1) 1998-2000

#### **(Industry support)**

Early supplemental treatment using immunoglobulins in severe systemic inflammatory response syndrome 1997-1998

Clinical and hemodynamic comparison of conventional and stentless aortic valves  
2005 – 2008

Efficacy and safety of a new, deformable mitral ring  
2008 – ongoing

#### **Current Projects (departmental funding)**

Mesenteric endothelial expression of endothelin receptors and their relationship to mesenteric blood flow control after extracorporeal circulation

Non-occlusive mesenteric ischemia after extracorporeal circulation – definition of clinical and serologic predictors

Definition of geometric parameters of the aortic valve for successful long-term repair

Effect of different repair methods for the aortic valve on stress and strain of the cusps

## Local Teaching and Training

### Teaching of Students in Courses/Lectures

2004 – present	1 <sup>st</sup> year students	biology of the heart and cardiovascular system
2002 – present	1 <sup>st</sup> year students	limitations of medicine with the example of transplantation
2004 – present	2 <sup>nd</sup> year students	anatomy of the heart – clinical perspectives
1995 – present	4 <sup>th</sup> year students	thoracic and cardiovascular surgery
2003 – present	5 <sup>th</sup> year students	course: clinical cardiovascular surgery
2004 – present		infectious diseases: endocarditis, pleural empyema
1995 – present	6 <sup>th</sup> year students	thoracic and cardiovascular surgery as part of the surgical trimester

### Formal Teaching of Residents

#### Residency Training Cardiac Surgery (completed)

1997	Dr. Thomas Graeter
1998	Dr. Ali Khalifeh
2000	Dr. Jutta Kazda
2001	Dr. Henning Lausberg
2002	Dr. Nikolaos Nikoloudakis
2003	Dr. Peter Krieg
2004	Dr. Dietmar Tscholl
2005	Dr. Frank Langer
2006	Dr. Hassan Ammar
2007	Dr. Diana Aicher
2009	Dr. Petra Glombitza
2010	Dr. Omar Abou Issa
2011	Dr. El Beyrouti

#### Residency Training Thoracic Surgery (completed)

1998	Dr. Stefanos Demertzis
1999	Dr. Ibrahim Mahmoud
2000	Dr. Thomas Graeter
2003	Dr. Olaf Wendler
2005	Dr. Peter Krieg
2007	Dr. Henning Lausberg
2009	Dr. Dietmar Tscholl

#### Ph.D. Tutorship (Habilitation)

1998	Dr. Stefanos Demertzis*
2000	Dr. Olaf Wendler*
2003	Dr. Hanno Huwer
2006	Dr. Thomas Graeter*
2008	Dr. Frank Langer
2008	Dr. Rene Schramm
2010	Dr. Diana Aicher

\*Dr. Demertzis obtained a leadership position in thoracic surgery in Lugano, Switzerland.  
Dr. Wendler received an invitation as consultant from King's College, London, UK  
Dr. Graeter obtained the chair of thoracic surgery in Löwenstein, Germany

### Formal Teaching of Peers

Continuous activity locally, regionally, nationally, internationally,

currently > 15 lectures/year (in total >200 lectures in addition to “invited presentations”)

2005 – 2008 Faculty in Birmingham Review Course (Birmingham, UK)

Constant teaching activities in Homburg/Saar

2003 – present Annual workshop on innovative heart valve repair  
(sponsor St. Jude Medical)

2006 – present International workshop Aortic Valve Repair  
(sponsor Edwards Lifesciences)

Both workshops for participants from America, Australia, Asia, Africa, and Europe

2006 – present Participation in workshop “Teach the Teachers” for improvement of  
teaching skills of own faculty

## **Clinical Activities and Innovations**

### **Practice Activities**

1995 – present cardiothoracic surgery at University Hospital Homburg/Saar

2004 – present visiting professor and surgeon, Tel Hashomer, Tel Aviv University

### **Clinical Innovations**

Surgical treatment of airway complications after lung transplantation (original article # 59). Airway complications had been treated exclusively by stenting with very mixed mid-term results. Bronchoplastic resection could achieve stable long-term results.

Combined cusp repair and valve sparing aortic replacement (original article #129). Valve-sparing surgery was reserved for patients without concomitant cusp deformation. The analysis showed that repair of cusp prolapse is easy and reproducible with a central plicating suture. Mid-term results show excellent stability. The combined approach markedly enlarges the applicability of valve-sparing surgery.

Development of a reproducible technique of valve-preserving aortic replacement for individuals with a bicuspid aortic valve (original article #116, 164). Before patients with a bicuspid valve were commonly treated by valve replacement. The new approach resulted in excellent mid and long-term durability.

Development of a new approach to ischemic mitral regurgitation (original article # 187, current mid-term results are in press in Circulation). With this technique the specific anatomic and functional abnormalities of ischemic mitral regurgitation can be completely corrected. Mid-term results show excellent stability and improved survival.

Development of a consistent repair approach to the unicuspid aortic valve (original article # 199). This approach is based on the experience with repair of bicuspid valves and allows for reproducible repair of the aortic valve, in particular in children and adolescents, in whom this valve anomaly is frequent.

### **Publications (original articles, international journals)**

(not included are 47 original articles in German peer-reviewed journals)

1. Oelert H, **Schäfers HJ**, Stegmann T, Kallfelz HC, Borst HG. Complete correction of total anomalous pulmonary venous drainage: Experience with 53 patients. *Ann Thorac Surg* 1986; 41:392-4
2. Wahlers T, Haverich A, Fieguth HG, **Schäfers HJ**, Borst HG. Flush perfusion using Euro-Collins solution versus cooling via extracorporeal circulation in heart lung transplantation. *J Heart Transplant* 1986; 5:89-98
3. Wahlers T, Haverich A, **Schäfers HJ**, Frimpong-Boateng K, Fieguth HG, Herrmann G, Arvanitidou V, Borst HG. Changes of the intramyocardial electrogram after orthotopic heart transplantation. *J Heart Transplant* 1986; 5:450-4
4. Haverich A, Kemnitz J, Fieguth HG, Wahlers T, **Schäfers HJ**, Herrmann G, Schröder H-J, Wonigeit J, Maisch B, Gratz KF, Borst HG. Non-invasive parameters for detection of cardiac allograft rejection. *Clin Transplant* 1987; 1:151-8
5. **Schäfers HJ**, Dammenhayn L, Wahlers T, Fieguth HG, Haverich A. Heterotopic heart-unilateral left lung transplantation in dogs. *Ann Thorac Surg* 1987; 44:145-9
6. **Schäfers HJ**, Cremer J, Wahlers T, Holle W, Fieguth HG, Herrmann G, Haverich A. *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia following heart transplantation. *Eur J Cardiothorac Surg* 1987;1:49-52
7. Steinhoff G, Wonigeit K, Haverich A, **Schäfers HJ**, Kemnitz J, Borst HG. Class I MHC-antigen induction on myocytes in acute rejection after orthotopic heart transplantation: reversibility by steroid treatment. *Eur Heart J* 1987; 8 (Suppl. J):25-28
8. Haverich A, **Schäfers HJ**, Wahlers T, Hetzer R, Borst HG. The place of heart transplantation: The German experience. *Eur Heart J* 1987; 8 (Suppl.):36-7
9. Maisch B, Hufnagel G, Bauer E, Haverich A, **Schäfers HJ**, Kemnitz J, Borst HG. Value of immunohistological and immunoserological monitoring in cardiac transplantation. *Eur Heart J* 1987; (Suppl. J) 8:29-34.
10. Kemnitz J, Cohnert T, **Schäfers HJ**, Helmke M, Wahlers T, Herrmann G, Schmidt RM, Haverich A. A classification of cardiac allograft rejection. *Am J Surg Pathol* 1987; 11:503-5
11. Frimpong-Boateng K, Haverich A, Schäfers HJ, Fieguth HG, Herrmann G, Borst HG. Results of orthotopic heart transplantation for ischemic cardiomyopathy. *Eur J Cardiothorac Surg* 1987; 1:98-103
12. Jurmann M, **Schäfers HJ**, Dammenhayn L, Haverich A. Oxygen-derived free radical scavengers for amelioration of reperfusion damage in heart transplantation. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 1988; 95:368-77
13. **Schäfers HJ**, Milbradt H, Flik J, Wahlers T, Fieguth HG, Haverich A. Hyperimmunoglobulin for cytomegalovirus prophylaxis following heart transplantation. *Clin Transplant* 1988; 2:51-6
14. Wahlers T, Cremer J, Fieguth HG, Jurmann M, Herrmann G, **Schäfers HJ**, Haverich A, Kemnitz J, Borst HG. Short-term boost of oral steroids for treatment of acute rejection following cardiac transplantation. *Bibl Cardiol* 1988; 43:19-22
15. Hausen B, Fieguth HG, **Schäfers HJ**, Winter A, Spring E, Haverich A. Distant heart procurement: Impacts of storage solution composition on cardiac performance following transplantation. *Transplant Int* 1988; 1:140-5
16. Fieguth, HG, Haverich A, **Schäfers HJ**, Wahlers T, Herrmann G, Frimpong-Boateng G, Cremer J, Borst HG. Cytoimmunological monitoring in early and late acute cardiac rejection. *J Heart Transplant* 1988; 7:95-101

17. Wahlers T, Beer C, Fieguth HG, Cremer J, Jurmann M, **Schäfers HJ**, Herrmann G, Frimpong-Boateng K, Haverich A, Borst HG. Right heart failure following orthotopic cardiac transplantation. *Clin Transplant* 1988; 2:252-6
18. Haverich A, Frimpong-Boateng K, Wahlers T, **Schäfers HJ**. Pericardial flap-plasty for protection of the tracheal anastomosis in heart lung transplantation. *J Cardiac Surg* 1989; 4:136-9
19. Hsieh CM, Wang LS, **Schäfers HJ**, Miyoshi S, Cardoso PFG, Logan A, Mishkel G, Rakowski H, Cooper JD. Recovery of elevated atrial natriuretic peptide in pressure-overload right ventricular failure. *J Surg Res* 1989; 47:304-8
20. Wang LS, Yoshikawa K, Miyoshi S, Nakamoto K, Hsieh CM, Yamazaki F, Cardoso PFG, **Schäfers HJ**, Brito J, Keshavjee SH, Patterson GA, Cooper JD. The effect of ischemic time and temperature on lung preservation in a simple ex vivo rabbit model used for functional assessment. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 1989; 98:333-42
21. Steinhoff G, Wonigeit K, **Schäfers HJ**, Haverich A. Sequential analysis of monomorphic and polymorphic major histocompatibility complex antigen expression in human heart allograft biopsy specimen. *J Heart Transplant* 1989; 8:360-70
22. Herrmann G, Simon R, Haverich A, Cremer J, Dammenhayn L, **Schäfers HJ**, Wahlers T, Borst HG. Left ventricular function, tricuspid incompetence and incidence of coronary artery disease late after orthotopic heart transplantation. *Eur J Cardiothorac Surg* 1989; 3:111-8
23. **Schäfers HJ**, Waxman MB, Patterson GA, Frost AE, Maurer J, Cooper JD. Cardiac innervation following double lung transplantation. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 1990; 99:22-9
24. Miyoshi S, Trulock EP, **Schäfers HJ**, Hsieh CM, Patterson GA, Cooper JD. Cardiopulmonary exercise testing after single and double lung transplantation. *Chest* 1990; 97:1130-6
25. Haverich A, Wahlers T, **Schäfers HJ**, Ziemer G, Cremer J, Fieguth HG, Borst HG. Distant organ procurement in clinical lung and heart lung transplantation. *Eur J Cardiothorac Surg* 1990; 4:245-9
26. Miyoshi S, **Schäfers HJ**, Trulock EP, Yamazaki F, Schreinemakers H, Patterson GA, Cooper JD. Donor selection for single and double lung transplantation. Chest size matching and other factors influencing posttransplantation vital capacity. *Chest* 1990; 98:308-13
27. Yagyu K, Steinhoff G, **Schäfers HJ**, Dammenhayn L, Haverich A, Borst HG. Comparison of mononuclear cell subpopulations in bronchoalveolar lavage fluid in acute rejection after lung transplantation and mycoplasma infection in rats. *J Heart Transplant* 1990; 9:516-22
28. Jurmann MJ, Dammenhayn L, **Schäfers HJ**, Haverich A. Pulmonary reperfusion injury: evidence for oxygen-derived free radical mediated damage and effects of different free radical scavengers. *Eur J Cardiothorac Surg* 1990 ; 4:665-70
29. Haverich A, Dammenhayn L, Albes J, Ziemer G, Schmid C, Wahlers T, **Schäfers HJ**, Wagenbreth I, Borst HG. Heart transplantation: Intraoperative management, postoperative therapy and complications. *Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 1990; 38:280-4
30. Wahlers T, Heublein B, Cremer J, Fieguth HG, Albes J, **Schäfers HJ**, Haverich A, . Borst HG. Treatment of rejection after heart transplantation: What dosage of pulsed steroids is necessary? *J Heart Transplant* 1990; 9:568-74
31. Wahlers T, Cremer J, Fieguth HG, Dammenhayn L, Albes J, **Schäfers HJ**, Haverich A, Borst HG. Donor heart-related variables and early mortality after heart transplantation. *J Heart Lung Transplant* 1991; 10:22-7
32. Jurmann M, Haverich A, Demertzis S, **Schäfers HJ**, Wagner TOF, Borst HG. Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation as a bridge to lung transplantation. *Eur J Cardiothorac Surg* 1991; 5:94-8

33. Haverich A., Albes JM, Fahrenkamp G, **Schäfers HJ**, Wahlers T, Heublein B. Intraoperative echocardiography to detect and prevent tricuspid valve regurgitation after heart transplantation. *Eur J Cardiothorac Surg* 1991; 5:41-5
34. Cardoso PFG, Yamazaki F, Keshavjee S, **Schäfers HJ**, Hsieh CM, Wang LS, Glynn MFX, Patterson GA, Cooper JD. A reevaluation of heparin requirements for cardiopulmonary bypass. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 1991; 101:153-60
35. Kemnitz J, Cremer J, **Schäfers HJ**, Restrepo-Specht I, Haverich A, Uysal A, Heublein B, Wirth S. Some aspects of changed histopathologic appearance of acute rejection in cardiac allografts after prophylactic application of OKT 3. *J Heart Lung Transplant* 1991; 10:366-72
36. **Schäfers HJ**, Haydock DA, Cooper JD. The prevalence and management of bronchial anastomotic complications in lung transplantation. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 1991; 101:1044-52
37. Aoki M, **Schäfers HJ**, Inui K, Klipsch N, Demertzis S, Kotzerke J, Haverich A, Wada H. Bronchial circulation after experimental lung transplantation - The effect of direct revascularization of a bronchial artery. *Eur J Cardiothorac Surg* 1991; 5:5615
38. Laas J, Heinemann M, **Schäfers HJ**, Daniel W, Borst HG. Management of thoracoabdominal malperfusion in aortic dissection. *Circulation* 1991; 84 (Suppl. III):20 - 24
39. Jurmann M, Haverich A, Demertzis S, **Schäfers HJ**, Zahner H, Endrigkeit K, Wahlers T, Cremer J, Borst HG. Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO): extended indications for artificial support of heart and lungs. *Int J Artif Org* 1991; 14:7714
40. Wahlers T, **Schäfers HJ**, Cremer J, Jurmann M, Hirt SW, Fieguth HG, Haverich A. Organ preservation for heartlung and lung transplantation. *Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 1991; 39:3448
41. **Schäfers HJ**, Haverich A, Wagner TOF, Wahlers T, Alken A, Borst HG. Decreased incidence of bronchial complications following lung transplantation. *Eur J Cardiothorac Surg* 1992; 6:1749
42. Jurmann M, Demertzis S, **Schäfers HJ**, Wahlers T, Haverich A. Intravascular oxygenation for advanced respiratory failure. *ASAIO Journal* 1992; 38:1204
43. Höper M, Hamm M, **Schäfers HJ**, Haverich A, Wagner TOF. Evaluation of lung function during pulmonary rejection and infection in heartlung transplant patients. *Chest* 1992; 102:86470
44. Hirt S W, Haverich A, Wahlers T, **Schäfers HJ**, Alken A, Borst HG. Predictive criteria for the need of extracorporeal circulation in singlelung transplantation. *Ann Thorac Surg* 1992; 54:67680
45. Hausmann D, Daniel W, Mügge A, Heublein B, Hamm M, **Schäfers HJ**, Haverich A. Imaging of pulmonary artery and vein anastomoses by transesophageal echocardiography after lung transplantation. *Circulation* 1992; 86 II:251 – 258
46. **Schäfers HJ**, Wagner TF, Demertzis S, Hamm M, Wahlers T, Cremer J, Haverich A. Preoperative corticosteroids A contraindication to lung transplantation? *Chest* 1992; 102:15221525
47. Hausen B, **Schäfers HJ**, Rohde R, Haverich A. Clinical evaluation of transtracheal doppler for continuous cardiac output measurement. *Anesth Analg* 1992; 74:8004
48. Demertzis S, Wahlers T, **Schäfers HJ**, Wippermann J, Jurmann M, Cremer J, Haverich A. Myocardial preservation with the UW solution. First European results in clinical heart transplantation. *Transpl Int* 1992; 5:343-5
49. Inui K, **Schäfers HJ**, Aoki M, Wada H, Becker V, Ongsiek B, Haverich A. Effect of methylprednisolone and prostacyclin on bronchial perfusion in lung transplantation *Ann Thorac Surg* 1993; 55:4649
50. Inui K, **Schäfers HJ**, Aoki M, Becker V, Ongsiek B, Kemnitz J, Haverich A, Borst HG. Bronchial circulation after experimental lung transplantation. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 1993;



105:4749

51. Schmid C, Wahlers T, **Schäfers HJ**, Haverich A. Supraventricular bradycardia after heart transplantation. Orciprenaline or pacemaker implantation? *Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 1993; 41:1013
52. Hausen B, Demertzis S, **Schäfers HJ**, Wahlers T, Wagenbreth I, Haverich A. The impact of early postoperative cyclosporine serum levels on the incidence of cardiac allograft rejection. *Eur J Cardiothorac Surg* 1993; 7:25762
53. Demertzis S, Wippermann J, Schaper J, Wahlers T, **Schäfers HJ**, Wagenbreth I, Hausen B, Haverich A. University of Wisconsin versus St. Thomas' Hospital solution for human donor heart preservation. *Ann Thorac Surg* 1993; 55:11317
54. Wahlers T, Haverich A, **Schäfers HJ**, Hirt S, Fieguth HG, Jurmann M, Zink C, Borst HG. Chronic rejection following lung transplantation. *Eur J Cardiothorac Surg* 1993; 7:31924
55. Jurmann MJ, **Schäfers HJ**, Demertzis S, Haverich A, Wahlers T, Borst HG. Emergency lung transplantation after extracorporeal membrane oxygenation. *ASAIO Journal* 1993; 39:44852
56. Haverich A, Hirt SW, Wahlers T, **Schäfers HJ**, Zink C, Borst HG. Functional results after lung retransplantation. *J Heart Lung Transplant* 1994; 13: 48–54
57. Albes J, Klenzner T, Kotzerke J, Thiedemann KU, **Schäfers HJ**, Borst HG. Improvement of tracheal autograft revascularization by means of fibroblast growth factor. *Ann Thorac Surg* 1994; 57:4449
58. Novick R J, Andréassian B, **Schäfers HJ**, Haverich A, Patterson GA, Kaye MP, Menkis AH, McKenzie FN. Pulmonary retransplantation for obliterative bronchiolitis. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 1994; 107:755763
59. **Schäfers HJ**, Schäfer CM, Zink C, Haverich A, Borst HG. Surgical treatment of airway complications after lung transplantation. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 1994; 107:147680
60. Jurmann M, **Schäfers HJ**, Haverich A, Demertzis S, Wahlers T, Borst HG. Mechanical circulatory support after heart transplantation: prognosis of right versus biventricular failure. *Thorac Org Transplant* 1994; 1:12330
61. Hausen B, Demertzis S, Rohde R, Albes J, **Schäfers HJ**, Borst HG. Lowdose cyclosporine therapy in tripledrug immunosuppression for heart transplant recipients. *Ann Thorac Surg* 1994; 58:9991004
62. Richter N, Raddatz G, Steinhoff G, **Schäfers HJ**, Schlitt HJ. Transmission of donor lymphocytes in clinical lung transplantation. *Transpl Int* 1994; 7:4149
63. Heinemann M, Bühner B, **Schäfers HJ**, Jurmann MJ, Laas J, Borst HG. Malperfusion of the thoracoabdominal vasculature in aortic dissection. *J Card Surg* 1994; 9:7487
64. Hausen B, Dwenger A, Gohrbandt B, Niedermeyer J, Zink C, Demertzis S, **Schäfers HJ**. Early biochemical indicators of the obliterative bronchiolitis syndrome in lung transplantation. *J Heart Lung Transplant* 1994; 13:9809
65. Hamm M, Wagner TOF, Demertzis S, **Schäfers HJ**, Fabel H. Noninvasive ventilation before lung transplantation. *Med Klin* 1995; 90: 23-5
66. Richter N, Raddatz G, Graeter T, **Schäfers HJ**, Schlitt HJ. Allogeneic lymphocyte chimerism after clinical lung transplantation. *Transpl Immunol* 1995; 3: 74-80
67. Stief CG, **Schäfers HJ**, Kuczyk M, Anton P, Pethig K, Truss MC, Jonas U. Renal-cell carcinoma with intracaval neoplastic extension: stratification and surgical technique. *World J Urol* 1995; 13: 166-70

68. Hausen B, Albes J, Rohde R, Demertzis S, Mügge A, **Schäfers HJ**. Tricuspid valve regurgitation attributable to endomyocardial biopsies and rejection in heart transplantation. *Ann Thorac Surg* 1995; 59: 1134-40
69. **Schäfers HJ**, Hausen B, Wahlers T, Fieguth HG, Jurmann M, Borst HG. Retransplantation of the lung: single center experience. *Eur J Cardiothorac Surg* 1995; 9: 291-6
70. Novick RJ, **Schäfers HJ**, Stitt L, Andréassian B, Klepetko W, Hardesty RL, Frost A, Patterson GA. Seventy-two pulmonary retransplantations for obliterative bronchiolitis: predictors of survival. *Ann Thorac Surg* 1995; 60: 111-6
71. Fukuse T, Albes J, Takahashi Y, Brandes H, Hausen B, **Schäfers HJ**. Influence of red blood cells on lung function in an ex vivo rat heart-lung model. *J Surg Res* 1995; 59: 399-404
72. Hausen B, Demertzis S, Schröder F, Beuke M, **Schäfers HJ**. Double-lung transplantation in the rat: an acute, syngeneic in situ model. *Ann Thorac Surg* 1996; 61:184-9
73. Stief CG, Jähne J, Cremer J, Rosenthal H, **Schäfers HJ**, Jonas U. Locally advanced renal cell carcinoma: surgical management and results. *Eur Urol Update* 1996; 5: 158-63
74. Hausen B, Rohde R, Demertzis S, Albes J, Wahlers T, **Schäfers HJ**. Strategies for routine biopsies in heart transplantation based on 8-year results with more than 13,000 biopsies. *Eur J Cardiothorac Surg* 1995; 9: 592-8
75. Novick RJ, **Schäfers HJ**, Stitt L, Andréassian B, Duchatelle JP, Klepetko W, Hardesty RL, Frost A, Patterson GA. Cardiac and pulmonary replacement. Recurrence of obliterative bronchiolitis and determinants of outcome in 139 pulmonary retransplant recipients. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 1995; 110: 1402-14
76. Wahlers T, Fieguth HG, Jurmann M, Albes J, Hausen B, Demertzis S, **Schäfers HJ**, Oppelt P, Mügge A, Borst HG. Graft coronary vasculopathy in cardiac transplantation – evaluation of risk factors by multivariate analysis. *Eur J Cardiothorac Surg* 1996; 10: 1-5
77. Pethig K, **Schäfers HJ**, Borst HG. Functional results after aortic valve repair in aortic root ectasia. *J Heart Valve Dis* 1996; 5: 247-50
78. Hausen B, Demertzis S, Rohde R, Gohrband B, Wahlers T, Pethig K, **Schäfers HJ**. Treatment of recurrent rejection in heart transplantation: cytolytic therapy or bolus steroids? *Eur J Cardiothorac Surg* 1996; 10: 905-11
79. Hohlfeld J, Niedermeyer J, Hamm H, **Schäfers HJ**, Wagner TOF, Fabel H. Seasonal onset of bronchiolitis obliterans syndrome in lung transplant recipients. *J Heart Lung Transplant* 1996; 15: 888-94
80. Mügge A, Kurucay S, Böger RH, **Schäfers HJ**, Wahlers T, Frölich JC, Lichtlen PR. Urinary nitrate excretion is increased in cardiac transplanted patients with acute graft rejection. *Clin Transplant* 1996; 10:298-305
81. Achtelik M, Pethig K, **Schäfers HJ**, Borst HG. Stentless aortic valve replacement with the biocor prosthesis: indications and outcome. *J Heart Valve Dis* 1996; 5: 314-6
82. Novick RJ, Stitt L, **Schäfers HJ**, Andréassian B, Duchatelle JP, Klepetko W, Hardesty RL, Frost A, Patterson GA. Pulmonary retransplantation: does the indication for operation influence postoperative lung function? *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 1996; 112: 1504-14
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(Pulmonary Hypertension)  
Blackwell Wissenschafts-Verlag Berlin – Wien, 2000
2. **H.-J. Schäfers, Rossaint K** (editor and author)  
(Essentials of Cardiothoracic Surgery)  
Abw Verlag Berlin-Wien, 2002

## Invited Lectures (national/international meetings, universities)

1. **Schäfers HJ.** (Heart transplantation – indications and results). Congress, German Society for Blood Transfusion and Immunology, Hannover, 24.-27.09.1986
2. **Schäfers HJ.** Heart transplantation at a European center: Pre- and postoperative radiology. Annual Meeting, Danish Radiology Society, Odense, 15.-16.01.1987
3. **Schäfers HJ.** (Lung and heart-lung transplantation for cystic fibrosis). Congress of the German Society for Cystic Fibrosis, Titisee, 21.-22.10.1988
4. **Schäfers HJ.** Heart transplantation in the elderly. Annual Meeting, European Society for Heart Transplantation, Wengen, 27.01.1989
5. **Schäfers HJ.** Lung transplantation - Indications and results. Lung Transplant Symposium, Kyoto, 09.12.1990
6. **Schäfers HJ.** Bronchial circulation after lung transplantation. 4<sup>th</sup> Symposium on Cardiac Surgery, Gießen, 31.05.-02.06.1991
7. **Schäfers HJ.** Management of the multi-organ donor. Internat. Lung Transplant Seminar, Zürich, 27.-28.06.1991
8. **Schäfers HJ.** Management of airway complications. Internat. Lung Transplant Seminar, Zürich, 27.-28.06.1991

9. **Schäfers HJ.** (Ischemia of airways). Congress of the Austrian, Swiss, and German Societies for Angiology, Essen, 08.-11.09.1991
10. **Schäfers HJ.** (Intensive care management prior to lung transplantation). Congress of the German and Austrian Societies for Internal Medical Intensive Care, Hannover, 24.-26.10.1991
11. **Schäfers HJ.** Is there a standard surgical technique in lung transplantation? Annual Congress, European Respiratory Society, Wien, 29.08.-03.09.1992
12. **Schäfers HJ.** Technical aspects of lung transplantation. European Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation, Wengen, 27.-29.01.1993
13. **Schäfers HJ.** CMV in lung transplantation. International Lung Transplant Seminar, Zürich, 23.-25.06.1993
14. **Schäfers HJ.** Influence of ischemia and reperfusion injury on obliterative bronchiolitis in lung transplantation. Alexis Carrel Conference, München, 22.-24.06.1994
15. **Schäfers HJ.** Methods to assess bronchial blood flow. International Lung Transplant Congress, Paris, 08.-09.09.1994
16. **Schäfers HJ.** (Lung transplantation for emphysema). Congress of the Austrian Society for Respiratory Medicine, Gmunden, 29.04.-01.05.1995
17. **Schäfers HJ.** (Surgical treatment of pulmonary hypertension). Congress of the German Society of Cardiology, Dresden, 03.02.1996
18. **Schäfers HJ.** Management of Bronchial Complications in Lung Transplantation. International Lung Transplant Congress, Berlin, 17.02.1996
19. **Schäfers HJ.** Controversial Issues in Lung Transplantation. Annual Meeting, American Thoracic Society, New Orleans, 09.-12.05.1996
20. **Schäfers HJ.** (Surgical therapy of acute and chronic pulmonary embolism). Congress, German Society for Respiratory Medicine, Freiburg, 04.-07.03.1997
21. **Schäfers HJ.** Replacement of the Descending Aorta. International Congress on Surgery of the Thorax, Athen, 01.-05.07.1997
22. **Schäfers HJ.** Lung transplantation: Status and pitfalls. International Congress on Surgery of the Thorax, Athen; 01.-05.07.1997
23. **Schäfers HJ.** Airway complications in lung transplantation. Congress of the World Society of Cardiothoracic Surgeons, Düsseldorf, 02.-03.09.1997
24. **Schäfers HJ.** Techniques and Tactics in Aortic Surgery. 50<sup>th</sup> Congress, Japanese Association of Thoracic Surgery, Tokyo, 01.-04.10.1997
25. **Schäfers HJ.** (Fixed pulmonary hypertension: when is lung or heart-lung transplantation necessary?). International Symposium Heart Failure and Transplantation, Bern, 05.-06.12.1997
26. **Schäfers HJ.** (Surgical aspects of lung volume reduction). Congress, German Society for Respiratory Medicine, Leipzig, 11.-14.03.1998
27. **Schäfers HJ.** (Pulmonary endarterectomy for chronic pulmonary embolism) Congress, German Society for Respiratory Medicine, Leipzig, 11.-14.03.98
28. **Schäfers HJ.** Staged aortic replacement in mega-aortic syndrome. Aortic Symposium, New York, 29.04.-01.05.1998



29. **Schäfers HJ.** Valve preserving surgery of the proximal aorta. Annual Congress, International Society for Cardiovascular Surgery, Awaji, 23.-25.9.1998
30. **Schäfers HJ.** (Biologic heart valve replacement – change of indications). Congress, German Society for Cardiology, Leipzig, 22.10.-24.10.1998
31. **Schäfers HJ.** Surgery of the thoracic aorta. Congress of the Belgian Society for Cardiothoracic Surgery, Brussels, 07.11.1998
32. **Schäfers HJ.** The management of acute aortic dissection. Congress, Italian Society for Vascular Surgery, Milano, 08.-14.11.1998
33. **Schäfers HJ.** The prognosis of aneurysm and dissection with medical and surgical treatment. Symposium Aortic Diseases, Hamburg, 17.09.99
34. **Schäfers HJ.** Valve preserving aortic root replacement. The 7<sup>th</sup> Keio University International Symposium for Life Sciences and Medicine, Tokio, 01.-03.12.1999
35. **Schäfers HJ.** Surgery of the aortic arch involving the descending aorta. The 7<sup>th</sup> Keio University International Symposium for Life Sciences and Medicine, Tokio, 01.-03.12.1999
36. **Schäfers HJ.** Reconstruction of a bicuspid aortic valve and remodeling of the aortic root. Aortic Surgery Symposium VII, New York, 27.-28.04.2000
37. **Schäfers HJ.** (The patient with multimorbidity – special aspects of lung cancer). Congress, German Society for Surgery, Berlin, 02.-06.05.2000
38. **Schäfers HJ.** (Surgical treatment of acute and chronic pulmonary embolism). chirurgische Therapie der akuten und chronischen Lungenembolie. Congress of the German and Austrian Societies for Internal Medical Intensive Care, Gießen, 21.-24.06.2000
39. **Schäfers HJ.** Pulmonary thromboendarterectomy, International Workshop Pulmonary Hypertension, Budapest, 06.10.2000
40. **Schäfers HJ.** Pulmonary thromboendarterectomy, Update in Thrombolysis 2000, Wien, 12.-14.10.2000
41. **Schäfers HJ.** Reconstructive surgery of the aortic valve. International Aortic Valve Symposium, Malaga, 31.03.2001
42. **Schäfers HJ.** (Surgical treatment of mediastinitis). Congress, German Society for Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, Leipzig, 17.-20.02.2002
43. **Schäfers HJ.** (What are the consequences of the new transplantation law?). Congress, German Society for Respiratory Medicine, Bochum, 13.-16.05.2002
44. **Schäfers HJ.** (Treatment of acute and chronic pulmonary embolism). Congress, German Society for Respiratory Medicine, Bochum, 13.-16.05.2002
45. **Schäfers HJ.** (Revision for failure of coronary artery bypass – the surgical view). Congress, German Society for Cardiology, Mannheim, 04.-06.04.2002
46. **Schäfers HJ.** Recent progress in lung transplantation. 102<sup>nd</sup> Annual Congress of Japan Surgical Society, Kyoto, 11.-13.04.2002
47. **Schäfers HJ.** Future challenges in lung transplantation. 102<sup>nd</sup> Annual Congress of Japan Surgical Society, Kyoto, 11.-13.04.2002
48. **Schäfers HJ.** Training in thoracic and cardiac surgery – combined or separate? 102<sup>nd</sup> Annual Congress of Japan Surgical Society, Kyoto, 11.-13.04.2002

49. **Schäfers HJ.** Correction of leaflet prolapse in valve-preserving aortic replacement – an improvement or pushing the limits? Aortic Surgery Symposium VIII, New York, 02.-03.05.2002
50. **Schäfers HJ.** Surgical treatment of pulmonary hypertension. Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard University, 13.9.2002
51. **Schäfers HJ.** (Surgical options in right heart failure). Interdisciplinary Congress for Intensive Care Medicine, Hamburg 13.-16.11.02
52. **Schäfers HJ.** (Right heart failure after pulmonary resections). Interdisciplinary Congress for Intensive Care Medicine, Hamburg 13.-16.11.02
53. **Schäfers HJ.** Valve preservation in aortic surgery. Stanford University, 2.2.2003
54. **Schäfers HJ.** (Cardiac surgery in the current tensions of academic medicine). Congress, German Society of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, Leipzig, 19.-22.02.2003
55. **Schäfers HJ.** (Surgical treatment of thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension). Congress, German Society for Respiratory Medicine, München, 26.-29.3.2003
56. **Schäfers HJ.** The role of mitral repair in acute endocarditis. International Mitral Surgery Symposium, Milano, 6.-7.4.2003
57. **Schäfers HJ.** (Surgical treatment of thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension). Congress, German Society for Anesthesiology, München, 9.-12.4.2003
58. **Schäfers HJ.** Valve preserving aortic surgery. 33<sup>rd</sup> Meeting, Jap. Society for Cardiovascular Surgery, Sapporo, 14.-16.5.2003
59. **Schäfers HJ.** Surgical treatment of thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension. 33<sup>rd</sup> Meeting, Jap. Society for Cardiovascular Surgery, Sapporo, 14.-16.5.2003
60. **Schäfers HJ.** (Concepts of reconstructive surgery of the aortic valve). Universitätsspital Basel, 22.5.2003
61. **Schäfers HJ.** (Surgical treatment of thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension). Universitätsklinik Freiburg, 25.6.2003
62. **Schäfers HJ.** Remodeling or Reimplantation – a Clinical Difference? 22<sup>nd</sup> Biomedical Engineering Conference, Charlotte, 26.-28.9.2003
63. **Schäfers HJ.** Valve-preserving aortic replacement. Aortic Root Symposium, Vigo, 12.9.2003
64. **Schäfers HJ.** Repair of the bicuspid aortic valve and root remodeling. Aortic Surgery Symposium, New York, 19.-21.4.2004
65. **Schäfers HJ.** (Surgical treatment of pulmonary hypertension after pulmonary endarterectomy). Congress, German Society for Anesthesiology, Nürnberg, 19-22.6.2004
66. **Schäfers HJ.** Reconstructive Surgery of the Aortic Valve. Annual Meeting, European Association of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Leipzig, 12.-15.9.2004
67. **Schäfers HJ.** Options and limitations in aortic valve repair. Universita Catolica, Santiago de Chile, 13.10.2004
68. **Schäfers HJ.** Acute aortic dissection – Management of the arch. International Symposium on Aortic Surgery, Milano, 15.-17.12.2004
69. **Schäfers HJ.** (Is there an indication for operative thrombectomy in acute pulmonary embolism?). Congress, German Society for Cardiology, Mannheim, 31.3-2.4.2005

70. **Schäfers HJ.** (Surgical therapy of aortic aneurysm – special aspects in the aging patient). Congress, German Society for Cardiology, Mannheim, 31.3-2.4.2005
71. **Schäfers HJ.** Combined versus separate training in cardiac and thoracic surgery Congress of the Japanese Association for Chest Surgery, Kyoto, 1.-4.6.2005
72. **Schäfers HJ.** Current status of lung transplantation. Congress of the Japanese Association for Chest Surgery, Kyoto, 1.-4.6.2005
73. **Schäfers HJ.** Prosthesis-patient mismatch – myth or reality? Congress of the European Association for Cardiothoracic Surgery, Barcelona, 26.-28.9.2005
74. **Schäfers HJ.** (Risk stratification in cardiac surgery). Congress, German Society for Cardiology, Dresden, 6.-8.10.2005
75. **Schäfers HJ.** (Individualized surgical treatment of lung cancer). Congress, German Society for Respiratory Medicine, Bochum, 1.-2.12.2005
76. **Schäfers HJ.** Strategies for repair of the bicuspid aortic valve. Aortic Surgery Symposium, New York, 26.-27.4.2006
77. **Schäfers HJ.** (Surgery in acute endocarditis). Congress, German Society for Internal Medical Intensive Care, Saarbrücken, 14.-17.6.2006
78. **Schäfers HJ.** Valve-preserving surgery: Remodeling versus Reimplantation. Jahrestagung der Dtsch. Gesellschaft für Thorax-, Herz- und Gefäßchirurgie, Hamburg 10.-14.2.2007
79. **Schäfers HJ.** (Reconstructive surgery of the aortic valve). Congress, German Society for Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, Hamburg 10.-14.2.2007
80. **Schäfers HJ.** Strategies in valve-preserving aortic surgery. Annual Congress, Japanese Association for Vascular Surgery, Nagoya 22.-25.5.2007
81. **Schäfers HJ.** Surgical treatment of thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension. Annual Congress, Japanese Association for Vascular Surgery, Nagoya 22.-25.5.2007
82. **Schäfers HJ.** Possibilities and limitations of aortic valve repair. 13<sup>th</sup> World Congress, International Academy of Cardiology, Vancouver 28.-31.7.2007
83. **Schäfers HJ.** Techniques and results of aortic valve repair in aortic regurgitation and aneurysm. Symposium Valvular Heart Disease of the American Association for Thoracic Surgery, Chicago, 7.-9.9.2007
84. **Schäfers HJ.** Management of the patient with root dilatation and congenital heart disease. Annual Congress, European Association for Cardiothoracic Surgery, Genf 16.-19.9.2007
85. **Schäfers HJ.** Towards safer reoperations – specific aspects in aortic dissection. Annual Congress, European Association for Cardiothoracic Surgery, Genf 16.-19.9.2007
86. **Schäfers HJ.** Aortic valve repair – alternative to replacement? Congress of the Canadian Society for Cardiovascular Surgeons, Quebec, 21.-24.10.2007
87. **Schäfers HJ.** Surgical management of aortic valve disease – Aortic valve repair. Congress of the European Society for Echocardiography, Lissabon, 5.-8.12.2007
88. **Schäfers HJ.** Aortic valve repair: How I do it. Congress, German and Austrian Societies for Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, Innsbruck 17-19.2.2008
89. **Schäfers HJ.** Aortic valve repair: Who is a candidate, and what does the surgeon need to know? Congress, German Society for Cardiology, Mannheim, 26.-29.3.2008

90. **Schäfers HJ.** Valve-preserving aortic replacement: Is root remodeling obsolete? Annual Congress, Norwegian Society of Cardiovascular Surgery, Oslo, 24.-26.4.2008
91. **Schäfers HJ.** Aortic valve repair as alternative to valve replacement. Annual Congress, Norwegian Society of Cardiovascular Surgery, Oslo, 24.-26.4.2008
92. **Schäfers HJ.** Ischemic mitral regurgitation – a ventricular solution for a ventricular problem. Annual Congress, Norwegian Society of Cardiovascular Surgery, Oslo, 24.-26.4.2008
93. **Schäfers HJ.** Current developments in aortic valve repair. Visiting Professor, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee 6.5.2008
94. **Schäfers HJ.** Root remodelling for root dilatation and bicuspid aortic valve. Aortic Surgery Symposium, New York, 7.-9.5.2008
95. **Schäfers HJ.** Aortic valve repair – evolution and current state. Universita de Valencia, Valencia 30.6.2008
96. **Schäfers HJ.** Reconstruction of the unicuspid aortic valve. Annual Congress, European Association for Cardiothoracic Surgery, Lissabon, 14.-18.9.2008
97. **Schäfers HJ.** Aortic valve reconstruction – alternative to replacement. Ulsan University, Seoul, 27.9.2008
98. **Schäfers HJ.** Aortic valve repair – what should the surgeon know from the echocardiographer. European Society for Echocardiography, Lyon, 9.-12.12.2009
99. **Schäfers HJ.** Aortic valve repair and valve-preserving aortic replacement. International Symposium on Aortic Surgery, Milano, 11.-13.12.2009
100. **Schäfers HJ.** Ischemic mitral regurgitation – a ventricular solution for a ventricular problem. Congress, German Society for Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, Stuttgart, 15.-18.2.2009
101. Schäfers HJ. (Surgical treatment of pulmonary embolism). Congress, German Society for Respiratory Medicine, Mannheim, 19.-22.3.2009
102. Schäfers HJ. Reconstruction of the bicuspid aortic valve. Congress, Catalanian Society for Cardiovascular Surgery, Barcelona, 28.-30.5.2009
103. Schäfers HJ. Reconstruction of ischemic mitral regurgitation. Congress, Catalanian Society for Cardiovascular Surgery, Barcelona, 28.-30.5.2009
104. Schäfers HJ. Valve-preserving aortic replacement – technique and pitfalls. Congress, Society for Heart Valve Disease, Berlin, 27.-29.6.2009

**In addition Author/Coauthor of**

More than 260 published abstracts

More than 440 scientific presentations

## **Narrative**

My personal professional development has been best characterized by the combination of clinical training, research and teaching already during my residency period. I grew up professionally in an atmosphere of continuous progress and positive response to challenge, and I have attempted to preserve this spirit when I was elected to my current position in 1995. In addition, I have always felt my role to primarily be a clinician, and striving for excellence in that area has been the key goal.

A key feature that I have tried to generate is the introduction of several innovative areas that would allow constant evolution. An example has been the treatment of terminal lung disease, which evolved from lung transplantation to pulmonary endarterectomy, lung volume reduction, and (in cooperation with respiratory medicine) transbronchial stents.

Another example is aortic surgery, which led to a strong track record in valve-preserving aortic replacement and isolated aortic valve repair. In both areas we have been able to become national referral centers, and in aortic valve repair we have been fortunate to assume a leading international role with more than 1000 repairs over a 14 year period. Experimental research has been strategically chosen to complement these fields. As an example, lung transplantation has been accompanied by systematic research on lung preservation and reperfusion injury. Research on the aortic valve is still ongoing, but in cooperation with external partners I anticipate new insights from computer-simulated studies. My personal obligations include administration of all clinical, teaching, and research activities in addition to a surgical caseload of more than 400 operations per year. This results in a 70 to 80 hour-week, in which approximately 10 hours per week are invested in research and teaching each. The remainder is spent in clinical and administrative activities.

## **Areas of excellence**

Innovative or "unusual" procedures make up for most what I would consider areas of excellence. Pulmonary endarterectomies, mitral and in particular aortic valve repair, and complex aortic root, arch and thoracoabdominal surgery play the most important roles. As a result we have been approached by several industry partners in the more recent years who want to introduce technical innovation in cooperation with a department with a reputation for innovation.

A second area for excellence is teaching of medical students and peers. I have been influenced by previous exposure to the American, Canadian, and British teaching systems, and this has allowed me to improve teaching strategies to the point where I now consistently achieve high scores in evaluations.

## **Teaching and education**

The restructuring process of the department included the introduction of regular teaching activities (1 to 2 hours per week), at the same time providing a condensed written script that residents, but also senior medical students could rely on. Practical exposure to technical aspects have been supplemented by wetlab sessions. All residents were given the exposure to scientific activities, and a number took this chance in working on their own research profiles during their training (see Ph.D. activities). In accord with the German training system we have been able to achieve consistent output of colleagues with completed training both in cardiac and thoracic surgery.

Formal education for medical students is mainly determined by the educational system and consists of lectures, seminars, and clinical bed-side activities. These requirements have been fulfilled, in addition we have held voluntary seminars on special topics, such as congenital cardiac malformations. In order to generate enthusiasm for the specialties of cardiac and thoracic surgery I have taken every chance to engage in related teaching activities (biology, anatomy, ethics, infectious diseases). With the most recent change in educational structures I have taken the opportunity to restructure lectures, seminars, and bedside teaching in order to incorporate elements of differential diagnosis, increase interactivity, and highlight surgical procedures using video technology. This has resulted in the best evaluation grades of the faculty for our bedside teaching for 3 years in a row.

Teaching is complemented by peer-directed activities. The most prominent are the workshop focusing on heart valve reconstruction, and they have drawn surgeons from all continents with increasing numbers.

### **Summary**

In summary I wholeheartedly underscore the importance of personal integration of clinical medicine, teaching, and research. Continuous efforts at personal improvements have allowed me to pursue this integrated approach.