



DR. MICHAEL MORRIS

SYNLAB

Summary

In 1988 Michael obtained his D.Phil. in Molecular Immunology at the Sir William Dunn School of Pathology, Oxford and arrived in Geneva to establish the Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory, Division of Medical Genetics, Geneva University Hospitals. He was one of the founders and inaugural title-holders of the Swiss FAMH Laboratory Specialization in Medical Genetics and sat from 2007 to 2018 at the GUMEK, the Federal Genetic Expert Commission. Founding member of the Eurogentest Network of Excellence (2003).

He is coauthor of over 140 publications including Guidelines on Accreditation, Validation of Diagnostic tests, Cystic Fibrosis, Hemochromatosis, Hereditary Periodic Fevers, Reproductive Genetics and Preimplantation Diagnosis.

In 2013 he moved to SYNLAB Switzerland to found the national Department of Genetics, which he directed until 2023. He developed the Department to offer both laboratory and clinical services across Switzerland and to other SYNLAB countries.

In 2023 he became Global Head of Genetics for SYNLAB International, with responsibility for business development through genetics and for driving medical-commercial collaboration and growth across over 20 countries.

Key competences/previous positions

- Founder and former Director of the Laboratory of Molecular Diagnostics, Geneva University Hospitals (1988-2013).
- Director of Genetics, SYNLAB Switzerland (2013-2023).
- Founding member of the EuroGentest network of excellence (2003), co-lead of Quality Assurance and Accreditation workstream. Member of the Eurogentest Guidelines committee.
- Member of the EMQN Scientific Advisory Board (since 2009).
- European Board-certified clinical laboratory geneticist.
- Swiss FAMH Specialist in Medical Genetic Analysis.

University, Professional qualifications

- 1984 B.A.Honours (Medical Sciences), Oxford University, UK (Wadham College).
- 1984 Martin Wronker Oxford University Prize (1984) for best Masters dissertation in Medicine.
- 1988 D. Phil. in Molecular Immunology, Sir William Dunn School of Pathology, Oxford University.
- 2000 Inaugural FAMH Specialist in Medical Genetic Analyses.
- 2015 European Board of Medical Genetics, Clinical Laboratory Geneticist.

Professional associations (selected):

- 2007-2018 Swiss Federal Expert Commission for Human Genetic Analysis (GUMEK/CEAGH).
- 2011-present Swiss Foundation for Research on Orphan Diseases, BlackSwan Scientific committee.
- 2009-present European Molecular Quality Network (EMQN) Management Group.
- 2006-2018 European CF Network, Diagnostic/technical expert; EQA assessor and medical expert.
- 2003-present EuroGentest European Network of Excellence.
- 2015-present ESHG/Eurogentest Subcommittee on Best Practice Guidelines.
- 2013-present Joint Quality Committee of the Swiss Federal Department of Public Health and the Swiss Society of Medical Genetics
- 2022-present Fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine (Overseas)