

# Thomas Klimkait, PhD.

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#### **Current job description**

Professor for Microbiology. Our institution provides clinical diagnostic services for the local University Hospital, which also forms a center for the Swiss HIV cohort Study. Within the Diagnostics Unit my responsibility is: HIV notification lab, Diagnostic Virus serology, and studies in various areas of virology. My research focuses on new diagnostics for HIV (Development of a validated phenotypic HIV resistance test, a tropism test, work on low level viremia). As a member of the Scientific Board of the Swiss HIV Cohort Study (SHCS) I am conducting a number of studies and contribute to others as well as to the HIV Resistance database.

## Why do you want to be a board member?

As ESAR Board Member I would like to create a link of the Swiss HIV Cohort Study (SHCS) to other European researchers. Although this is not a straightforward step this may be eventually facilitated through such a double membership and good links to both bodies.

Moreover, as Research Group leader I am interested in active collaboration and in contributing to an active, interactive network of scientists in the field.

## What is your contribution to ESAR?

As member of ESAR I have contributed to defining tropism guidelines and for HIV resistance testing. I actively participated in discussions of projects, future strategies and directions.

I am participating (and will continue to do so) in joint research with other ESAR groups and individual members. I am contributing relevant data for ESAR publications.

#### What is your vision for ESAR?

I intend to help develop ESAR into a Europe-wide respected scientific body with crucial expertise on HIV, Hepatitis viruses and other human-pathogenic viruses.