

Curriculum Vitae

Ali Önder Yildirim Prof. Dr.
d.o.b. August 20th, 1974, in Mazgirt,

University Education

2023 Professor, Institute of Experimental Pneumology, LMU Munich
1999–2002 Doctorate Veterinary Medicine, JLU
1991–1996 Study of Veterinary Medicine, Firat University in Turkey

Scientific Career

since 2024 Director, German Center for Lung research (DZL) site Comprehensive Pneumology Center-Munich (CPC-M)
since 2023 Director and Professor, Institute of Experimental Pneumology, LMU Munich
since 2022 Director, Institute of Lung Health and Immunity, Comprehensive Pneumology Center, Helmholtz Zentrum Muenchen
2020–2021 Acting Director, Institute of Lung Biology and Disease, Comprehensive Pneumology Center, Helmholtz Zentrum Muenchen
since 2019 Visiting Professor, University of Koc, Istanbul, Turkey
since 2012: PI and member, German Center for Lung Research in Disease Area COPD, DPLD, ELD and Platform Imaging
2016–2020 Member of the Leadership Team, Institute of Lung Biology and Disease and Comprehensive Pneumology Center, Helmholtz Zentrum Muenchen
2015–2020 PI HICE, Helmholtz Virtual Institute of Complex Molecular Systems in Environmental Health: Aerosol and Health
2010–2012 Deputy Director, Institute of Lung Biology and Disease, Helmholtz Zentrum Muenchen
since 2009 Interim Director and Member of Leadership Team of Institute for Lung Biology and Disease, Comprehensive Pneumology Center, Helmholtz Zentrum Muenchen
2008–2009 Postdoctoral fellow, Department of Clinical Chemistry & Molecular Diagnostics, Univ. Hospital Giessen & Marburg GmbH, Marburg
2004–2008 Postdoctoral fellow, Department of Internal Medicine clinical research group “chronic airway diseases” Philipps-University of Marburg

Awards and Honors

2025 Research Excellence and Service by an International Member Award, Assembly on Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology (RCMB), American Thoracic Society (ATS)

Citation Record

Total citations: 8130; h-index: 51; h-index since 2021: 94 (Google Scholar March 5th, 2026)

Top-10 selected Publications

Dragunas G, Klotz M, Chen S, Korkmaz RÜ, Omony J, Tan X, Shankhwar S, Ertüz Z, Müller C, Ragab M, Jeridi A, Augustin R, Nawroth J, Kapellos TS, Rankl B, von Mutius E., **Yildirim AÖ**, A beneficial environment promotes immune resilience through epigenetic regulation. **Science Adv.** 2026 Feb 27;12(9):

Weiden EM, Serianz Z, Klingl Y, Jörs S, Jašlan D, Keller M, Castro SP, Mkhitarian M, Jeridi A, Briukhovetska D, Spix B, Scotto Rosato A, Agami A, Schiller HB, Rajan S, Schredelseker J, Fois G, Frick M, Kobold S, Klein M, Geisler F, Garcia-Fortanet J, Murphy LO, Bracher F, Wahl-Schott C, Gudermann T, Dietrich A, Biel M, **Yildirim AÖ***, Grimm* C. TRPML1 suppresses pulmonary fibrosis by limiting collagen and elastin deposition. **EMBO J.** 2026 Feb 19. doi: 10.1038/s44318-026-00712-4 (* shared last- authorship)

Yildirim AÖ, Conlon TM, Adcock IM, Gosens R, Lehmann M, Kapellos TS, Tesfaigzi Y, Polverino F, Sauler M, Wasnick R, Neptune ER. COPD-iNET: a call to the lung community for action to combat the global epidemic of COPD. **Eur Respir J**. 2024 Sep 26;64(3):2400921. doi: 10.1183/13993003.00921-2024.

Conlon TM, **Yildirim AÖ**. Oxysterol metabolism dictates macrophage influx during SARS-CoV-2 infection. **Eur Respir J**. 2023 Mar 9;61(3):2202417.

Günes Günsel G, ..., Schneider R, **Yildirim AÖ**. The arginine methyltransferase PRMT7 promotes extravasation of monocytes resulting in tissue injury in COPD. **Nat Commun**. 2022 13(1):1303.

Spix B, Butz ES, ..., Bracher F, **Yildirim AÖ***, Biel M*, Grimm C*. Lung emphysema and impaired macrophage elastase clearance in mucolipin 3 deficient mice. **Nat Commun**. 2022 Jan 14;13(1):318. (* shared correspondence)

Conlon TM, Knolle, PA, and **Yildirim AÖ**. Local tissue development of type 1 innate lymphoid cells: guided by interferon-gamma. **Signal Transduct Target Ther**. 2021 Jul 29;6(1):287.

Conlon TM, John-Schuster G, ..., Heikenwalder M, **Yildirim AÖ**. Inhibition of LT β R-signalling blocks epithelial apoptosis and activates Wnt-induced regeneration in lung. **Nature**. 2020. Dec;588(7836):151-156.

Ballester-López C, ...Eickelberg O, **Yildirim AÖ**. The Notch ligand DNER regulates macrophage IFN γ release in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. **EBioMedicine**. 2019 May;43:562-575.

Jie J, Conlon, TM, Sarker, RS, Eickelberg O, **Yildirim AÖ**. Cholesterol metabolism promotes B cell positioning during immune pathogenesis of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. 2018 March, **EMBO MM**. 2018 May;10(5). pii: e8349.