

Professor Stefan Vieths, PhD (Curriculum vitae)

Professor Stefan Vieths, PhD, was born on 16 September 1960 in Kiel and grew up in Mönkeberg, northern Germany.

He has been President of the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut since 1 January 2025. Prior to this, he headed the Institute on an interim basis from 1 January 2024.

Stefan Vieths is a state-certified food chemist and professor (außerplanmäßiger Professor) at the faculty of biochemistry, chemistry and pharmacy at the Goethe University Frankfurt/Main, Germany.

In 1979 he started studying chemistry at Kiel University (Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel) and transferred to the Technical University of Berlin in 1984, where he completed his degree in food chemistry in 1986. After completing his PhD thesis at the Max von Pettenkofer Institute of the former German Federal Health Office (Bundesgesundheitsamt) in 1989, he took on a position at the Institute for Food Chemistry of the Technical University of Berlin where he established his own research group in allergology and obtained his "venia legendi" (post-doctoral academic degree qualifying as university lecturer) in 1995. Once his habilitation was complete, which is part of the process for becoming a professor, Stefan Vieths became head of the Development and Standardisation of Allergen Extracts Section at the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut in Langen in 1995. From 2002 to January 2017, he was head of the Allergology Division. From 1 April 2010 to 31 December 2023, he was Vice President and also acting head of the Administration Division of the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut from 1 September 2021 to 21 August 2024. Stefan Vieths headed the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut on an interim basis from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024. He has been President of the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut since 1 January 2025.

Stefan Vieths has been a designated expert of the European Medicines Agency (EMA) since 2002 and an expert of the European Pharmacopoeia Commission since 2006, where he currently heads the Allergen Working Party. Since 2005, he has been the chair of the Allergen Standardization Subcommittee of the International Union of Immunological Societies (IUIS) and a member of the IUIS Allergen Nomenclature Subcommittee.

In his regulatory work, Stefan Vieths advocates for measures such as the harmonisation of regulatory requirements for quality and clinical evaluations of products for specific immunotherapy as well as in-depth characterisations of biomedicines at the molecular level.

Stefan Vieths was a member of the Executive Committee of the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI) from 2008 to 2011 and has continued to play an active role in the academy for many years, e.g. by designing and leading specialist conferences and actively participating in the drafting of many medical guidelines and position papers. Since 2002, he has been a member of the advisory council of the German Society for Allergology and Clinical Immunology (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Allergologie und Klinische Immunologie, DGAKI). Stefan Vieths has been working on the German Research Foundation's Senate Commission on Food Safety (Senatskommission zur gesundheitlichen Bewertung von Lebensmitteln, SKLM) as a permanent guest since 2004.

Over a number of years, Stefan Vieths was offered several appointments to university professorships and an appointment as president of a federal research institute, but he decided to stay at the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut. From 2007 to 2009, he was Acting Director of the Institute for Food Chemistry (Institut für Lebensmittelchemie) of the Goethe University Frankfurt.

In addition, he has been the chairman of the specialist conference "International Paul Ehrlich Seminar – Allergen Products for Diagnosis and Therapy: Regulation and Science" since 2002. The conference takes place triennially and is hosted jointly by the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut and the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Stefan Vieths acts as reviewer for various international specialist journals and is involved in the evaluation of various research applications for the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung, BMBF), the German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, DFG) and a number of international organisations. He was an associate editor of "Clinical and Experimental Allergy" (2008 to 2014) and is currently an associate editor of "Molecular Nutrition and Food Research", "Current Allergy and Asthma Reports" and "Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology". He was also a member of the editorial board of the "Bundesgesundheitsblatt" (German Federal Health Bulletin) from 2010 to 2023.

His research focuses on the field of molecular allergology and regulatory aspects in the development of biomedicines.

Professor Stefan Vieths, PhD, is author/co-author of more than 360 original publications, review articles, and position papers in peer-reviewed specialist journals.