**Andreas ZWERGAL, German Center for Vertigo and Balance disorders, University of Munich, Germany**

Andreas Zwergal is the Director of the German Center for Vertigo and Balance Disorders (DSGZ) and associate professor for neuro-otology at the Department of Neurology at the University of Munich. Since 2014 he is the scientific coordinator of a European Network Initiative for interdisciplinary research in vestibular disorders called DIZZYNET. This network includes 80 member from 22 European countries and has started common projects on standardization of methods and databanking.

His research activity is committed to translational research on the pathophysiology and treatment of vestibular disorders using a variety of methods from neurophysiology, neuropsychology and multimodal imaging in vestibular animal models and patient cohort with acute and chronic peripheral and central vestibulopathies. His group has further delineated processes of vestibular compensation and plasticity after acute vestibular damage, the structure of ascending vestibular projections, the consequences of bilateral vestibular damage for higher vestibular function. The group has received funding from the BMBF and several national and international agencies.

His education includes a degree in Medicine (2000-2006), PhD dissertation on the molecular mechanisms of immunological tolerance (Technical University Munich, 2005), a postgraduate training at the Cornell University, New York (2006). Later he continued his training as a resident of Neurology at the University of Munich (2006-2014) and received his specialization in Neurology in 2014. He has been clinical supervisor in neuro-otology and vascular neurology in the DSGZ from 2014. In the DSGZ, he has led a Young Scientist Group (2009-2014) and Senior Scientist Group (2014-2019). He has a specific expertise in clinical neuro-otology, movement disorders and cognitive neurology. He contributed scientifically to a wide-range of studies in translational and clinical neuro-otology and neurology. He is author of 95 papers at PubMed with a cumulative impact factor of > 300 and a H-index of 28 (Google Scholar). He has received several research prizes (including the European Investigator Ward by the EAN and young scientist award from the Barany-Society) and is listed in the top 10 experts worldwide in the field of vestibular disease by the Expertscape platform.