

Curriculum Vitae

Thomas Illig Professor, Dr. rer.nat.
d.o.b. February 13th, 1965, in Neunburg v. Wald, Germany

University Education

2012 Adjunct (APL) Professor at Hannover Medical School
2010 Adjunct (APL) Professor at Ludwig Maximilians-University Munich
2006 Postdoctoral lecture qualification (“Habilitation”) and conferral of associate professorship (“Priv.-Doz.”) at the Ludwig-Maximilians-University München, „Concepts of genomic association studies to decipher complex diseases“
1995 Doctor in biology by thesis „O-Glycosilation in Saccharomyces cerevisiae“, Department of Cell Biology, University of Regensburg
1986-1991 Study of biology, University of Regensburg

Scientific Career

Since 2012 Director of the Biobank of Hannover Medical School (HUB, Hannover Unified Biobank)
2011 Head of Department of Molecular Epidemiology at Helmholtz Zentrum Muenchen, German Research Center for Environmental Health, Neuherberg, Germany
2001-now Scientific supervision of 21 Postdocs/ 18 PhD/ 34 Master Students
2001-2010 Group leader of working group “Epidemiology-Biobanking-Genomics” in the Institute of Epidemiology Helmholtz Zentrum Muenchen, German Research Center for Environmental Health, Neuherberg, Germany

Awards and Honors

2014-2018 „Highly Cited Researchers“ by Thomson Reuters: among the top 1 percent of cited researchers in the category of Molecular Biology & Genetics
2010 “Paula and Richard von Hertwig” price for collaborative projects at Helmholtz Center Munich, Germany
2006 Herbert-Herxheimer- Price of the German Society for Allergy and Clinical Immunology (DGAKI), Germany
2005 “Paula and Richard von Hertwig” price for collaborative projects at Helmholtz Center Munich, Germany

Citation Record

Total citations: 205,324; h-index:165; i10-index 565 (Google Scholar, March 1th, 2026)

Top-10 selected Publications

Plem R, de Buhr N,, Keil J, Kopfnagel V, **Illig T**, Weissenborn K, Blaschke S, Bröhl I, Römmele C; NAPKON Investigators; Grosse GM, Schuppner R. Disturbed regulation of immunothrombosis in cerebral ischemia associated with SARS-CoV-2 infection. *Front Immunol.* 2026 Jan 29;17:1662418. doi: 10.3389/fimmu.2026.1662418. eCollection 2026. PMID: 41694343

Woyciechowski L, More TH, A, Welte T, **Illig T**, Behrens GMN, Volk HA, Hiller K. Headspace SPME GC-MS Analysis of Urinary Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) for Classification Under Sample-Limited Conditions. *Metabolites.* 2026 Jan 8;16(1):57. doi: 10.3390/metabo16010057. PMID: 41590665

Abolhassani A, Alawathurage, **Illig T**, Jiru-Hillmann S, Krawitz P, Mitrov L, Philipsen A, Pütz SM, Noethen MM, Nuernberg P, Reese JP, Riess O, Schreiber S, Schultze J, Steinbeis F, Vehreschild JJ, Wildberg C, Ludwig KU, Schulte EC. Genetic contribution to severe COVID-19 in adults under 60 years without major comorbidities in the German National Pandemic Cohort Network (NAPKON). *Hum Genomics.* 2026 Jan 23;20(1):23. doi: 10.1186/s40246-025-00904-9.

Kumar S, Li C, Zhou L,, **Illig T**, Sun J, Li Y. A distinct monocyte transcriptional state links systemic immune dysregulation to pulmonary impairment in long COVID. *Nat Immunol.* 2026 Feb;27(2):200-212. doi: 10.1038/s41590-025-02387-1. Epub 2026 Jan 14. PMID: 41535626 Free PMC article.

Brownstein CA, van der Made CI,, **Illig T**, Ioannidis A, Jarvis E, Koizumi N, Kolhe R, Laamarti M, Labranche C, Leibel S, Levy B, Loose M, Mello C, Nasir J, Phung TL, Rao CPV, Ross T, Sahajpal NS, Shamanna RK, Soto DC, Tرابلسي A, Wang ZX, Williams SL, Wright V, Zhao H, Zody M. Rare Structural Variants Uncovered by Optical Genome Mapping in Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children

(MIS-C). *Adv Genet (Hoboken)*. 2025 Dec 8;6(4):e00023. doi: 10.1002/ggn2.202500023. eCollection 2025 Dec. PMID: 41473684 Free PMC article.

Kumar S, Li C, Zhou L, Zhan Q, Alaswad A, Volland S, Costa B, Krooss SA, Klefenz I, Schmaus H, Zeuzem A, von Witzendorff D, Lickei H, Poeschel L, Kraft ARM, Cornberg M, Koczulla AR, Pink I, Hoepfer MM, Xu CJ, Häussler S, Wiestler M, Netea MG, **Illig T**, Sun J, Li Y, A distinct monocyte transcriptional state links systemic immune dysregulation to pulmonary impairment in long COVID. *Nat Immunol*. 2026 Feb;27(2):200-212.

Zhang B, Zhang Z, Koeken VACM, Kumar S, Aillaud M, Tsay HC, Liu Z, Kraft ARM, Soon CF, Odak I, Bošnjak B, Vlot A; Deutsche COVID-19 OMICS Initiative (DeCOI); Swertz MA, Ohler U, Geffers R, **Illig T**, Huehn J, Saliba AE, Sander LE, Förster R, Xu CJ, Cornberg M, Schulte LN, Li Y. Altered and allele-specific open chromatin landscape reveals epigenetic and genetic regulators of innate immunity in COVID-19. *Cell Genom*. 2023 Feb 8;3(2):100232. doi: 10.1016/j.xgen.2022.100232. Epub 2022 Dec 2. PMID: 36474914

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A second update on mapping the human genetic architecture of COVID-19. COVID-19 Host Genetics Initiative. *Nature*. 2023 Sep;621(7977):E7-E26. doi: 10.1038/s41586-023-06355-3. Epub 2023 Sep 6. PMID: 37674002

Degenhardt F, Ellinghaus D, Juzenas S, [...], **Illig T**, [...], Franke A. Detailed stratified GWAS analysis for severe COVID-19 in four European populations. *Hum Mol Genet*. 2022 Jul 15;ddac158.

Illig T, Gieger C, Zhai G[...], Adamski J, Suhre K. A genome-wide perspective of genetic variation in human metabolism. *Nat Genet*. 2010 Feb;42(2):137-41.