

Andreas Bernkop-Schnürch



Member of the IMI Scientific Committee

Head of the Institute of Pharmacy, University of Innsbruck

Andreas Bernkop-Schnürch (born in Klagenfurt 6 December 1965) was educated in pharmacy and in microbiology and genetics at the University of Vienna, Austria, finishing his doctorate in 1994.

In 2003 he was appointed to a chair in pharmaceutical technology at the University of Innsbruck.

He is author of over 300 research articles and reviews as well as editor and (co-)author of several books. As of November 2016 his publications have been cited over 13,500 and his H-index is 61.

Andreas Bernkop-Schnürch is the founder of Mucobiomer Biotechnologische Forschungs- und Entwicklungs GmbH (now part of the Croma-Pharma GmbH), Thiomatrix Forschungs- und Beratungs GmbH and Green River Polymers Forschungs und Entwicklungs GmbH.

Previous and other positions

- From 2006-2013 he served as dean of the Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy, University of Innsbruck, Austria.
- Andreas Bernkop-Schnürch serves currently as CSO of Thiomatrix GmbH (www.thiomatrix.com).
- He is founder and general manager of Green River Polymers GmbH (www.green-river.eu).

Fields of expertise

- Andreas Bernkop-Schnürch is a leading scientist of multifunctional polymers in the field of drug delivery and therapy. He invented and pioneered thiolated polymers – thiomers – as a new generation of bio- and mucoadhesive polymers. Various medicines based on thiomers have already successfully passed clinical trials and a first product for treatment of dry eye syndrome will soon reach the global pharmaceutical market.
- He also pioneered zeta potential changing nanocarriers and contributed substantial basic knowledge to the field of self-emulsifying drug delivery systems (SEDDS) for mucosal delivery of macromolecular drugs.
- Furthermore, his research focuses on the development of oral, nasal and vaginal delivery systems for biologics including peptide and protein drugs as well as DNA- and RNA-based drugs.