

Langen, 27 January 2022

OBITUARY

Professor Reinhold Schmidt, Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut, has passed away

Professor Reinhold Schmidt, MD, had served as the Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut, Federal Institute for Vaccines and Biomedicines, since 2006. In that capacity, he assisted and advised the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut, promoted its development, and steadfastly represented its interests in the scientific and public health fields. As Chairman of the Advisory Board, he was a valued colleague who not only stood out for his own knowledge of immunology, immunological research, and therapy for immunologically related diseases, but also because he succeeded in applying the expertise of the Advisory Board members to the various scientific fields under the responsibility of the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut as a medicines authority. In doing so, he put their expertise to use for the Institute in important scientific decisions. In addition, Professor Schmidt was until recently the Chairman of the Joint Scientific Advisory Board of the Federal Ministry of Health Authorities (GWB) and represented the scientific interests of all departmental institutes of the Federal Ministry of Health there.

Reinhold Schmidt saw his involvement in the Scientific Advisory Boards as a way to provide crucial support for the regulatory-scientific responsibilities of the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut in Germany, in the EU, and worldwide. He succeeded in linking the diverse tasks of the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut in the areas of regulation, pharmacovigilance, and research with the topics of translational clinical science and thus created an innovative and successful basis for the development of vaccines and biomedicines in Germany. In addition to his diverse scientific contributions and talent for structuring difficult discussions, he was well respected as a knowledgeable, committed, and inspired colleague, scientist, and physician. These qualities made him a pioneer in clinical immunology in Germany. Due to his strong roots in functionally oriented basic immunological research, he was skilled at forging links between research and clinical practice in many areas, whether it was immunodeficiency, HIV, rheumatic diseases, translational research or drug development.



We have lost a brilliant researcher with vision and an understanding of science policy in Reinhold Schmidt. The employees of the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut mourn the loss of an outstanding figure who made a lasting contribution to the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut. Our thoughts are with his family.

Hartmut Hengel

Deputy Chairman
Scientific Advisory Board
of the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut

Klaus Cichutek

President of the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut