



Florian Heyd

I studied Biochemistry in Berlin and Cambridge (England). In 2006 I obtained the PhD (Dr. rer. nat.) from Essen University and then moved to Montreal for a first postdoc. In 2008 I joined the lab of Kristen Lynch in Dallas for a second postdoc and relocated with the lab to Philadelphia in 2009. In 2011 I moved to Marburg, Germany, where I started as an independent PI with an Emmy-Noether-Fellowship from the DFG. Since 2013 I have been Professor of RNA Biochemistry at FU Berlin. In my lab, we are taking interdisciplinary and collaborative approaches integrating bioinformatics and structural biology with in vitro, cell culture and in vivo work. One focus is body temperature controlled alternative splicing and gene expression, for example in connection with an immune response, the circadian clock, ageing and age-related diseases. Our discovery that alternative splicing coupled to nonsense-mediated decay (AS-NMD) has a fundamental impact on body temperature-controlled gene expression led to our interest in using ASOs to modulate AS-NMD and gene expression in translational projects. We are for example developing ASOs to increase the expression of the broadly neuroprotective cold-induced protein RBM3 at normothermia.