EAA Andrology Training Centre

Centre Report

2025

Centre identification

EAA Andrology Training Center Hamburg
Department of Andrology, Clinic for Dermatology and Venereology
University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf
Building W38
Martinistr. 52
(D) 20246 Hamburg
GERMANY

CENTRE REPORT

History of Centre

To be described in a separated paper following these Guidelines: use maximum 500 words, font Times New Roman 12 and 1,5 space layout. Provide main research lines and specialized areas of clinical attention. Given the brevity of the report, number of clinical activities and personal data of the staff of the Center must be avoided. Published articles must not be included since they are already reported in this document which is renewed every three years. The date of the report must be at the end of the document.

The Department of Andrology as a separate Unit of the Clinic for Dermatology and Venereology at the University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf was founded in 1960 by Prof. Dr. med. Carl Schirren. Prof. Dr. med. Schirren founded the Journal "Andrologia" in 1975 and the "Deutsche Gesellschaft für Andrologie (DGA)" and became its first president. From 1991, Prof. Dr. med. Wolfgang Schulze was the Head of the Department of Andrology. In 1996, together with Daisy Benson (Institute of Anatomy, University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf) and Dr. med. Andrea Salzbrunn, the isolation of spermatozoa from testicular biopsies and the use for assisted medical reproduction was established at the Department of Andrology. From 2014, Dr. med. Andrea Salzbrunn and Dr. med. Domenica Varwig-Janßen were sharing Heads of the Department. Since 2024, Priv.-Doz. Dr. med. Armin Soave is also Head of the Department. The main specialization of the Department is male infertility. All clinical aspects of male infertility are fully covered, including standard and special diagnostics, as well as conservative and surgical therapy. The Department of Andrology received approval for cryobanking by the local government authorities in 2014. In addition, male sexual dysfunction is a major area of specialty. We offer all conservative and surgical treatment options for all diseases related to male sexual dysfunction. The research focus of the center lies on development of cell culture conditions for the proliferation of testicular stem cells and their differentiation into mature spermatids (in vitro-spermatogenesis). Another important research topic is male sexual dysfunction including Peyronie´s disease, especially the impact of multi-disciplinary treatment on patient-reported outcome.

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Organization of Centre

Use as much space, as required
Please, refer to ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

The EAA Andrology training center Hamburg consists of:

- the Department of Andrology (Heads: PD Dr. med. Armin Soave, Dr. med. Andrea Salzbrunn and Dr. med. Domenica Varwig-Janßen), which is part of the Clinic for Dermatology and Venereology (Director: Prof. Dr. med. Stefan W. Schneider) at the University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf;
- the Clinic for Urology (Director: Prof. Dr. med. Margit Fisch) at the University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf, Hamburg, Germany.

Close cooperation exists with the Institute of Sexual Medicine and Forensic Psychiatry (Director: Prof. Dr. med. Peer Briken) at the University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf.
Please see also the organizational chart at the end of the Centre Report.

Educational activities

- The Department of Andrology and the Clinic for Urology together have the full permission of advanced training for physicians specializing in Andrology since 2018 from the Medical Association Hamburg.
  Professional counselors in charge: Priv.-Doz. Dr. med. Armin Soave, Dr. med. Domenica Varwig-Janßen, Prof. Dr. med. Margit Fisch.
- Educational course in Andrology of the „Deutsche Gesellschaft für Andrologie (DGA)“ „Intensivkurs Andrologie“ 27.11.2021, Hamburg.
  Scientific Chair: Priv.-Doz. Dr. med. Armin Soave
- Lecture in Andrology, every semester, for med students at the University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf, Hamburg: Priv.-Doz. Dr. med. Armin Soave

- Scientific meeting of the “Deutsche Gesellschaft für Urologie (DGU)” “DGU Kongress“ 21.09.2022, Hamburg. President: Prof. Dr. med. Margit Fisch. Next meeting will take place in Hamburg in September 2025
- Courses in Andrology for the specialization in Sexual Medicine of the Medical Association Hamburg “Zusatzweiterbildung Sexualmedizin“, Hamburg, yearly since September 2020
- Courses in Andrology for the specialization in Sexual Medicine of the „Deutsche Gesellschaft für Sexualforschung (DGfS)“, Hamburg, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022
- Educational courses in Andrology for Urologists in Hamburg, “Fortbildungsinitiative” and “Frühlingssymposium”, Hamburg, 2019, 2023, 2024
- Educational course “cryopreservation in oncologic patients” for urologists situated in Schleswig-Holstein, 24-25.01.2025
- Educational course in Andrology for gynecologists specializing in reproductive medicine, Hamburg, 2023 and 04/2025

Priv.-Doz. Dr. med. Armin Soave is author of several chapters in andrology textbooks and other educational papers, e.g.:

- **Soave A**, Kliesch S. Erektile Dysfunktion und andere penile Erkrankungen. In: Jocham D, Miller K, Burger M, Schrader M (eds) Praxis der Urologie. 2020. Georg Thieme Verlag KG, Stuttgart.
- **Soave A**, Kliesch S. Störungen der Erektion, Kohabitation und Ejakulation. In: Nieschlag E, Behre HM, Kliesch S, Nieschlag S (eds) Andrologie. 2022. Springer Reference Medizin. Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-662-61904-9_30-1
- **Soave A**, Kliesch S. Disorders of Erection, Cohabitation, and Ejaculation. In: Nieschlag E, Behre HM, Kliesch S, Nieschlag S (eds) Andrology. 2023. Springer Reference Medizin. Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-31574-9

Research activities

<u>Main research topic:</u> Development of cell culture conditions for the proliferation of testicular stem cells and their differentiation into mature spermatids (in vitro-spermatogenesis)

Spermatogonia are the earliest precursors of spermatids in the adult male. They form the basis for lifelong spermatogenesis and develop by mitotic proliferation and subsequent differentiation from human spermatogonial stem cells. In the past, we have characterized this cell type at various levels of gene expression and epigenetic profile, including at the single cell level, and in this context, we have established a method for the isolation of FGFR3-positive human spermatogonial stem cells.

Human spermatogonial stem cells, isolated and cryopreserved as part of fertility protection, multiplied in cell culture and transplanted back into the testicles, could reinitiate complete spermatogenesis in male prepubertal patients after treatment that eradicates the testicular stem cell pool, e.g. chemotherapy or radiation. This would enable later natural paternity without additional assisted reproductive technology (ART). While spermatids can be isolated from adult men before gonadotoxic therapy, frozen and later used for artificial insemination, this option does not exist for boys before puberty, as they do not yet have any spermatozoa. However, sperm cells could be generated through in vitro-spermatogenesis (maturation of spermatids from the patient's own spermatogonial stem cells in the cell culture dish) and later used for artificial insemination. The latter treatment option is also relevant for adult infertile men with meiosis arrest and the desire to have children. Although all these therapeutic approaches are being pursued worldwide and are under constant development, they are still at an experimental level. Using various 3D cell culture models as well as organ culture, we aim to advance the research in this field.

Another important research topic is male sexual dysfunction including Peyronie´s disease, especially the impact of multi-disciplinary treatment on patient-

reported outcome. There are ongoing prospective and randomized controlled studies in at our Department.

Clinical activities

More than 1000 new patients with andrological diseases are treated each year in the Department of Andrology, which is part of the Clinic for Dermatology and Venereology at the University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf. Most of these patients are seeking help for male infertility. Moreover, male sexual dysfunction, for example erectile dysfunction, ejaculation disorders, orgasmic disorders, Peyronie´s disease; hormonal disorders, e.g. hypogonadism and delayed puberty; as well as gynecomastia display a relevant proportion of patients of our Department of Andrology. Finally yet importantly, our Department of Andrology offers cryopreservation of ejaculated sperm and of testicular biopsies for patients, who will undergo gonadotoxic treatments for malign and benign conditions. The Department of Andrology also offers cryopreservation of testicular biopsies in pre-pubertal boys, who will undergo gonadotoxic therapy.

In the Department of Andrology, all modern diagnostic techniques are fully available, including ultrasonography of the genital organs and color duplex sonography. Seminal fluid analysis is performed according to the WHO guideline; an internal quality control system is operated for semen analysis as well as attendance at an external quality control program offered by the “Deutsche Gesellschaft für Andrologie (DGA)” (QuaDeGa; www.quadega.de/en). The Department of Andrology conducts all necessary sperm function tests, including DNA fragmentation analysis, new diagnostics like the CatSper analysis, as well as testicular sperm extraction, and semi-thin section analysis of testicular biopsies. Endocrinological tests are performed in the central laboratory of the University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf.

Conservative medical treatment and surgical treatment of male infertility is performed at the Department of Andrology (including microsurgical testicular sperm extraction, microsurgical epididymal sperm aspiration, microsurgical vasovasostomy and tubulovasostomy, microsurgical varicocele resection). Cryopreservation of ejaculate and testicular biopsies is performed at the Department of Andrology. Conservative treatment of male sexual dysfunction is performed at the Department of Andrology (e.g. low intensity shock wave therapy of erectile

dysfunction and Peyronie´s disease). Treatment of hormonal disorders and gynecomastia takes place at the Department of Andrology. The Clinic for Urology performs surgical therapy of erectile dysfunction (e.g. penile prosthesis surgery), Peyronie´s disease (e.g. corporoplasty), laparoscopic varicocele ligation, prostate surgery (e.g. Holmium Laser Enucleation of the Prostate) and gender reassignment surgery.

The Department of Andrology has strong collaborations with several fertility centers (see separate list). Our trainees regularly also work in these fertility centers to gain experience in reproductive medicine relevant for andrology, especially assisted reproductive techniques.

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Name and address of Centre

EAA Andrology Training Center Hamburg
Department of Andrology, Clinic for Dermatology and Venereology
University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf
Building W38
Martinistr. 52
(D) 20246 Hamburg
GERMANY

Type of Centre

University	X
University Hospital	X
Private Centre	

Other (please specify)

1. Director Prof. Dr. med. Stefan W. Schneider
Director of the Clinic for Dermatology and Venereology, University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf

Academician [ ] Regular Member [ ] EAA Certified Clin. Andrologist [ ]

2a. Clinical responsible Priv.-Doz. Dr. med. Armin Soave
Head of the Department of Andrology, University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf

Academician [ ] Regular Member [X] EAA Certified Clin. Andrologist [X]

2b. Clinical responsible Dr. med. Andrea Salzbrunn
Head of the Department of Andrology, University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf

Academician [ ] Regular Member [ ] EAA Certified Clin. Andrologist [ ]

2c. Clinical responsible Dr. med. Domenica Varwig-Janßen

Head of the Department of Andrology, University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf

Academician [ ] Regular Member [ ] EAA Certified Clin. Andrologist [ ]

1. Director

Prof. Dr. med. Margit Fisch
Director of the Clinic for Urology, University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf

Academician [ ] Regular Member [ ] EAA Certified Clin. Andrologist [ ]

2a. Clinical responsible

Priv.-Doz. Dr. med. Armin Soave
Senior physician, leading of the Andrology Section, Clinic for Urology, University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf

Academician [ ] Regular Member [X] EAA Certified Clin. Andrologist [X]

3. Present Staff *(Senior Scientists)*

1) Name: Armin Soave
Degree: Priv.-Doz. Dr. med.
Speciality: Andrology, Urology, Sexual Medicine

Academician [ ] Regular Member [X] EAA Certified Clin. Andrologist [X]

2) Name: Andrea Salzbrunn
Degree: Dr. med.
Speciality: Andrology, Dermatology

Academician [ ] Regular Member [ ] EAA Certified Clin. Andrologist [ ]

3) Name: Domenica Varwig-Janßen
Degree: Dr. med.
Speciality: Andrology, Dermatology

Academician [ ] Regular Member [ ] EAA Certified Clin. Andrologist [ ]

Insert any additional staff below *(if required)*

MD/Biologists/Chemists

1) Name: Kathrein von Kopylow
Degree: Dr. rer. nat.
Speciality: Biologist
Full time/part time: Full time

Academician [ ] Regular Member [X] EAA Certified Clin. Andrologist [ ]

2) Name: Hande Irem Hamurcu
Degree: PhD Student
Speciality: Biologist
Full time/part time: Full time

Academician [ ] Regular Member [ ] EAA Certified Clin. Andrologist [ ]

3) Name: Olaf Hellwinkel
Degree: Priv.-Doz. Dr. rer. nat.
Speciality: Biologist
Full time/part time: Full time

Academician [ ] Regular Member [ ] EAA Certified Clin. Andrologist [ ]

4) Name:
Degree:
Speciality:
Full time/part time:

Academician [ ] Regular Member [ ] EAA Certified Clin. Andrologist [ ]

5) Name:
Degree:
Speciality:
Full time/part time:

Academician [ ] Regular Member [ ] EAA Certified Clin. Andrologist [ ]

6) Name:
Degree:
Speciality:
Full time/part time:

Academician [ ] Regular Member [ ] EAA Certified Clin. Andrologist [ ]

7) Name _____
Degree _____
Speciality _____
Full time/part time _____

Academician ☐ Regular Member ☐ EAA Certified Clin. Andrologist ☐

8) Name _____
Degree _____
Speciality _____
Full time/part time _____

Academician ☐ Regular Member ☐ EAA Certified Clin. Andrologist ☐

9) Name _____
Degree _____
Speciality _____
Full time/part time _____

Academician ☐ Regular Member ☐ EAA Certified Clin. Andrologist ☐

10) Name _____
Degree _____
Speciality _____
Full time/part time _____

Academician ☐ Regular Member ☐ EAA Certified Clin. Andrologist ☐

11) Name _____
Degree _____
Speciality _____
Full time/part time _____

Academician ☐ Regular Member ☐ EAA Certified Clin. Andrologist ☐

12) Name _____
Degree _____
Speciality _____
Full time/part time _____

Insert any additional staff below *(if required)*

Specialists

1) Name	Prof. Dr. med. Peer Briken Director of the Institute for Sexual Medicine and Forensic Psychiatry, University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf
2) Name	
3) Name	
4) Name	
5) Name	

PhD Students

1) Name	Hande Irem Hamurcu
2) Name	Neels Lennard Aden
3) Name	Emilia Lula Kruschel

Nurses

1) Name	
2) Name	
3) Name	

Laboratory Technicians

1) Name	Gabriele Hahn
2) Name	Katrin Laubis
3) Name	Nala Luisa Blenck

Administrative Personnel

1) Name	Marta Godlewska
2) Name	Peter Kohlmannslehner
3) Name	

4. Clinical Activity

A. Outpatients: Consultations per year in the last 3 years

	2022	2023	2024
New patients	1582	1721	1709
Follow-up patients	497	461	512

Type of patients in the last years (%)	2022	2023	2024
Infertility	901	936	925
Erectile dysfunction	319	438	489
Hypogonadotropic Hypogonadism	8	17	12
Klinefelter	23	18	28
Gynaecomastia	7	17	21
Varicocele	41	55	63
Cryptorchidism	47	31	59
Male sex accessory gland infections	150	212	223
Testicular tumours	199	213	232
Disorders of gender identity	669	651	720
Other			

B. Ultrasound (testis, penile, prostate)

	2022	2023	2024
Total	1132	1202	1327
Controls	401	398	459

C. Andrological surgery procedures

	2022	2023	2024
Testicular biopsies	133	140	174
Varicocele ligation	19	29	32
Prostate biopsies*	273	312	299
BPH*	151	167	176
Prostate cancer*	237	286	277
Vasectomy	6	12	18
Vaso-vasostomy	14	20	33
Other Corporoplasty (Peyronie´s disease)* Penile prosthesis*	 18 5	 36 10	 26 9

* *performed at the Clinic for Urology*

5. A. Andrology laboratory activity

	2022	2023	2024
Semen analyses	812	807	826
Sperm antibodies	401	399	410
Seminal markers	560	532	541

5. B. Andrology laboratory activity

Sperm banking donors Yes [ ] No [X]

Sperm banking cancer patients Yes [X] No [ ]

If yes:			
	2022	2023	2024
Number of samples	212	232	240

5. C. Histopathologial evaluation of biopsies Yes [X] No [ ]

5. D. Reproductive Hormones Assays Yes [X] No [ ]

If yes please specify type of assays and number of samples in the last year
Reproductive Hormones Assays
(FSH, LH, testosterone, SHBG, prolactin)
Samples in 2024: 1032
Essay: Atellica Solutions, Siemens

5. E. Y chromosome microdeletions according to EAA/EMQN guidelines Yes [X] No [ ]

If yes number of tests in the past year 98 (Y microdeletion diagnostics are mainly performed at the Institute for Human Genetics and Reproductive Genetic at the University Medical Center Muenster, Germany)

Participation to the EAA quality control scheme? Yes [X] No [ ]

If no, specify if available in another lab of the same hospital Yes [ ] No [ ]

Blood karyotyping Yes [X] No [ ]

If no, specify if available in another lab of the same hospital Yes [ ] No [ ]

Other genetic tests (please specify)

NGS Azoospermia Gene Panel, CAG-repeats, hypogonadotropic hypogonadism, MMAF, CatSper: all these diagnostics performed at the Institute for Human Genetics and Reproductive Genetic at the University Medical Center Muenster, Germany

6. Collaborations with other Clinical Units of the University/Hospital

IVF Unit	Yes [X]	No [ ]
If yes please specify: Children, Endocrinology, IVF, Urology, Genetics, Pathology		

Urology Clinic	Yes [X]	No [ ]
Endocrine Clinic	Yes [X]	No [ ]
Genetics Lab/Unit	Yes [X]	No [ ]
Paediatric Unit	Yes [X]	No [ ]
Central Hospital Laboratory	Yes [X]	No [ ]
Private Centres	Yes [ ]	No [X]

If yes please specify:

We collaborate with other departments of our University Medical Center. For example, young patients from our Clinic for pediatry are presented in our Department of Andrology whenever andrologic disorders are suspected. In addition, prepubertal boys from the Clinic for pediatric hematology and oncology are presented in our Department for fertility preservation prior gonadotoxic treatment. Adult patients are presented for cryopreservation from all other clinics of our University Medical Center, as well.

We do also collaborate with external public centers, for example the Institute for Human Genetics in Münster, Germany. And we do collaborate with public and private fertility clinics in and outside Hamburg. For a full list of the collaborating fertility clinics in Germany see the separate document or the following link:

www.uke.de/kliniken-institute/kliniken/dermatologie-und-venerologie/ergaenzende-schwerpunkte/andrologie/behandlungsangebot/kooperationspartner-andrologie.html

7. Clinical teaching activity

Duration of training (years): 1,5

	Number
A: Trainees in the last five years	3
B: Trainees who passed EAA-ESAU\exam for Clinical Andrologist in the last 5 yrs	0 (1 planned for 2025 or 2026)
C: Trainees working in the centre preparing to pass the EAA-ESAU examination	1
D: PhD Students	3 (in the last 5 years)
E: Medical Students	2 (in the last 5 years)
F: Other students (MSc)	

8. Formal Andrology teaching program Yes [X] No [ ]

If yes: specify duration (years/months): Years [1] Months [ ]

	Hours of formal teaching per year	**Professional training (weeks/months)**
Medical Students	Every day 2 hours (including University lecture in Andrology; bed-side teaching in Andrology; Seminars in Andrology; Seminar papers in Andrology)	2-4 weeks (Clinical traineeship); 3-4 months (Practical year for Medical Students in their final year of studies)
PhD Students	Same	36 months (Andrology research programs)
Post Graduate students	Same	36 months (Post-doc andrology research programs)
Trainees	Same	1-3 months (Clinical traineeship)
Other degrees (please specify)		

9. Research Activity (maximum 1 page)
Please shortly describe the main research topics of the center and list the most relevant papers in peer review journals (with IF) related to these activities.
The full list of publications (years 2018 - 2025) are presented at the end of this report.

Main research topic: Development of cell culture conditions for the proliferation of testicular stem cells and their differentiation into mature spermatids (in vitro-spermatogenesis)

Spermatogonia are the earliest precursors of spermatids in the adult male. They form the basis for lifelong spermatogenesis and develop by mitotic proliferation and subsequent differentiation from human spermatogonial stem cells. In the past, we have characterized this cell type at various levels of gene expression and epigenetic profile, including at the single cell level, and in this context, we have established a method for the isolation of FGFR3-positive human spermatogonial stem cells.

Human spermatogonial stem cells, isolated and cryopreserved as part of fertility protection, multiplied in cell culture and transplanted back into the testicles, could reinitiate complete spermatogenesis in male prepubertal patients after treatment that eradicates the testicular stem cell pool, e.g. chemotherapy or radiation. This would enable later natural paternity without additional assisted reproductive technology (ART). While spermatids can be isolated from adult men before gonadotoxic therapy, frozen and later used for artificial insemination, this option does not exist for boys before puberty, as they do not yet have any spermatozoa. However, sperm cells could be generated through in vitro-spermatogenesis (maturation of spermatids from the patient's own spermatogonial stem cells in the cell culture dish) and later used for artificial insemination. The latter treatment option is also relevant for adult infertile men with meiosis arrest and the desire to have children. Although all these therapeutic approaches are being pursued worldwide and are under constant development, they are still at an experimental level. Using various 3D cell culture models as well as organ culture, we aim to advance the research in this field.

Another important research topic is male sexual dysfunction including Peyronie´s disease, especially the impact of multi-disciplinary treatment on patient-

reported outcome. There are ongoing prospective and randomized controlled studies at our Department.

Relevant papers related to the research activities

Germ Cell Maintenance and Sustained Testosterone and Precursor Hormone Production in Human Prepubertal Testis Organ Culture with Tissues from Boys 7 Years+ under Conditions from Adult Testicular Tissue. Aden NL, Bleeke M, Kordes U, Brunne B, Holstermann B, Biemann R, Ceglarek U, Soave A, Salzbrunn A, Schneider S, von Kopylow K**. 2023**, in: *CELLS-BASEL*. 12, 3, 415, DOI: 10.3390/cells12030415 (**IF 5.1**)

The DNA methylation profile of human spermatogonia at single-cell- and single-allele-resolution refutes its role in spermatogonial stem cell function and germ cell differentiation. Fend-Guella D, von Kopylow K, Spiess A, Schulze W, Salzbrunn A, Diederich S, El Hajj N, Haaf T, Zechner U, Linke M. *MOL HUM REPROD*. **2019**;25(6):283-294 (**IF 3.6**)

Dynamics, ultrastructure and gene expression of human in-vitro organized testis cells from testicular sperm extraction biopsies. von Kopylow K, Schulze W, Salzbrunn A, Schaks M, Schäfer E, Roth B, Schlatt S, Spiess A, *MOL HUM REPROD*. **2018**;24(3):123-134 (**IF 3.6**)

Human spermatogonial markers. von Kopylow K, Spiess A. STEM CELL RES. **2017**;25:300-309, DOI: 10.1016/j.scr.2017.11.011 (**IF 0.8**) (= **Invited review**)

Isolation and gene expression analysis of single potential human spermatogonial stem cells. von Kopylow K, Schulze W, Salzbrunn A, Spiess A. *MOL HUM REPROD*. **201**6;22(4):229-39 (**IF 3.6**)

Fibroblast growth factor receptor 3 is highly expressed in rarely dividing human type A spermatogonia. von Kopylow K, Staege H, Schulze W, Will H, Kirchhoff C. *Histochem Cell Biol*. **2012**;138(5):759-772, DOI: 10.1007/s00418-012-0991-7 (**IF 2.1**)

Differential marker protein expression specifies rarefaction zone-containing human A (dark) spermatogonia. von Kopylow K, Staege H, Spiess A, Schulze W, Will H, Primig M, Kirchhoff C. *REPRODUCTION*. **2012**;143(1):45-57, DOI: 10.1530/REP-11-0290 (**IF 3.7**)

Screening for biomarkers of spermatogonia within the human testis: a whole genome approach. von Kopylow K, Kirchhoff C, Jezek D, Schulze W, Feig C, Primig M, Steinkraus V, Spiess A. *HUM REPROD*. **2010**;25(5):1104-1112, DOI: 10.1093/humrep/deq053 (**IF 6.0**)

What do patients with Peyronie's disease expect from therapy? A prospective multi-center study. Schäfer L, Cremers JF, Witschel B, Schüttfort V, Nieder TO, König F, Vetterlein MW, Gild P, Dahlem R, Fisch M, Kliesch S, Soave A. Andrology. 2024 May;12(4):821-829. doi: 10.1111/andr.13538. Epub 2023 Sep 27.

PMID: 37753879. **IF 3,2**

10. Research Funding

Please specify the amount of available funds in the last 3 years and their source (Government, European Union, University, Local Government, Pharmaceutical Industries, Banks, Foundations….)

Project: Fertility preservation of prepubertal boys with gonadotoxic therapy: Hypoxia and ex vivo-organ culture for the propagation of testicular stem cells

Year	September 2022 (grant approval), project start: June 2023, project duration: 3 years (until June 2026)
Total amount (€)	237.715,00 €
Funding Source(s)	Deutsche Krebshilfe

Project: The feasibility of cognitive behavioral sex therapy for Peyronie´s disease

Year	December 2022 (grant approval), Start: August 2023, project duration: 2 years (until June 2025)
Total amount (€)	30.000,00 €
Funding Source(s)	European Society of Sexual Medicine (ESSM) Research Grant

Pharmaceutical Industries	
Year	2017-2024
Total amount (€)	31.089,00 €
Funding Source(s)	

Insert any additional funding below if required

ORGANIZATION CHARTS

Organization charts legend: Department / Unit Structure

Clinic for Dermatology and Venereology

Director: Prof. Dr. med. Stefan W. Schneider

Department of Andrology

Heads: Priv.-Doz. Dr. med. Armin Soave; Dr. med. Andrea Salzbrunn; Dr. med. Domenica Varwig-Janßen

Staff members: Dr. rer. nat. Kathrein von Kopylow; Priv.-Doz. Dr. rer. nat. Olaf Hellwinkel

Clinic for Urology

Director: Prof. Dr. med. Margit Fisch

Staff members: Priv.-Doz. Dr. med. Armin Soave (Section Andrology)

Outpatient Clinics
Ultrasound
Microsurgical TESE, MESA, VVS, TVS, varicocele corporoplasty, penile prosthesis surgery, gender re-assignment surgery, prostate surgery

(Embryology, Ovarian Stimulation, Oocyte retrieval, Embryo Transfer, ART in cooperating fertility centers)

Diagnosis of infertility

Counseling of infertile couple

Cryopreservation of sperm

Ethics in Andrology

Sexual Medicine
(Institute of Sexual Medicine and Forensic Psychiatry; Director: Prof. Dr. med. Peer Briken)

CENTRE PHOTOS

Please, include at least one high resolution photos

FULL LIST OF PUBLICATIONS (with IF) of staff members from the last 5 years

Dr. rer. nat. Kathrein von Kopylow:

1. Schneider BM, Hamurcu HI, Salzbrunn A, von Kopylow K. Microfluidic systems in testicular in-vitro culture: a powerful model tool for spermatogenesis and reprotoxicity studies. “accepted IN PRINCIPLE for publication in AJA”: 30.12.2024. (IF 3.0)
2. Ruf CG, Hochmuth-Tisch J, Salzbrunn A, Matthies C, Cordes T, von Kopylow K, Wülfing C, Pichlmeier U, Soave A, Dieckmann KP. Pre-orchiectomy semen analysis in patients with testicular germ cell tumours and comparison with healthy men and with patients with other malignancies. *Urol Int*. 2025 Jan 6:1-17. doi: 10.1159/000543360. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 39761660. (IF 1.5)
3. Aden NL, Bleeke M, Kordes UR, Brunne B, Holstermann B, Biemann R, Ceglarek U, Soave A, Salzbrunn A, Schneider SW, von Kopylow K. Germ Cell Maintenance and Sustained Testosterone and Precursor Hormone Production in Human Prepubertal Testis Organ Culture with Tissues from Boys 7 Years+ under Conditions from Adult Testicular Tissue. *Cells*. 2023 Jan 26;12(3):415. doi: 10.3390/cells12030415. PMID: 36766757; PMCID: PMC9913959. (IF 5.1)
4. Dieckmann KP, Tribius S, Angerer M, Salzbrunn A, von Kopylow K, Mollenhauer M, Wülfing C. Testicular germ cell tumour arising 15 years after radiotherapy with 18 Gy for germ cell neoplasia in situ. *Strahlenther Onkol*. 2023 Mar;199(3):322-326. doi: 10.1007/s00066-022-02025-x. Epub 2022 Nov 28. PMID: 36441172. (IF 2.7)
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