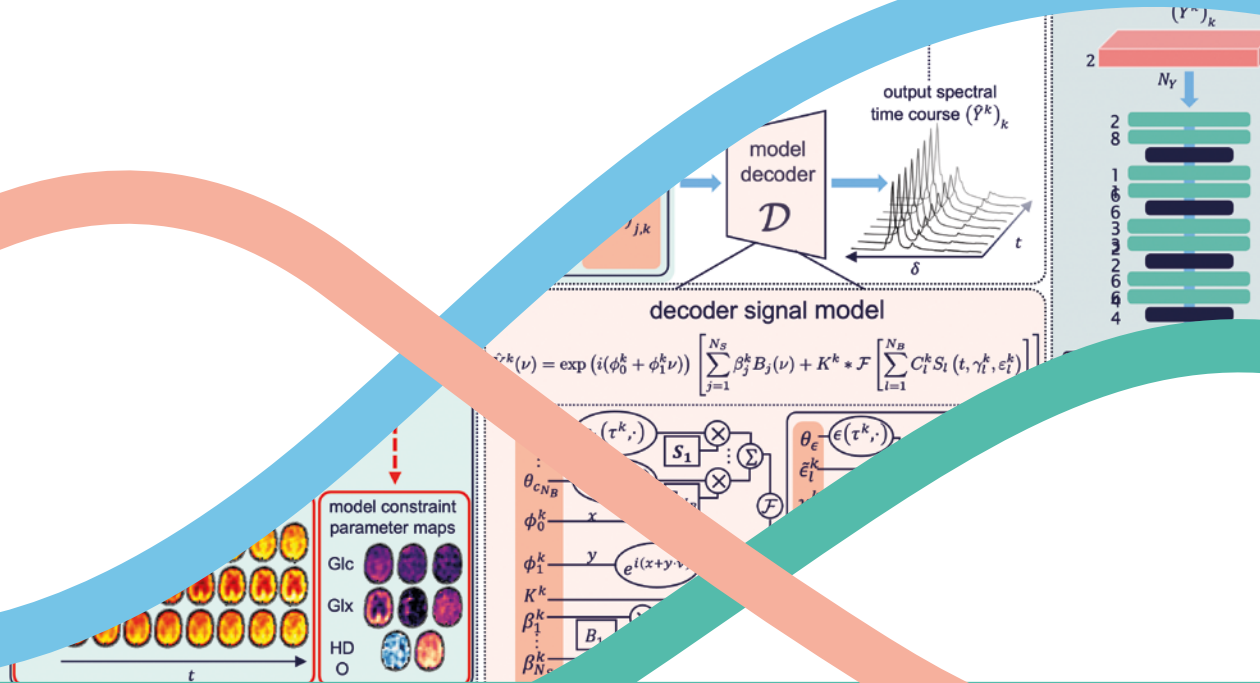




MEDICAL UNIVERSITY
OF VIENNA



Artificial Intelligence

Annual Report
2025

Editorial



2025 was a year marked by significant ongoing development at the Medical University of Vienna. Research, teaching and patient care were shaped by medical practices that are focused increasingly on data, prevention and precision. In this context, artificial intelligence is no longer just a tool, but a driving force that facilitates the investigation of new scientific issues – and it is also reshaping processes.

MedUni Vienna has bundled its expertise in this pioneering field at the Comprehensive Center for Artificial Intelligence. The Center will strengthen collaboration between clinicians, researchers and technical disciplines. From imaging and intensive care medicine to dermatology and neurology: AI is helping to reveal patterns, identify risks at an earlier stage and refine personalised medical procedures.

In addition, this Annual Report highlights the fact that innovation requires infrastructure, values and people. The progress made on MedUni Campus Mariannengasse, the Center for Translational Medicine, the Eric Kandel Institute – Center for Precision Medicine and the Anna Spiegel research building is creating new spaces for dialogue, research and

teaching. New programmes, degrees, partnerships and clinical milestones underline how far-reaching this development is.

Social responsibility, a contemporary leadership culture, inclusion, equal opportunities and dialogue with the public are just as important. A university as large as ours measures its performance not only using indicators, but also in terms of how it makes knowledge accessible, builds trust, and connects historical responsibility with a forward-looking attitude.

I would like to thank all of our employees, students, partners and supporters who are helping to make this development possible. As the 2025 Annual Report goes to show: MedUni Vienna is truly playing its part in shaping the future of medicine.

A handwritten signature in dark blue ink, appearing to read 'Markus Müller'.

Professor Markus Müller
Rector, Medical University of Vienna



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Artificial intelligence

Health goes digital. Beyond its use as a tool at MedUni Vienna, artificial intelligence is a research subject in its own right and the focus of numerous teams' development activities – with 2025 bringing key breakthroughs and structural innovations.

As a leading research institution, MedUni Vienna drives innovation and has already set many groundbreaking developments in motion. On average, around 2,500 research projects are in progress at the university every year. Some centre on basic research matters, while others explore the issues that are close to people, and often also find their way into clinical application. Digital tools are playing an increasing role in medicine – a development triggered by contemporary analysis methods. The volume of evaluable

data has increased enormously as a result. Consequently, machine-learning methods are vital for gaining insights from the large data sets involved.

“We are on the threshold of a new, AI- and molecular biology-driven era of medicine, in which the idea that people should ideally no longer get sick at all is no longer wishful thinking,” said Markus Müller, Rector of Med- Uni Vienna. Developments are moving away from reactive medicine towards prevention

The Comprehensive Center for Artificial Intelligence in Medicine is setting standards in AI research

On 1 January 2025, MedUni Vienna's combined AI expertise was brought together at the Comprehensive Center for Artificial Intelligence in Medicine (CAIM) in a move designed to optimise knowledge transfer and external impact alike. “We established the centre for strategic reasons, because it allows us to drive AI technologies in medicine forward more effectively,” says Georg Langs Head of the Department of Biomedical Imaging and Image-guided Therapy. The teams, in which technicians work closely with clinicians, are anchored in their organisational unit and at the same time in CAIM.

The opening in June generated great interest: 300 visitors came to hear the Principal Investigators present their AI projects.





Julieta Di Marco, Giuseppe Morgese, Georg Langs and Ivana Janíčková
Department of Biomedical Imaging and Image-guided Therapy and the Comprehensive Center for AI in Medicine



» Medical training not only needs to reflect digital developments, it must actively shape them. Our goal is to train students to give them the necessary expertise to classify artificial intelligence, use it responsibly and critically understand its added value for medicine. «

Anita Rieder
Vice Rector for Education

and precision medicine. AI tools play a central role in this, as they help to decipher a person's individual characteristics and develop targeted therapies.

Pushing the pace of AI research

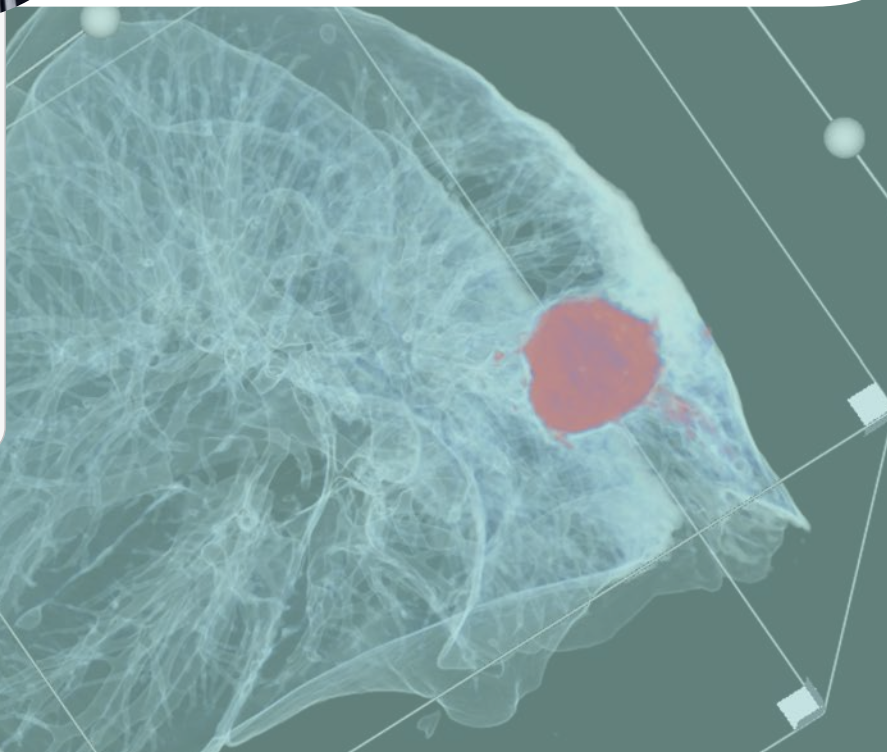
MedUni Vienna is not only a user of existing AI solutions: it is actively helping to develop them. The competencies involved are bundled in the Digital Medicine Research Platform. 22 AI teams have already been established, and there are plans to add even more in the future. Launched in 2025, the Comprehensive Center for Artificial Intelligence in Medicine (CAIM) creates the structural framework for the various research groups working on machine learning at MedUni Vienna to move closer together. AI jobs at CAIM are highly sought after, with the PhD call in June 2025 attracting almost 800 applications for seven PhD positions.

Other AI powerhouses – such as Mila in Montreal, Canada, and the Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Lab at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Boston, USA – have also



» With the Comprehensive Center for Artificial Intelligence in Medicine, new research groups and high-calibre appointments, MedUni Vienna took decisive steps in 2025 to further expand AI as a driver of innovation, precision medicine and international visibility. «

Michaela Fritz
Vice Rector for Research and Innovation



adopted hub structures. “We employ incredible talents and want to give them the opportunity to be part of a large community,” said Head of CAIM Georg Langs. He explains that besides facilitating numerous small research successes, it also helps tackle the major problems in medicine: using AI to, for example, decipher mechanisms – from the organ to the cellular level – that cause diseases or influence the effects of medications. The Center for Translational Medicine and the Eric Kandel Institute – Center for Precision Medicine, which are being built on campus, will also bring AI researchers together under one roof – progress updates on these construction projects can be found on page 15.

PanDerm reliable for skin analysis

AI-supported prediction models are already showing real benefits for patients today in various areas, including dermatology. One study led by Monash University in Melbourne, the University of Queensland in Brisbane and MedUni Vienna investigated the versatility and reliability of the newly developed PanDerm AI system in the diagnosis of skin diseases. The findings showed that this open-source model delivered highly promising results for different conditions and can be a valuable support for doctors due to its diagnostic accuracy and efficiency.

Nature Medicine

Prognoses for the liver using AI

Severe liver complications can also be accurately predicted by AI models – without any invasive procedures or special equipment. Researchers at MedUni Vienna developed a machine learning model that draws on blood test results to precisely predict severe liver-related complications such as ascites or internal bleeding. This was demonstrated in a study by a team led by Georg Kramer and Thomas Reiberger, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at the Department of Medicine III, in cooperation with Hannover Medical School (MHH). Identifying patients with a high risk of disease progression at an early stage is crucial for providing preventive treatment in time.

JHEP Reports

Acquiring digital skills

On the syllabus. A postgraduate programme and two master’s programmes provide the tools for digital medicine while opening up extensive opportunities for graduates. In the Medicine and Dentistry degree programmes, digital skills are integrated into the curriculum and offered as electives.

Digital Medicine: “We want to train medical professionals who can operate proficiently at the interface between medicine and IT,” said programme director Oliver Kimberger from the Department of Anaesthesia, Intensive Care Medicine and Pain Medicine. The focus is on artificial intelligence, machine learning, innovation and project management, computer science, bioinformatics, telehealth, healthcare informatics and robotics. The EU co-funded DS4Health project created the framework for this part-time programme, which was developed in close coordination with several European universities.

www.meduniwien.ac.at/en/postgraduate-digital-medicine

Medical Informatics: This master’s programme is aimed at computer scientists who are looking to gain a foothold in medical research. Georg Dorffner from the Institute of Artificial Intelligence is curriculum director.

www.meduniwien.ac.at/en/medical-informatics-master

Molecular Precision Medicine: MedUni Vienna offers this master’s programme in partnership with the University of Vienna. It bridges basic research with translational and clinical science, attracting participants from various countries around the world. “IT knowledge is critical for the development of new treatments, as next-generation sequencing and other ‘omics’ technologies have massively increased the volume of data,” said programme director Thomas Leonard.

www.meduniwien.ac.at/en/molecular-precision-medicine-master

José Morano Sánchez,
Thomas Pinetz,
Marzieh Oghbaie,
Tianze Tang
Center for Medical Data
Science, Institute of
Artificial Intelligence



»The progress on our construction projects shows that we consistently translate investments into future-proof infrastructure. With the MedUni Campus Mariannengasse and sustainable energy solutions, we are creating lasting frameworks for research, teaching and responsibility at the same time.«

Volkan Talazoglu
Vice Rector for Finance

Decoding brain activity

AI models are also leading to breakthroughs in the field of neurology. An international team developed a new computer-based method, with significant involvement from Adam Gosztolai, Institute of Artificial Intelligence, which enables the precise analysis and comparison of neuronal activity patterns in the brains of different living beings. Called MARBLE (MANifold Representation Basis LEarning), it uses modern machine learning algorithms for a better understanding of brain functions. However, the mathematical basis of the method is by no means limited to brain signals. "Our assumption is that our tool will also benefit other areas of the life and natural sciences," Gosztolai confirmed.

Nature Methods

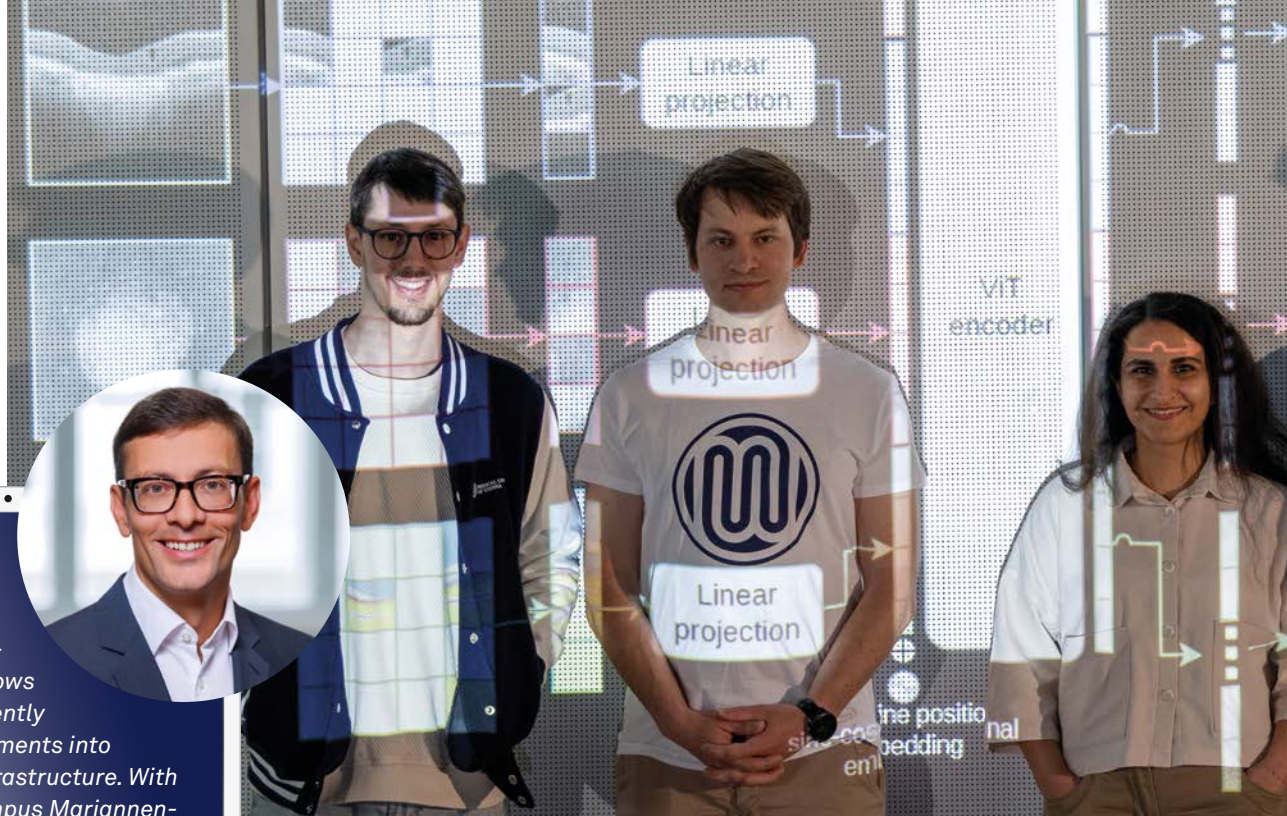
Chatting with cells

Another example illustrates how AI has the potential to make biomedical research more accessible. Single-cell sequencing provides valuable insights into the internal processes of cells – but advanced bioinformatics knowledge is needed to understand the data. Researchers from CeMM, MedUni Vienna and St. Anna Children's Cancer Research developed a software tool that enables data sets of this nature to be investigated using natural language, eliminating the need for coding expertise. Users simply chat with the cells and an AI assistant called CellWhisperer provides authoritative information.

Nature Biotechnology

Deep learning for intensive care medicine

While intensive care medicine is another area that is highly suitable for AI analyses – given that it collects a large amount of data on an ongoing basis – the field still has ground to cover. To drive developments forward, a call from the Vienna Science, Research and Technology Fund (WWTF) came at just the right time: through the "Vienna Research Groups for Young Investigators Call 2025", the team managed to secure funding of around EUR 1.5 million. It also brought computer scientist Camila Gonzalez on board, who moved from Stanford University in California to MedUni Vienna.





» MedUni Vienna is strengthening its position as an internationally visible institution because it combines excellence in research, teaching and patient care with clear values, good governance and a strong employer brand. This ensures it remains attractive and competitive in the long term. «

Eva Dichand

Chair of the University Council



Algorithms must be carefully tested before they are used in clinical practice. "And that is exactly what we want to do and become an AI validation centre," said Stefan Schaller, Department of Anesthesia, Critical Care and Pain Medicine. Recognising patterns on the intensive care unit makes sense so that the treating team does not overlook anything, meaning that conditions such as life-threatening sepsis can be picked up at an early stage. Work is also underway on setting up an intensive care database that allows analyses from several European university hospitals – a large data pool in which deep-learning models can be tested, while the data remains at the individual centres. "Camila Gonzalez, two other postdocs and several PhDs are supporting us in all these projects," said Schaller.

Growth through APART-USA

Two more postdocs have come to MedUni Vienna via the APART-USA funding programme. This programme is geared towards outstanding postdocs in American institutions who want to continue their research in Austria – not least because of the uncertainties in the sector in the US.

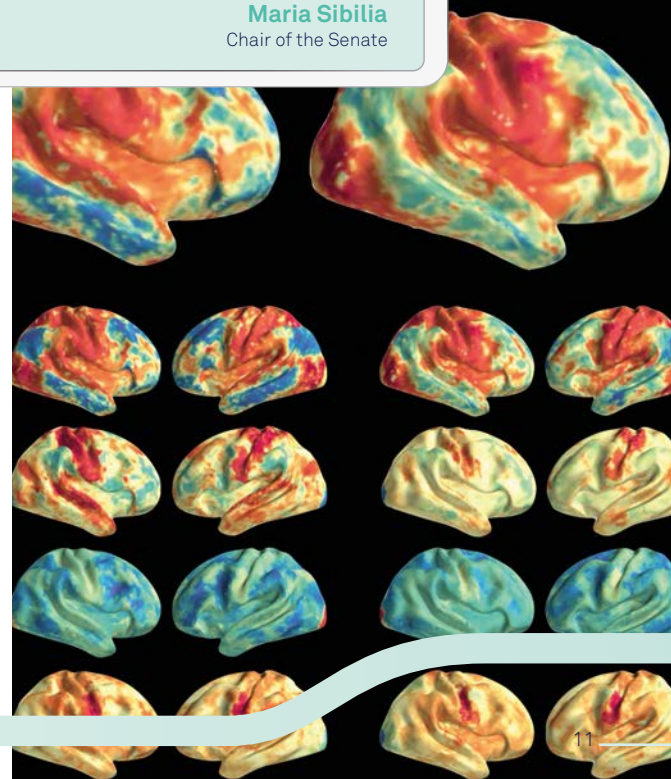
Decoding epilepsy

One of the postdocs is Maximilian Nentwich, who during his doctorate in New York focused on biomarkers in mental illnesses. He moved back to his

» The Senate is accompanying the ongoing development of MedUni Vienna in a phase of significant substantive and structural change. What is crucial is that scientific excellence, modern teaching and responsible decision-making together ensure the quality of the university in the long term. «

Maria Sibilia

Chair of the Senate



“AI can make processes more efficient”

Interview. Deeply engaged with digital medicine, Ulrike Attenberger gave the university lecture on the Day of MedUni Vienna 2025.

What is artificial intelligence already delivering today?

» AI can make processes more efficient – something which will be essential to address the shortage of skilled workers. 25% of people's time is spent on administrative tasks. Precisely the area where AI applications can help. And it will be crucial how we can use AI for precision medicine in the future.

Where are the development challenges?

» It goes without saying that “garbage in, garbage out” applies: the quality of the data used to train and validate a model has a decisive bearing on the output. At the same time, vast quantities of data are needed. In Europe, we have discussed ethical and data protection issues extensively in recent years. The EU AI Act is an important step. But we also need to make sure that we do not fall behind globally when it comes to the development, evaluation and implementation of prediction models.

How good are the decisions that AI applications make?

» At the moment, AI is seen as a tool. Ultimate responsibility lies with the doctor. The black box issue is the subject of intense debate: as far as self-learning systems that derive rules from observations are concerned, there isn't a good way to check how they arrive at decisions. And this raises legal and ethical questions. My prediction is that the future will become more transdisciplinary: computer vision specialists will also become established players in healthcare.



Ulrike Attenberger
Department of
Biomedical Imaging
and Image-guided
Therapy

home country of Austria and is strengthening the EPICONN clinical research group, which is dedicated to the identification of biomarkers for epilepsy. “Although several medications are available to suppress seizures, they are insufficiently effective in around a third of patients,” said group leader Silvia Bonelli-Nauer, Department of Neurology.

Expectations of modern epilepsy research are high. While it was previously assumed that a single epileptic focus could trigger seizures, current research is focusing on complex neuronal networks in the brain. “This represents a genuine paradigm shift. By creating individual profiles of active brain regions through multimodal measurements such as EEG and fMRI, new avenues for personalised treatment options can open up,” explains Bonelli-Nauer. The findings should help to better understand the disease, predict its course more precisely and open the door for proactive and individualised treatment of those affected.

Lymphomas in the crosshairs

The team headed by Gerda Egger from the Department of Pathology is also welcoming reinforcements thanks to the APART-USA funding programme. Cosimo Lobello previously worked in Mariusz Wasik's research group at the Fox Chase Cancer Center in Philadelphia, which made significant progress in lymphoma diseases. “It all fits perfectly with our research project,” said Egger. Together with her team, she is investigating a subgroup of lymphomas that mainly occur in children and young adults.



» The combination of data-driven research, clinical expertise and new infrastructure smooths the path from scientific knowledge to application at the patient's bedside. This is precisely where MedUni Vienna demonstrated strength in 2025 – to the benefit of patients. «

Oswald Wagner

Vice Rector for Clinical Affairs

The fact that this is a rare disease is a challenge for research. "There are good precision medicine therapies available today, but the cancer cells develop resistance mechanisms against them. Understanding how these arise and how we can bypass them would be the key to better treatment options. This is what we will be working on with Cosimo Lobello and another PhD student."

Understanding ageing processes

Career models have also brought young AI talents to MedUni Vienna. By way of example, on 1 December physicist Stathis Megas joined the "Metabolic Control of Aging and Diseases" excellence cluster, or MetAGE for short, where he is strengthening the team as part of a tenure-track professorship at the Department of Medicine III. A junior professorship to begin with, the role transitions to a permanent position after five years and a positive evaluation. Before joining MetAGE, he worked at the University of Cambridge in the group headed by Sarah Teichmann, co-initiator of the Human Cell Atlas.



» High performance arises where innovative research, clinical experience and interdisciplinary collaboration mesh. Modern infrastructure supports new developments and continuous improvements in patient care. «

Herwig Wetzlinger

Director, University Hospital Vienna
(a business unit of the Vienna Hospitals Association)



*Tobias Zott, Klaudia Narbekovas
Department of General Surgery*

“His physics-inspired focus fits perfectly with our project,” said Thomas Scherer, Deputy Director of Research of the MetAGE consortium. “He develops AI models to illuminate processes at the molecular and cellular level, which delivers a better understanding of the pathophysiology behind ageing pro-

cesses at organ level.” Using deep-learning algorithms, Stathis Megas searches gene data for the reasons why organs can age at different rates. “AI analysis allows patterns to be identified that would not be recognisable in any other way, and then we test them in biological models,” says Scherer.

Newly constituted Senate

The newly elected Senate of MedUni Vienna got down to work on 1 October 2025. This marked the beginning of its eighth term of office, which runs until the end of September 2028. Maria Sibilia was re-elected chair, with Birgit Willinger, Sophie Weissgärber, Markus Zeitlinger and Gordana Sikanic incumbent as deputies. The Senate consists of selected professors, academic staff, students and representatives of general staff.



*The newly constituted Senate: all members
perform their duties on a voluntary basis.*

Anna Spiegel research building extension opened

Infrastructure. The first construction project on the new research campus was the extension to the Anna Spiegel research building. Significant progress was also made on the other centres at the location.

The basic research conducted at MedUni Vienna is among the best in the world. To maintain standards in the long term, a modern extension was added to the existing Anna Spiegel research building. Research groups had already moved into the new wing by November 2025, ahead of the official opening in December, an event that also gave visitors the opportunity to tour the premises.

Anna Spiegel: from laboratory to bedside

A centre for interdisciplinary basic research with the aim of transferring new scientific findings rapidly into the clinical setting, the Anna Spiegel extension is designed to facilitate collaboration between multiple research departments – bringing them together at a well-equipped, state-of-the-art location. The space freed up in the main University Hospital Vienna building in the wake of the relocation is being used to expand outpatient clinics and directly improve patient care as a result.

Gustav Klimt's Faculty Painting "Medicine" has adorned the façade since autumn 2024.



Numerous visitors took the opportunity in December to tour the new Anna Spiegel extension.





At the topping-out ceremony for the Eric Kandel Institute – Center for Precision Medicine (from left): Alexander Galvan (Drees & Sommer), Herwig Wetzlinger (University Hospital Vienna), Matthias Ristl (STRABAG), Federal Minister Eva-Maria Holzleitner, Rector Markus Müller, Alexander Mileski (STRABAG) and Josef Moser (Moser Architects).



Volkan Talazoglu, Vice Rector for Finance, during a construction site tour at MedUni Campus Mariannengasse.

Topping-out ceremony for the Eric Kandel Institute

In the immediate vicinity, the Eric Kandel Institute – Center for Precision Medicine, named after Austrian Nobel Prize winner Eric Kandel, is under construction, with considerable progress made in 2025. September brought a special milestone marked by a traditional ceremony to celebrate the completion of the building's roof structure – an important step for this visionary project. Funded through donations and EU grants, it will become the workplace of around 200 researchers at MedUni Vienna.

From 2026, highly specialised teams will research the possibilities of personalised and digital medicine at the new facility. Covering 6,100m², it creates the optimal conditions for them to develop individualised prevention, diagnosis and treatment methods. The infrastructure being created here represents a significant gain for Vienna as a

science and medical location – and another step towards greater international visibility.

Topping-out ceremony for MedUni Campus Mariannengasse

The major MedUni Campus Mariannengasse project had already celebrated its topping-out earlier: for the main construction area (sections 1 to 4) in February 2025, following completion of the roof construction for sections 5 and 6 at the beginning of 2024. A university campus for around 2,000 students and 750 staff is being created in the heart of Vienna. Around 35,000m² of usable space will be created to bring together the previously scattered preclinical facilities of MedUni Vienna in a location that also includes state-of-the-art spaces for teaching and research.

Sustainable district cooling

The MedUni Campus Mariannengasse also stands out for another reason: a district cooling centre operated by Wien Energie is being built at the site, which, beyond supplying the entire campus, will also provide some parts of the local neighbourhood with sustainable cooling – as well as heating the MedUni Campus using waste heat. It is the eighth large cooling centre operated by utility company Wien Energie. It features an ice storage system that sets new standards in terms of energy efficiency. Compared to conventional air conditioning systems, the district cooling centre



The ice storage system sets new standards in sustainable energy (from left): Michael Strebl (Wien Energie), Saya Ahmad (District Councillor Alsergrund), Christine Dornaus (BIG) and Volkan Talazoglu (MedUni Vienna).

at MedUni Campus Mariannengasse cuts CO₂ emissions by around 1,000 tonnes per year.

“With the connection and supply of MedUni Campus Mariannengasse via the newly built district cooling centre, we are taking an active step in living up to our social responsibility and role model function in the areas of sustainability, resource conservation and limiting the climate crisis,” explained Volkan Talazoglu, Vice Rector for Finance at MedUni Vienna. University operations are scheduled to begin at the site in the 2027/2028 winter semester. By then, the district cooling centre will already be feeding into the cooling network.



The ice storage facility at MedUni Campus Mariannengasse: highly efficient chillers cool water to five to six degrees Celsius, which is distributed throughout the building to provide pleasant cooling.

Successful FFG call for MOONSHOT

High-tech infrastructure. MedUni Vienna's Core Facilities secured EUR 2.5 million in funding to establish the MOONSHOT multi-omics platform.



The facilities give researchers access to high-tech equipment for their laboratory projects. In July 2025, a funding commitment from the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG) secured new equipment worth EUR 2.5 million that will set new standards in translational and personalised medicine. Specifically, it will be used to realise the MOONSHOT project – short for Multi-Omics for Optimizing Novel biomarker Signatures in High-throughput for Omics-based Translational precision medicine. “MOONSHOT makes it possible to identify disease-relevant biomarkers quicker with closer targeting, and integrate them into clinical application,” said Johann Wojta, Head of the Core Facilities. “In this way, we are making an important contribution to the further development of precision medicine in Austria and beyond.”

Boost for precision medicine

The infrastructure enables both highly sensitive analyses at single-cell level and spatially resolved insights into tissue samples – a decisive step forward in researching disease-specific signalling pathways, as well as finding precise diagnostic and therapeutic approaches. The ideal conditions for interdisciplinary collaboration and innovation are being created as a result of the close physical proximity to the new centres at MedUni Vienna.



Values and culture

Strategy. MedUni Vienna's mission statement provides clear orientation and forms the foundation for everything it does.

We shape the future but never lose sight of our chequered history

MedUni Vienna acknowledges its difficult past and the responsibility that derives in particular from the period after 1938. It actively opposes discrimination and antisemitism and combines this historical awareness with its current pursuit of excellence.

Taking on responsibility and building trust

As Austria's leading medical institution, the university acts transparently and for the common good. Tolerance, inclusion and the satisfaction of staff and students are central foundations.

Empathy and enthusiasm – the driving forces behind our work

Empathy shapes daily work for the benefit of patients and society. Research and teaching are driven by enthusiasm and consistently focus on the issues that will define the future.



Striving to gain insights, develop innovations and achieve excellence

Independent work, creative thinking and innovative developments ensure cutting-edge research and international recognition.

Lived cooperation: building a positive working environment through close collaboration

Interdisciplinarity and a collaborative organisational culture strengthen cooperation, conflict resolution and the continuing development of the entire team.

Our actions are defined by respect and an open mind

Respect, tolerance, equal opportunities and high ethical standards characterise the working environment. Sustainability and the responsible use of resources are central to our day to day work.



Family-friendly

In 2025, MedUni Vienna once again successfully participated in the *hochschuleundfamilie* audit, which systematically analyses and promotes the continued development of a family-friendly working environment. For years, the university has held the state quality seal from the Federal Ministry for Labour, Family and Youth. Besides enjoying strong uptake, the various measures in place at MedUni Vienna – including holiday childcare and counselling services – serve to strengthen the university's reputation as a family-friendly employer. The audit also extends to areas that are of direct concern to students such as pregnancy, care responsibilities and family commitments. Highly positive feedback confirms the success of the certification while motivating MedUni Vienna expand its services in this area.

High proportion of women

MedUni Vienna and University Hospital Vienna rely on female expertise in all areas – from nursing and medicine to research. Published for International Women's Day 2025, figures from 2020 and 2025 confirm that women make up over three quarters (76%) of the University Hospital Vienna workforce – clear evidence of the expertise women bring to essential professions. It is pleasing to see the increase in the number of female doctors and female natural scientists. Almost every second medical position is held by a woman, and the proportion of women in natural science professions (pharmacy, chemistry, physics) has risen to 83%.

A new leadership culture at MedUni Vienna

Leadership and reputation. MedUni Vienna is strengthening its leadership culture through its competence model. Because good leadership not only has an internal impact – it also enhances external perceptions of the university in the long term.

In science in particular, expertise and personal reputation count for a great deal. In the long term, though, the reputation of the entire organisation is also a decisive factor. A strong brand, a shared understanding of leadership and a good leadership culture contribute to MedUni Vienna's international visibility.

Leadership is a key factor in a university's continuing development. It shapes how collaboration succeeds, how decisions are made and how attractive MedUni Vienna is to staff, students and new talent.

Initiated by Michaela Fritz, Vice Rector for Research and Innovation, a participatory process was launched to collaboratively shape the university's culture, leadership, and reputation. Under the joint project leadership of Michaela Fritz and Johannes

Angerer (Corporate Communications), managers and external partners were interviewed. Key topics were developed, discussed and prioritised in focus groups.

Brand and leadership

The result is a Leadership Framework featuring 10+1 Opportunities that will be used to inspire specific measures. "This is the first time we have created a shared understanding of what leadership means to us and what specific goals we are pursuing in this area. We are strengthening our leadership skills and actively developing our university culture. This provides clarity, enhances collaboration, and makes an important contribution to MedUni Vienna's reputation," said Michaela Fritz.



10+1 Opportunities for cultural change

Opportunity 1

Recognising leadership as a key competence

A broader understanding of leadership: it's not just individual expertise and scientific recognition that count – core leadership tasks such as personnel and organisational management are also increasing priorities.

Opportunity 2

Creating new spaces and formats for networking and cooperation

Formats such as the Leadership Day, staff development seminars, and new research platforms create opportunities for exchange and offer fresh perspectives for each individual's professional work.

Opportunity 3

Rethinking internal communication

More efficient, transparent and inclusive: information is made more easily accessible. Examples include steps being undertaken to bring additional clarity to the structure of the intranet and make it more readily searchable, as well as sharing news via channels such as infoscreens.

Opportunity 4

Clarifying expectations for the Triple Track

A new track, "Clinical Education & Medical Training", has been added to "Research" and "Teaching" in the internal career agreement, a career model for high potentials with a three-year duration.

Opportunity 5

Contributing ideas for a learning organisation

The administrative areas are the engine of the organisation as "management and service units". Structures should be designed to promote collaboration, knowledge transfer and continuous development.

Opportunity 6

Using international recruiting campaigns for reputation

A consolidated employer value proposition communicates the strengths of MedUni Vienna as an employer – including for non-academic roles. The aim is to build a visible, authentic and differentiated employer brand.

Opportunity 7

Positioning MedUni Vienna as a key player in the Austrian research landscape

MedUni Vienna performs strongly in rankings and will continue to build on its positioning in the future.

Opportunity 8

Expanding the international education offering and opening up new business areas

MedUni Vienna is extending its portfolio of study programmes through new degree programmes, actively embracing the challenges of the future.

Opportunity 9

Reviewing the value system ranging through stability and agility

MedUni Vienna stands for the highest standards in research, teaching and patient care. It is crucial that all members share these values and live them both internally and externally.

Opportunity 10

Strengthening reputation through interaction with the international scientific community

The aim is to present achievements in research, teaching and clinical care, enable networking and strengthen the global perception and reputation of the university.

Opportunity 11

Activating students as influencers for reputation

More than 8,000 people study at MedUni Vienna. Activating them as influencers holds great potential for the visibility and reputation of the organisation.



Actively promoting inclusion

Diversity. MedUni Vienna is implementing measures to create a discrimination-free, inclusive working environment – to enhance participation and improve quality of life.

As an employer, MedUni Vienna actively promotes inclusion through a clear concept: it creates dedicated inclusion positions. “What makes this special is that a person with a disability does not fill an existing, urgently needed role, but instead take up a newly created position with a tailored job description. This removes pressure from the outset,” explained Inclusion Officer Lena Linecker. She handles the matching process, supports the team, and ensures the new colleague can work on equal terms and communicate what they can and cannot do.

Onboarding is also different: it begins with an internship, after which a position is created that is specifically adapted to the individual’s abilities and needs. To being with, positions are limited to one year. Several organisational units at MedUni Vienna have already established inclusion roles like this, with consistently positive experiences reported by the entire team. A number of these positions were converted into permanent contracts in 2025.



Peer support in action

At the Department of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, the expertise of two employees in inclusion positions helps improve processes for people with rare diseases. “Because they are affected themselves, they bring an open approach and deep understanding of the challenges faced by our patients,” said Department Head Susanne Greber-Platzer. The path to diagnosis is often long, followed by lifelong care. This means adolescents eventually transition from paediatric to adult medical care. “This transition phase is critical. Here too, the experience of our two colleagues is extremely valuable.”

The two employees are actively involved in various projects, for example managing websites for rare diseases and transition processes, creating hit lists for Orpha codes (an international coding system for rare diseases), drafting protocols, contributing to the European University Hospital Alliance (EUHA) rare diseases network, and supporting flagship projects for the Comprehensive Center for Rare and Undiag-

nosed Diseases run by MedUni Vienna and University Hospital Vienna. Greber-Platzer: “Both of them are a great source of support – I personally gain a great deal from developing a fuller understanding of each individual, including their wishes and needs beyond medical treatment.”

Know-how for the Motion Lab

First-hand experience is also a prized asset for the Department of Physical Medicine, Rehabilitation and Occupational Medicine. Since May 2025, an employee who uses a wheelchair has been working in the clinic’s Motion Lab on projects with patients who are also wheelchair users. “The fact that our new colleague brings her own lived experience is a huge asset in advising patients,” said Department Head Richard Crevenna. Accessibility was a key prerequisite – the clinic has two wheelchair-friendly WC facilities. The colleague in question has a personal assistant and also contributes to the team’s clinical and research work.

Supporting students

MedUni Vienna also supports students with disabilities or chronic illnesses. The Studies and Examinations Department has a dedicated Disability Officer who is available for questions and concerns, advocates for accessible study conditions, and provides individual advice.

Removing architectural barriers

In the new teaching infrastructure currently under construction, accessibility was baked into the plans from the very beginning – not only in terms of mobility but acoustics, too. All lecture halls, large seminar rooms and practical training rooms at MedUni Campus Mariannengasse and the Center for Translational Medicine will be equipped with induction loops and amplifiers to enable barrier-free hearing with inductive hearing systems.



Lena Linecker, Inclusion Officer, Department of Gender Mainstreaming and Diversity, MedUni Vienna

3 questions for Lena Linecker

What does inclusion mean to you?

» Above all, equal opportunities – that people with disabilities have the same chances as everyone else. In Austria, exclusion begins as early as kindergarten – and there are still major barriers in everyday life. When we don't just integrate people with disabilities but truly include them so they can participate on equal terms with the rest of the team, it becomes a gain for everyone.

You are the Inclusion Officer. What exactly do you do?

» I am the first point of contact for employees with disabilities and for managers who want to recruit someone with a disability. I also provide advice when someone develops an impairment during employment – for example, there are funding options available for workplace adaptations. Communication within the team is also crucial to prevent conflicts from arising in the first place.

How does MedUni Vienna ensure inclusion in the workplace?

» One specific measure is that the Rectorate has pre-approved inclusion positions – part-time and initially limited to one year – so we can see whether the arrangement works. The goal is for these individuals to move into regular positions that match their qualifications. If they are suitable, we work closely with HR to enable them to stay. It is important for the whole team that the new position is a relief and not an additional burden.





The day began – on International Women's Day – with a networking breakfast for female staff in the Jugendstil lecture hall.



"Celebrating Women's Careers in Science": a panel discussion addressed career opportunities and obstacles for women in research.

Day of MedUni Vienna

Event. MedUni Vienna celebrated its foundation day on 12 March 2025 and offered a varied programme.

Christine Radtke of the Department of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery conducted a live operation. Students had the opportunity to witness a facial nerve reconstruction and ask the surgical team questions.



A central event on the annual calendar is the commemoration at the Memorial Against Forgetting. Because 12 March not only marks the university's foundation day but also the anniversary of Austria's annexation by Nazi Germany in 1938. Subsequently, more than half of the professors and lecturers at the Medical Faculty were expelled or murdered.

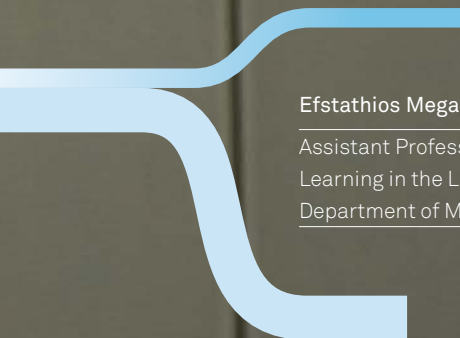


Two AI-themed lectures Ulrike Attenberger, radiologist at MedUni Vienna, and Michael Bronstein, founding director of the new AITHYRA Institute of the Austrian Academy of Sciences presented current developments in artificial intelligence and digitalisation.

Arnold Pollak, former head of the Department of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, looked back on his career in the Alumni Club series Lebenswege together with Vice Rector Anita Rieder.



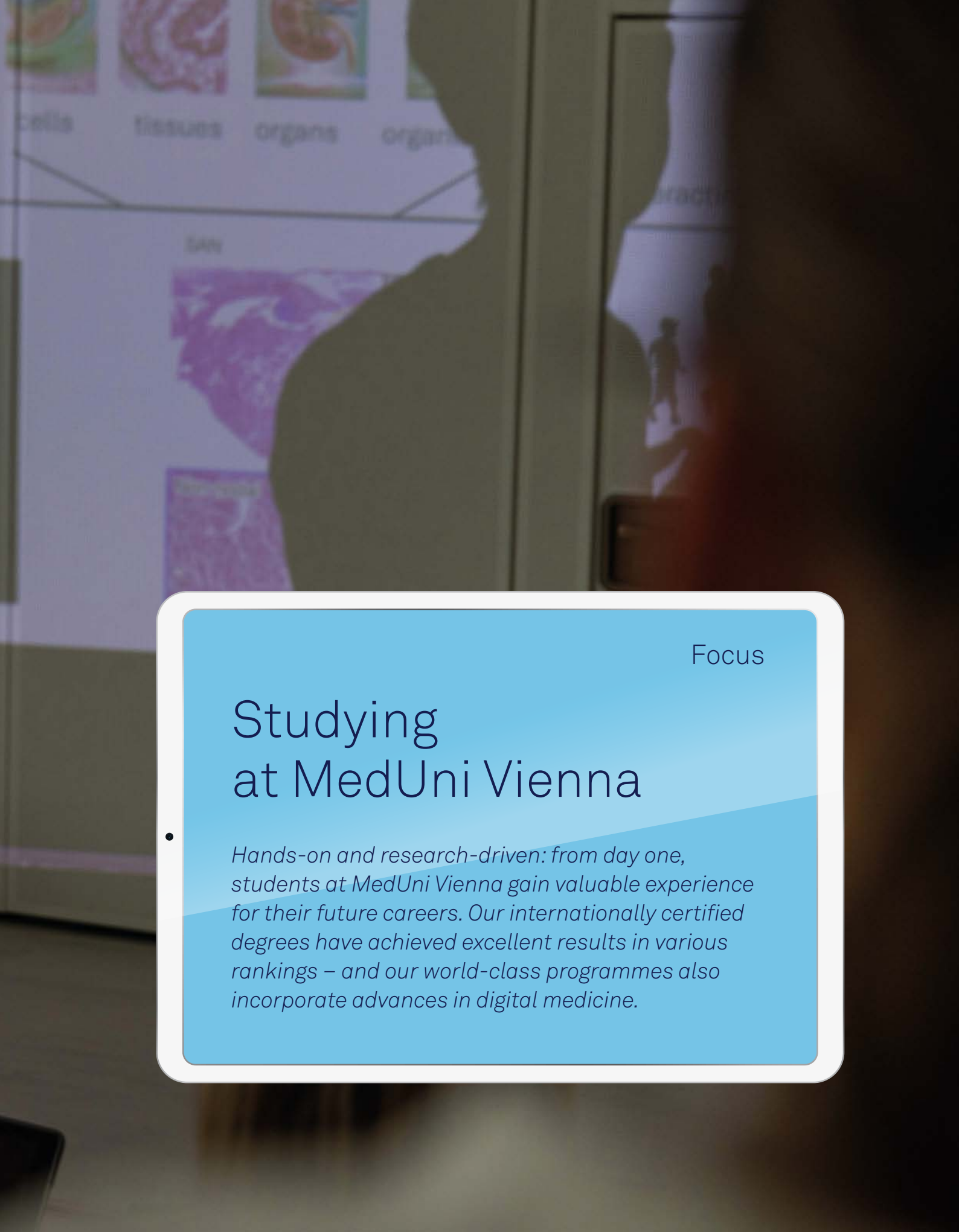
MedUni Vienna Party: The evening came to a close with chilled beats and disco lights at the University Clinic of Dentistry Vienna.



Efstathios Megas

Assistant Professor of Machine
Learning in the Life Sciences,
Department of Medicine III





Focus

Studying at MedUni Vienna

- *Hands-on and research-driven: from day one, students at MedUni Vienna gain valuable experience for their future careers. Our internationally certified degrees have achieved excellent results in various rankings – and our world-class programmes also incorporate advances in digital medicine.*



The MedUni Vienna admission exams took place at the Messe Wien congress centre.

In-demand degrees

Starting out. On 4 July, a total of 12,394 applicants – including over 6,000 in Vienna – took the joint MedAT admission tests for places at the medical universities in Vienna, Innsbruck and Graz and the Faculty of Medicine at Johannes Kepler University Linz.

Large numbers of applicants took the MedAT tests once again in 2025. The admissions procedure for medicine degrees takes place simultaneously at several locations across Austria. In Vienna, 6,183 people sat the tests – out of the 7,729 who originally registered to do so. The candidates had to demonstrate their knowledge in a range of different fields. Besides testing school leavers' knowledge of biology, chemistry, physics and maths, the exams also assessed text comprehension and cognitive abilities, as well as social and emotional skills.

For the most part, the entrance exam for Dentistry is identical to that for the Medicine programme. However, instead of text comprehension and tests on their ability to recognise implications, Dentistry programme applicants were required to demonstrate their manual dexterity, particularly wire-bending skills and their ability to produce mirror images of certain shapes.

Dedicated places

In total, 772 study places were available at MedUni Vienna for the 2025/2026 academic year, and 1,900 in Austria as a whole. A maximum of 85 medicine degree places nationwide are earmarked for public-interest duties. If selected, applicants for one of these places sign an agreement with the institution concerned and make a commitment to actually perform the duties in question.

First PromoLi graduate

The PromoLi programme is designed to make academic careers accessible to students with disabilities. Gabriele Haar – the first PromoLi graduate – carried out research into neurotransmitter transporters and organic cation transporters as part of her PhD studies at the Center for Physiology and Pharmacology.

A molecular biologist, Gabriele wrote her dissertation on “Effects of decynium-22 in sympathetic neurons” at the Division of Neurophysiology and Neuropharmacology.

Cooperation with FH Campus Wien

MedUni Vienna has been collaborating with FH Campus Wien since 2013. The successful partnership was reinforced at the start of 2025 with the signing of a cooperation agreement. Under the partnership, Austria's two largest institutions offering degree programmes in medicine as well as healthcare and nursing subjects share their teaching and research insights, as well as using resources jointly and initiating externally funded doctoral programmes. They have also made a commitment to meet all of their responsibilities under the agreement.

The agreement was signed in January 2025.



2025 white coat welcome

692 first-semester Medicine students and 80 Dentistry freshers started their degrees at MedUni Vienna at the beginning of October. Rector Markus Müller welcomed the new students in person at the white coat welcome event held at the lecture centre. As a special welcome gift, the newcomers were presented with their first MedUni white doctor's coat. The rest of the evening was all about networking with their future fellow students.



On 1 October, Rector Markus Müller gave the 2025 intake some important tips for the new semester.

Molecular Precision Medicine graduates

Successful studies. MedUni Vienna's Molecular Precision Medicine master's programme honours its first 12 graduates.

A journey that started in 2021 came to a conclusion in 2025: the first students to complete the Molecular Precision Medicine master's degree were presented with their diplomas in January. Offered jointly by MedUni Vienna and the University of Vienna, the programme enables students to gain broad-based knowledge of the opportunities, challenges and future prospects associated with precision medicine. The degree gives students the skills they need to bridge the gap between research and clinical applications.

How do diseases develop and how can they be treated at a molecular and mechanistic level? The curriculum provides fundamental insights into forms of clinical presentation, the



Graduation celebration

770 future physicians and dentists completed their degrees at MedUni Vienna in the 2024/25 academic year. At the end of November, around 640 graduates took their academic oath at a ceremony staged in the beautiful setting of Vienna's Konzerthaus. The degree certificates were presented by Rector Markus Müller and Vice Rectors Anita Rieder, Michaela Fritz and Volkan Talazoglu. Around 90 out of the total of 169 PhD graduates also received their certificates at the ceremony.



The programme participants received their diplomas alongside 11 Medical Informatics master's graduates at a joint academic ceremony in the Van Swieten Hall.

process of identifying molecular targets for therapeutic approaches, the development and manufacture of medications, clinical trial procedures, and the evaluation of therapeutics in clinical practice. Graduates of the master's programme also possess core bioinformatics competences, including programming, data mining and analysis – highly sought-after skills for specialists aiming to pursue a career in data science.

Studying medicine and deepening knowledge

Wide-ranging curriculum. Prospective MedUni Vienna students can choose from a broad range of courses, including the Medicine and Dentistry undergraduate programmes, a diversified selection of doctoral and PhD programmes, as well as master's degrees. The portfolio also includes numerous continuing education courses that enable professionals to enhance their expertise.

Undergraduate degree programmes

- Dentistry
- Medicine

Master's degree programmes

- Medical Informatics
- Molecular Precision Medicine (in collaboration with the University of Vienna)

PhD programmes with a focus on basic medical research

- Cardiovascular tissue regeneration and repair*
- Cell Communication in Health Disease*
- Endocrinology and Metabolism
- Immunology
- Infection Biology
- Inflammation and Immunity
- Malignant Diseases
- Medical Imaging
- Medical Informatics, Biostatistics & Complex Systems
- Medical Physics
- Molecular, Cellular and Clinical Allergology
- Molecular Drug Targets*
- Molecular Signal Transduction
- Neuroscience
- RNA Biology
- Signaling Mechanisms in Cellular Homeostasis*
- Vascular Biology

*Programme being phased out, no new admissions

Doctoral programmes in applied medical science with a focus on clinical research

- Biomedical Engineering
- Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Disease
- Clinical Endocrinology, Metabolism and Nutrition
- Clinical Experimental Oncology
- Clinical Neurosciences
- Epidemiology
- Mental Health and Behavioural Medicine
- Musculoskeletal and Dental Research
- POeT – Programme for Organfailure, -replacement and Transplantation
- Preclinical and Clinical Research for Drug Development
- Public Health

Joint PhD programmes

- Molecular Biosciences (in collaboration with the University of Vienna)
- NTU Singapore at MedUni Vienna (in collaboration with Nanyang Technological University)

Postgraduate programmes

- Advanced Diseases – Master of Science (MSc) (Continuing Education)
- Applied Medical Aesthetics
- Clinical Academic Psychotherapeutic Propaedeutic and Medical Humanities (KAPP-MH) – MSc (Continuing Education)
- Clinical Research
- Crisis Intervention and Suicide Prevention
- Digital Medicine
- Endodontology
- Esthetic Dentistry
- Forensic Sciences
- Gender Medicine

Programme coordinator Alice Assinger, Professor in cardiovascular medicine at MedUni Vienna, specialises in research into vascular inflammation mechanisms and platelet biology.

- Health Care Management (HCM-MBA)
- Healthcare Facilities
- Intensive Care
- Interdisciplinary Pain Medicine
- Master of Advanced Studies (MA) in Insurance Medicine
- Master of Applied Medical Aesthetics (MSc)
- Master of Public Health
- Medical Hypnosis
- Medical Physics
- MSc in Occupational and Organizational Medicine
- Occupational Health Assistant
- Occupational Medicine
- Patient Safety in Health Care
- Periodontology and Implantology
- Prosthodontics and Interdisciplinary Therapy Concepts – Academic Expert (AE) or Master of Dental Science (MDS)
- Psychotherapy Research
- Psychotherapy: Behavioural Therapy
- Psychotherapy: Psychoanalytic/Psychodynamic Methods (ULG-PPPM)
- Sleep Coaching – AE or MSc (Continuing Education)
- Special Training in Orthodontics
- Study Management – Academically Certified Study Manager (AE)/MSc in Study Management
- Substance Use Disorders – MSc (Continuing Education)
- Toxicology
- Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM)
- Transcultural Medicine and Diversity Care – AE or MSc (Continuing Education)
- Work Capability and Integration Management



New FWF doctoral programme

Funding call. Thanks to a successful proposal submitted under the Austrian Science Fund (FWF) doc.funds funding call, MedUni Vienna was able to create doctoral positions for research on vascular inflammation and thrombosis.

The FWF's doc.funds programme has provided financing for a total of 65 PhD positions in seven new doctoral programmes throughout Austria. MedUni Vienna is responsible for one of them – the Investigation of the Network of Vascular Inflammation and Thrombosis (NET-IT) programme will provide structured training for early-stage academics in a highly significant medical research field.

Understanding processes

Cardiovascular diseases are among the most common causes of death worldwide. One of the key mechanisms behind them is immunothrombosis, where the immune system interacts with the blood coagulation system. NET-IT will focus on systematic research into these processes – from the molecular fundamentals through to clinical scenarios. Ten research groups at MedUni Vienna are aiming to decipher the complex interplay between the coagulation and immune systems.





Andrea Schmidhofer
Anastasia Meshcheryakova
Diana Mechtcheriakova
Anastasiia Marchuk

Center for Pathophysiology, Infectiology and Immunology,
Institute of Pathophysiology and Allergy Research,
Molecular Systems Biology and Pathophysiology Research Group
and Comprehensive Center for AI in Medicine

Focus

Translational research

- *Research is the engine that drives medical advances – and with an average of 2,500 research projects every single year, MedUni Vienna is actively shaping the future. Significant funding, cooperation with respected partners and numerous publications in leading journals help to consolidate the university's leading position.*



Press conference on 7 July 2025 (from left): Michaela Fritz, MedUni Vienna Vice Rector for Research and Innovation, LBG President Freyja-Maria Smolle-Jüttner, and Austrian Federal Minister for Women, Science and Research Eva-Maria Holzleitner with research group heads Silvia Bonelli-Nauer (EPICONN), Bernhard Englinger (StrikeBC) and Johannes Längle (CRC-Res)

Three new clinical research groups

Third-party funding. The Ludwig Boltzmann Gesellschaft (LBG) has provided a total of EUR 24 million in funding for three clinical research groups.

Substantial financial backing has enabled three MedUni Vienna teams to devote their full attention to research in oncology and neurology. An international committee selected the three research groups – CRC-Res, StrikeBC and EPICONN – with each receiving around EUR 8 million over periods of up to eight years.

The focus is on interdisciplinary teams, which are building on scientific findings with a view to generating direct benefits for patients. “As a result, we are strengthening the location’s standing as a healthcare and research hub,” commented Eva-Maria Holzleitner, Austria’s Federal Minister for Women, Science and Research. According to LBG President Freyja-Maria Smolle-Jüttner: “Our aim is to align clinical research even more closely with patients’ needs and provide fresh impetus for excellent life sciences research.”

The programme promotes more intensive collaboration within the scientific community. “It’s an outstanding programme, which will help to deliver structural improvements for the university as a research location,” added Michaela Fritz, Vice Rector for Research and Innovation at MedUni Vienna.

The funded projects at a glance:

CRC-Res: combating therapy resistance in colorectal cancer

This research group aims to identify new therapies using personalised tumour models, in order to combat drug resistance. Tumour tissue samples will be cultivated in the laboratory and used to test different combinations of active substances.
Head: Johannes Längle, Department of General Surgery

StrikeBC: improving life expectancy and quality of life for bladder cancer patients

A wide range of data is collected and analysed – including with models that simulate the disease – with the aim of providing targeted, personalised and less invasive treatment of bladder cancer.
Head: Bernhard Englinger, Department of Urology

EPICONN: predictive and personalised treatment for focal epilepsy

Biomarkers deliver insights into how epilepsy affects the brain, enabling quicker identification of the best possible treatment for a particular individual.
Head: Silvia Bonelli-Nauer, Department of Neurology

The Ludwig Boltzmann Gesellschaft’s (LBG) **Clinical Research Groups (CRG) funding programme** is Austria’s first collaborative research initiative with a clear emphasis on patient-focused, medically significant topics in non-commercial clinical research. Funding is provided by the Federal Ministry of Women, Science and Research as well as the Fonds Zukunft Österreich research funding instrument.

Launch of Vienna Prevention Project

With healthy life expectancy averaging only 57 years, the health system – with its focus on reactive medicine – is under significant pressure. An initiative launched by MedUni Vienna and the City of Vienna is aimed at increasing the number of healthy life years that the population can look forward to. Under the initiative, a representative sample of 20,000 people will be split into two groups, and regularly examined and monitored in the medium term. The analysis will employ the latest molecular and clinical medicine methods – with the specific goal of promoting precision medicine.

For more information, visit
www.meduniwien.ac.at/vipp

Christmas lecture on longevity

On 9 December, the Department of Laboratory Medicine staged a lecture titled “Longevity – living a long, healthy life: the role of our diet and lifestyle”. Andreas Michalsen, Chief Physician at the Department of Naturopathy at Immanuel Hospital Berlin and Professor of Naturopathy at Charité University Hospital Berlin, showed how a healthy diet coupled with cardio and strength training increases healthy life expectancy. He also identified his “hidden champions” for longevity: a sense of purpose in life, stress reduction and social integration.

Oswald Wagner
(right), Vice Rector
for Clinical Affairs,
with Andreas
Michalsen, a leading
expert on naturo-
pathy, integrative
medicine and
nutritional medicine



Hospital expenses and mental illness

Mental health. What expenses do hospitals face as a result of physical comorbidities in people suffering from mental ill health? A new study has provided an insight for the first time.

Headed by Judit Simon of the Division of Health Economics at the Center for Public Health, the study painted the first-ever comprehensive picture of the extent to which people with mental health disorders are also affected by physical conditions – and the costs this generates for hospitals. An analysis of data from 32 European countries found that inpatient and emergency treatment of concomitant physical diseases in cases of alcohol abuse, depression, bipolar disorders and

schizophrenia caused additional expenses of around EUR 30.5 billion for hospitals in Europe in 2019.

Substantial potential savings

People with mental disorders are affected disproportionately more often by physical complaints. In particular, injuries resulting from falls, substance abuse and attempts by patients to take their own lives occur more frequently. People with mental health problems likewise suffer far more often

from diseases of the digestive tract, nerve system and respiratory system, as well as musculoskeletal and cardiovascular disorders. The study also presented the first-ever estimate of the potential savings. Reducing the burden of physical ailments among people with mental health conditions by just 1% would result in savings of more than EUR 190 million per year in the hospital sector across Europe.

The Lancet Psychiatry

New cancer findings

Oncology. A number of recent research findings have highlighted ways in which cancer can be treated more effectively and diagnosed at an early stage.

Boost for CAR-T therapies

A decisive addition to the portfolio of blood cancer treatments, CAR-T cell therapies are delivering positive results. Cell dysfunction is still one of the main reasons why these therapies fail. A team headed by Christoph Bock of the Institute of Artificial Intelligence presented CELLFIE, a CRISPR screening platform for improving CAR-T cells. Whole-genome screening was performed in human CAR-T cells and a range of different aspects were evaluated. This allowed several gene knockouts to be identified that increase the effectiveness of CAR-T cells. Once strengthened, these cells perform better than their standard counterparts and can significantly improve cell-based therapies.

Nature

O2E: early detection using new endoscopic technology

Oesophageal cancer has a particularly high mortality rate. However, if the disease is diagnosed early enough, the survival rate is around 90%. A new imaging procedure could help to identify tissue changes at an earlier stage in future. It was developed by a team including researchers from the MedUni Vienna Center for Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering, Helmholtz Munich and the Technical University of Munich (TUM). O2E combines two procedures in an innovative new endoscopic technology: optical coherence tomography (OCT) captures microscopic tissue structures, while optoacoustic imaging helps to make even the smallest blood vessels visible, including in deeper tissue layers.

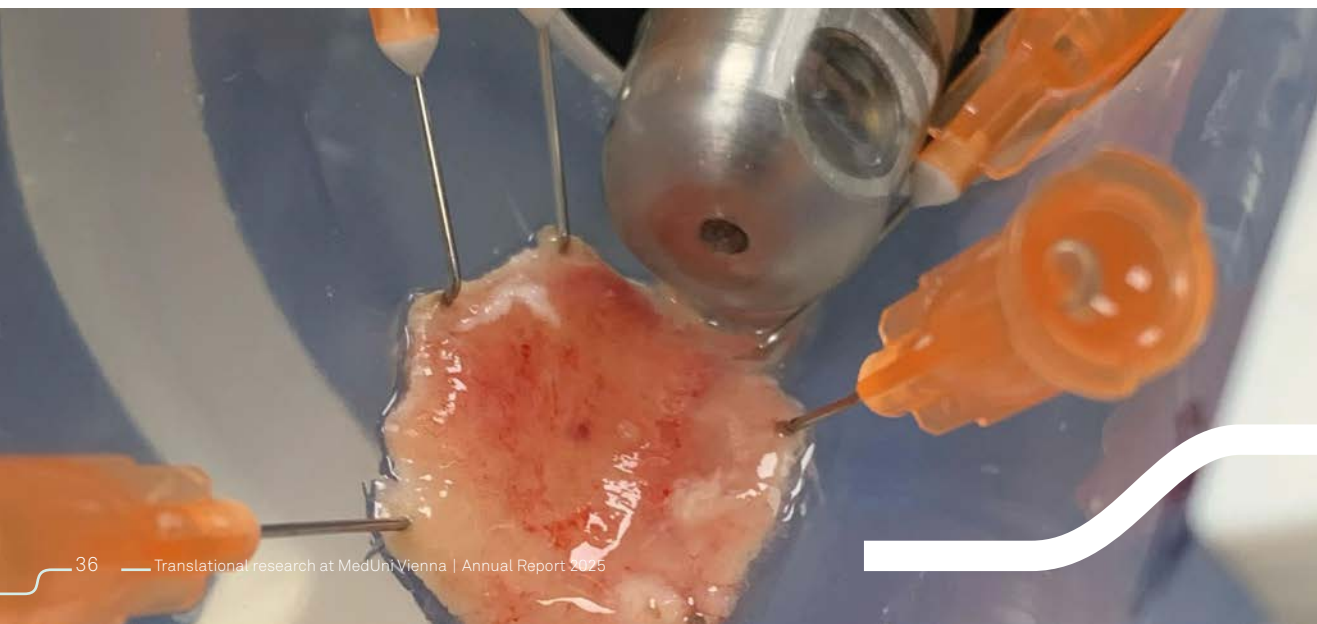
Nature Biomedical Engineering

Focus on ECMO and ARDS

Acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) is the most common reason why critically ill cancer patients are admitted to intensive care. A team led by Peter Schellongowski from the Department of Medicine I investigated clinical characteristics, risk factors and results, as well as the relationship between extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) and severe ARDS. Particularly in serious cases, the 90-day mortality rate was high, irrespective of whether ECMO was used or not. The findings have opened up new questions regarding treatment goals in ICUs, and whether the ECMO guidelines can be generalised to include this patient group.

Intensive Care Medicine

The endoscopy capsule contains a dual imaging system that shows critical characteristics of early-stage cancer lesions.





Understanding brain processes

Neurology. Current research projects are deciphering brain processes and helping to identify treatments for the neurodegenerative disorder Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease.

Algorithms unlock activity patterns

An international research team developed a new computer-based method – with significant involvement from Adam Gosztolai of the Institute of Artificial Intelligence – which enables the precise analysis and comparison of neuronal activity patterns in the brains of different living organisms. Known as MARBLE (MANifold Representation Basis LEarning), the method uses machine-learning algorithms to unlock complex dynamic processes, although it could also potentially drive research in other areas. For instance, MARBLE is well-suited to brain-machine-interface applications, where complex neuronal activities during motor or cognitive functions need to be reliably decoded into actions, such as interaction with a prosthetic limb.

Nature Methods

Potential early-stage Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease symptom discovered

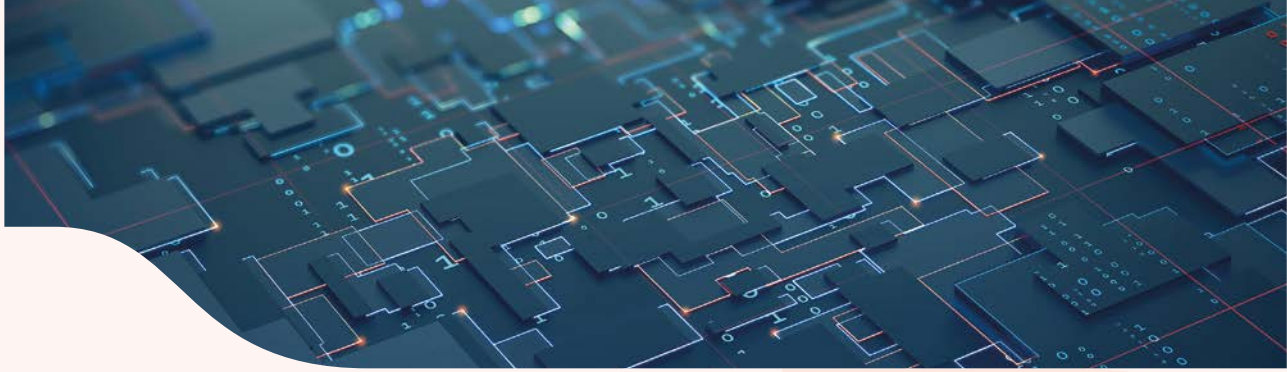
Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease can cause death in a matter of just a few months and remains an enigma for scientists to this day. At present, there are no known specific symptoms that indicate the onset of the disease. A suspected diagnosis can usually be made based on a particular combination of symptoms and test results, but the presence of the disease can only be confirmed after death. A study by researchers under Raphael Wurm and Hakan Cetin of the Department of Neurology identified mood changes as a possible early sign of the condition. The findings could lead to a better understanding and diagnosis of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, as well as generating new impetus for the development of therapies.

JAMA Neurology

First test for early detection of MS

A research team headed by Elisabeth Puchhammer-Stöckl and Hannes Vietzen of the Department of Virology, alongside Thomas Berger and Paulus Rommer from the Department of Neurology, developed a blood test that allows the risk of multiple sclerosis (MS) to be determined with a high degree of certainty years before the initial symptoms appear. In future, this could enable diagnostic and therapeutic measures to be initiated at such an early stage that the onset of the disease could be delayed or even prevented.

Nature Communications



Bringing together research focuses

Networking initiative. MedUni Vienna's research expertise is bundled in the university's clusters and platforms. Three new platforms were established in 2025: Medical Imaging, Digital Medicine, and Metabolomics & Metabolism.

Four clusters and four platforms have created a structure that is ideally suited to facilitating interdisciplinary and interdepartmental research at MedUni Vienna. Its strengths lie in the interplay between basic biomedical research and translational and clinical research. The various research clusters and platforms continued their development in 2025: three new platforms – Medical Imaging, Digital Medicine, and Metabolomics & Metabolism – were added. To fully unlock their potential, it is vital to support early-career researchers, create networking opportunities, further extend cutting-edge infrastructure, and continuously evaluate future research strengths.

Overview of all clusters and platforms

Immunology Research Cluster

Joint research into allergies, inflammations and infections enables new diagnostic and therapeutic approaches to be identified.

Cancer Research and Oncology Research Cluster

Experts at the Comprehensive Cancer Center (CCC) connect all specialist contacts for oncology, in order to closely align treatment with research.

Medical Neuroscience Research Cluster

The goal is to improve understanding, diagnosis and treatment of nervous system disorders.

Cardiovascular Medicine Research Cluster

Research is centred on cardiovascular diseases, as well as imaging and non-imaging procedures, and epidemiological and genetic questions.

Transplantation Research Platform

The various departments at MedUni Vienna and University Hospital Vienna are among the world's top transplantation centres. The platform drives research in this field.

Digital Medicine Research Platform

The goal of the platform is to promote the use and development of digital technologies in modern medicine.

Metabolism Research Platform

Metabolic changes play a part in the development of numerous illnesses, meaning that they have correspondingly high potential for use in medical practice.

Medical Imaging Research Platform

Diseases can be diagnosed and treated at an earlier stage thanks to the continuing development of morphological, functional and molecular imaging.

New ERC grants for MedUni Vienna

Highly regarded. In 2025, the European Research Council (ERC) approved significant funding for MedUni Vienna research projects.

Alwin Köhler, Head of the Max Perutz Labs and Professor of Molecular Biology, was awarded an Advanced Grant of around EUR 2.5 million. Together with his team, he aims to conduct research into how cells build nuclear pores into the nuclear envelope without damaging it – a process that is

essential for life in all highly developed organisms and could play a role in diseases in the event of disruption. After previously receiving a Starting Grant and a Consolidator Grant, this is Köhler's third ERC grant at MedUni Vienna.

Research group leader and Head of Laboratory at the Department of Dermatology **Philipp Tschandl** received a Starting Grant of around EUR 1.5 million over five years. The objective of the AUTODIAL project is to generate insights from unstructured medical data using machine learning and, in turn, gain a better understanding of grey areas in diagnostics. In the process, Tschandl aims to develop new techniques in the context of dermatopathology, a specialised medical and diagnostic field.

Ongoing ERC projects in 2025:

Starting Grants

Adam Gosztolai, NEURO-FUSE
Institute of Artificial Intelligence
Period: 2025-2029

Sarah Melzer, PeptidesAndFear
Division of Neuronal Cell Biology,
Center for Brain Research
Period: 2022-2027

Conrad Merkle, TOCCATA
Center for Medical Physics and
Biomedical Engineering
Period: 2025-2030

Dimitris Tsiantoulas, The B-Miracle
Department of Laboratory Medicine
Period: 2023-2027

Thomas Vogl, EarlyMicroAbs
Center for Cancer Research
Period: 2023-2028

Consolidator Grants

Christoph Bock, EPI-CART
Institute of Artificial Intelligence,
Center for Medical Data Science
Period: 2021-2026

Wolfgang Bogner, GLUCO-SCAN
Department of Biomedical Imaging
and Image-guided Therapy
Period: 2023-2028

Hrvoje Bogunović, HealthAEye
Institute of Artificial Intelligence
Period: 2025-2030

Kaan Boztug, iDysChart
Department of Pediatrics and
Adolescent Medicine
Period: 2019-2025

Alwin Köhler, NPC-BUILD
Division of Molecular Cell Biology,
Max Perutz Labs
Period: 2018-2025

Shotaro Otsuka, conNEctoER
Division of Molecular Cell Biology,
Max Perutz Labs
Period: 2024-2029

Stanisa Raspopovic, DiabetManager
Center for Medical Physics and
Biomedical Engineering
Period: 2025-2030

Advanced Grants

Tibor Harkany, FOODFORLIFE
Division of Molecular Neurosciences,
Center for Brain Research
Period: 2022-2026

Eva Schernhammer, CLOCKrisk
Division of Epidemiology,
Center for Public Health
Period: 2022-2027

Synergy Grants

Igor Adameyko (coordinator), KILL-OR-DIFFERENTIATE
Division of Neuroimmunology,
Center for Brain Research
(in collaboration with Karolinska
Institutet and Institut Curie)
Period: 2020-2026

Oskar Aszmann, Natural BionicS
Department of Plastic, Reconstructive
and Aesthetic Surgery
(in collaboration with Imperial College
London and Fondazione Istituto
Italiano di Tecnologia)
Period: 2019-2025

Proof of Concept Grant

Bernhard Baumann, OPTIMEYEZ
Center for Medical Physics and
Biomedical Engineering
Period: 2023-2025

Stanisa Raspopovic, NEURO-SOCK
Center for Medical Physics and
Biomedical Engineering
Period: 2025-2026



Stephan Reichl
Agnieszka Kraft
Martin Stoll

Center for Medical Data Science,
Institute of Artificial Intelligence

Focus

Innovative treatment

- *International state of the art: patient care at MedUni Vienna and University Hospital Vienna reflects the very latest scientific findings. Research and clinical practice go hand in hand: numerous treatments are being applied for the first time in Austria – and, in some cases, worldwide – or were developed at the university.*





Katharina Stolz (third from right) with team members from the Examination Center for Victims of Violence

Opening of the Examination Center for Victims of Violence

Finding evidence. Since early 2025, a new MedUni Vienna facility has been documenting injuries in line with judicial, medical and specialist criteria – giving victims of violence more effective evidence for use in court proceedings.

Located at Zimmermannplatz 1, close to University Hospital Vienna, the Examination Center for Victims of Violence opened in January 2025. A pilot project, it was set up by the Center for Forensic Medicine, which is funded by the Austrian federal government. And it represents an important step towards building a nationwide network of outpatient clinics for victims of violence. These clinics provide a safe space where individuals affected by violence can access free medical examinations. In the process, evidence is collected and court-ready documentation of injuries is compiled. Victims also receive useful information on additional support services.

“Support is available not only to those affected, but also to their relatives or trusted individuals. We work with victim-protection organisations and public authorities, and we also consult medical staff,” explained the head of

the facility, Katharina Stolz. In addition, the Examination Center offers free training courses on forensic documentation of injuries and evidence collection.

The general practitioners work under forensic medical supervision – every case is examined by a specialist in forensic medicine. The Center also employs a psychologist and two administrative staff.

In the first 12 months alone, the team handled a total of 721 cases; in 518 of these, forensic examinations were also conducted. The figures show that women are more frequently affected by violence than men: in 86.5% of cases, the victims were female. Around 24.5% of the cases involved sexual violence, and approximately 10% related to the suspected use of spiking agents. The victims’ ages ranged from 1 to 92, with minors accounting for 20% of all cases.

Report to police not required

The Examination Center is intended to play a key role in investigating acts of violence. In parallel, it also plays a victim-protection role and can help to prevent potential assaults in future. Victims can access services regardless of whether they have already filed a complaint with the police and whether they have an e-card. If a complaint has not been made, the data collected are stored for up to 10 years, meaning they can be used in criminal proceedings at a later date if necessary.

Forensic pathologist Katharina Stolz (third from left) with Rector Markus Müller, Federal Ministers Eva-Maria Holzleitner, Korinna Schumann and Anna Sporrer, and State Secretary Ulrike Königsberger-Ludwig



Prominent visitors: during a state visit by German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier at the invitation of his Austrian counterpart Alexander Van der Bellen, First Ladies Doris Schmidauer and Elke Büdenbender, together with German Minister of Family Affairs Karin Prien, visited the Examination Center for Victims of Violence on 22 October 2025.



Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry celebrates 50 years

Special ceremony. The anniversary was marked with a celebration on the rooftop terrace at the department in September.

When the Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry was established back in 1975, psychiatric disorders among children and adolescents were largely unseen in society and often downplayed. Through research, patient care, teaching and public information, the organisational unit at MedUni Vienna played a significant part in strengthening this discipline and breaking down the stigma surrounding mental illness. Today, it is an indispensable part of the health system, while the mental health of children and adolescents is a central topic in our society.



The ceremony took place on the greened rooftop terrace, which was created in 2020 during construction of the new building (from left): Rector Markus Müller, Head of Department Paul Plener, University Hospital Vienna Director Herwig Wetzlinger, University Hospital Vienna Director of Nursing Irene Ausserlechner, and Raphael Roth of Vetterli Roth & Partners.

Around 140 employees from 12 professions are constantly developing new concepts designed to provide children and young people with the best possible support. One example is the Home Treatment programme offered in cooperation with the City of Vienna's Psychosozialer Dienst mental health services unit, which provides patients with day-to-day assistance in their own homes, as well as directly involving patients' families. This underscores the department's pioneering role – from promoting open discussion of mental health to providing contemporary forms of treatment that are closely integrated into daily life.

10 years of the Special Outpatient Department for Vaccinations, Travel and Tropical Medicine

Vaccination plan. The department – a key contact point for at-risk patients – celebrated its first milestone anniversary in 2025.

Aimed at people with chronic illnesses, the vaccination clinic was set up 10 years ago in accordance with the Krankenanstaltengesetz (Viennese Hospitals Act), through the City of Vienna's Municipal Department 40. "Anyone who develops immunosuppression due to a particular condition, or as a result of treatment for it, has a significantly elevated risk of infection, and urgently requires vaccinations," said vaccinologist Ursula Wiedermann-Schmidt, who heads the clinic. Following stem cell transplants, patients are "immunologically naive again, much like a baby, so they have to go through the entire vaccination schedule once more." Patients like these are cared for by the vaccina-

tion clinic over a period of two years.

"In our negotiations with the Main Association of Austrian Social Security Institutions, we succeeded in reaching an agreement that the required vaccinations are classified as 'early-intervention treatments', so the social insurance funds pay the costs," Wiedermann-Schmidt explained. Vienna has

also served as an example to others: the medical universities in Graz and Innsbruck have opened similar clinics.

Service-oriented

The clinic also offers vaccinations in line with Austria's vaccination schedule to all MedUni Vienna employees and students. For several years now, the Rectorate has covered the expenses for vaccinating healthcare staff. The clinic runs vaccination programmes two to three times a year – vaccines are available for all employees at reduced costs.

Ursula Wiedermann-Schmidt (centre) with staff from the clinic





Christine Radtke performs a breast reinnervation procedure together with a colleague from Cornell University in Ithaca, New York.

Operating-theatre premieres

Milestones. A number of highly complex procedures underline the innovative capabilities of MedUni Vienna and University Hospital Vienna.

Reinnervation following breast cancer

A microsurgical procedure, which was performed for the first time in Austria at University Hospital Vienna in May 2025, restores feeling to patients who have undergone a mastectomy. More specifically, it involves reinnervation during the breast reconstruction process. "We do this by sewing in nerve implants, which reconnects the nipple with the intercostal nerves," explained Christine Radtke of the Department of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery.

Minimally invasive valve replacement

Another first for Austria saw the successful performance of a particularly complex heart valve operation – a procedure that has been carried out only a handful of times worldwide. In May, an interdisciplinary team operated on a male patient with severe tricuspid valve insufficiency using a minimally invasive method which brought about a lasting improvement. This breakthrough opens up new possibilities for patients with hard-to-treat heart valve conditions.

Mitral valve innovation

In June 2025, the cardiac surgery team performed a minimally invasive, total valve replacement in two patients with severe mitral valve insufficiency via the inguinal vein – the first time the procedure had been performed in Austria. An

innovative catheter-based method was employed – just weeks after it had been approved for use in Europe – which will open up new treatment options, particularly for high-risk patients.

Bentall procedure using Konect system

A new implant for the treatment of complex aortic diseases has taken patient care to a new level. On 1 September 2025, at University Hospital Vienna a 58-year-old Viennese man became the first person in Austria to receive a replacement aorta and aortic valve implanted using the Konect system. This represented another milestone in the treatment of complex diseases of the aorta for the Department of Cardiac and Thoracic Aortic Surgery.

Robot-assisted depth electrode implant

September 2025 also saw the first-ever robot-assisted implantation of depth electrodes for invasive epilepsy diagnostics. Carried out at the Department of Neurosurgery, the procedure used the Cirq® System robotic surgical platform. "This enables us to position the electrodes more precisely, reduce the length of the operation and enhance safety," said Karl Rössler of the Department of Neurosurgery. "It's a significant advance in diagnostics for types of epilepsy that are difficult to treat."

Therapy milestones

Innovative. Many new treatments are administered for the first time at University Hospital Vienna, as highlighted by the following examples.

Gene therapy for haemophilia B

A new type of gene therapy for the treatment of severe haemophilia B – a blood clotting disorder – was used for the first time in Austria in spring 2025. “The new therapy has relatively few side effects. It is administered only once intravenously, not weekly,” commented haematologist Cihan Ay. “According to the pivotal trials, over 90% of patients respond well to the treatment, and the effect persists for several years.”

In-house CAR-T cell therapy

In September 2025, a patient with a severe rheumatological autoimmune disease became the first person in Austria to be treated using CAR-T cells produced in-house. T-cells from the 57-year-old were prepared in a specialised laboratory at the Department of Transfusion Medicine and Cell Therapy and then administered at the Department of Medicine I's bone marrow transplantation ward.

The Department of Transfusion Medicine and Cell Therapy had been granted official approval for CAR-T cell production a few months earlier, in April 2025 – a landmark for the development of this innovative cell treatment in Austria. Financed through a City of Vienna research grant for interdisciplinary cancer research, the project was also funded by MedUni Vienna and University Hospital Vienna. The cutting-edge treatment involves genetically modifying a patient's own immune cells in such a way that they can specifically identify and destroy diseased cells.



New skin findings

Dermatology. Research is focused on new approaches aimed at treating skin conditions more effectively – we look at three examples.

New treatment approach for psoriasis

Psoriasis is one of the most common chronic inflammatory diseases of the skin. While existing treatments have largely been aimed at inhibiting immune cells that cause inflammation, a research team headed by Georg Stary of the MedUni Vienna Department of Dermatology and CEMM has now demonstrated that targeted measures can restore the anti-inflammatory function of regulatory T cells. The enzyme SSAT plays a key role. The findings will pave the way for a new, higher-precision therapy that is associated with fewer side effects.

Immunity

Skin cancer drug

Basal cell carcinomas – the most common form of skin cancer – occur on parts of the body that are frequently exposed to the sun, such as the face. Depending on their size and position, they can be difficult to treat surgically. A research team led by Christoph Höller of the Department of Dermatology's Skin Tumour Centre investigated a new treatment using the drug TVEC. A reduction in the size of basal cell carcinomas – which facilitated surgical removal – was observed in all patients who took part in the study. In some members of the study group, the treatment led to complete tumour regression.

Nature Cancer

Skin and allergies

A mouse-model study revealed that a short bacterial skin infection can bring about long-lasting changes in the immune system and exacerbate inflammation caused by allergies. "Animals with previous skin infections developed more intense allergy-induced lung inflammation after coming into contact with allergens. They had higher levels of eosinophils in the lung tissue and produced more of the antibodies that cause allergies, while their lung function was also impaired," explained principal investigator Philipp Starkl of the Department of Medicine I. The research uncovered a previously unknown connection between the skin, bone marrow and lungs, raising the prospect of the development of new therapies for allergic conditions such as asthma.

Science Immunology





Focus on women's health

Gynaecology. Research teams are making significant progress on monitoring gestational diabetes and testing for cancer of the uterus.

Digital blood sugar measurement

Gestational diabetes can lead to excessive growth in unborn children, which can result in problems during birth as well as an early-childhood predisposition to overweight and metabolic disorders. Continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) can reduce the risks for mothers-to-be affected by gestational

diabetes. A study performed by an international team under the leadership of MedUni Vienna demonstrated for the first time the advantages of digital approaches as compared to blood sugar self-measurement using a finger prick. The findings have highlighted new possibilities for patient care.

The Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology

New guidelines for cancer of the uterus

Endometrial cancer is the fourth-most common form of cancer in women. New insights into the pathological and molecular characteristics of the

disease have now been integrated into treatment guidelines. Classification of the tumour means that patients can be treated using significantly more targeted approaches aligned with their individual tumour biology and risk profile. A paper published by a team under Nicole Concin of the Division of General Gynecology and Gynecologic Oncology and the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology explains the updates. Three European medical societies and – for the first time – a representative of a patient advocacy group worked on the new guidelines.

Lancet Oncology

Focus on the bloodstream

Haematology. Two studies have shed new light on the haematopoietic system and related diseases.

Long-term study on thrombosis in children

Venous thromboembolism is a life-threatening complication in children with severe underlying conditions such as heart defects or cancer. Treating and preventing thrombosis poses an additional challenge in day-to-day patient care. Designed specifically for children, a therapy using the drug rivaroxaban was successfully trialled in 2020, while long-term data subsequently confirmed the benefits of medication-based treatment administered over a long period. The study was conducted by an international research team led by Christoph Male of the Department of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine.

The Lancet Haematology



Saliva and blood clotting

Haemophilia A is the most common form of the blood clotting disorder haemophilia. A team headed by Johannes Thaler and Cihan Ay of the Division of Hematology and Hemostaseology at the Department of Medicine I, alongside Rienk Nieuwland from the Amsterdam University Medical Centers, has uncovered new details on blood-clotting mechanisms in people affected by the condition. The researchers showed that saliva contains special cell structures that enable the blood of haemophilia patients to coagulate quickly. The findings will make a major contribution towards a better understanding of the condition.

Blood



Researching brain processes

Neurology. Researchers are achieving advances in the treatment of brain tumours and metastases, as well as highlighting the challenges associated with brain implants.

Amino acid PET replacing MRI

Brain tumour metastases continue to be associated with a poor prognosis. However, an international committee headed by MedUni Vienna and Ludwig Maximilian University (LMU) Hospital in Munich has made important progress towards improving the situation thanks to an imaging procedure. Amino acid PET uses radiolabelled substances to evaluate tumour metabolism more precisely and more accurately predict how a tumour will respond to treatment. The amino acid tracers employed accumulate primarily in cancer cells, meaning that the tumour load can be detected more accurately than with conventional MRI techniques.

Nature Medicine

Medication against brain metastases

The drug patritumab derux-tecan (HER3-DXd) has also achieved promising results in the treatment of active brain tumour metastasis, as an international clinical trial showed. Patients with advanced non-small cell lung cancer and metastatic breast cancer benefited from the treatment. The trial was performed by several centres in Austria and Spain, including the Department of Medicine I's Division of Oncology at MedUni Vienna and University Hospital Vienna.

Two publications in The Lancet Oncology

New therapy for brain tumours in children

Brain tumours remain the most common cause of death in cases of childhood cancer. A research team under Johannes Gojo of the Department of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, working in collaboration with the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and the University of Michigan Medical School, demonstrated that inhibiting the PDGFR signalling pathway with a specific selective inhibitor could potentially be used to treat this aggressive type of tumour.

Cancer Cell

Care required with neural implants

A research team headed by Stanisa Raspopovic of the Center for Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering is focusing on brain implants – a technology that has not only hit the headlines, but which is also bringing hope to patients with neurological disorders. Human testing is gradually replacing animal models in neuroprosthetics research and development. As these implants have an effect on both the physical and the psychological level, the researchers have called for particularly high standards of ethical and scientific rigour when performing clinical trials.

The Lancet Digital Health

Lung-related breakthroughs

Pulmonology. Two publications have highlighted new treatment paths.

Preventing post transplantation rejection

Researchers from the Vienna Lung Transplant Program, which is run jointly by MedUni Vienna and University Hospital Vienna, published the first prospective, randomised and controlled study on the use of extracorporeal photopheresis (ECP) in lung transplantation. Based on ultraviolet light, this cell therapy considerably reduces the number and severity of acute rejection responses. The findings could bring about significant changes in the current treatment protocols following procedures of this kind.

European Respiratory Journal

Unlocking fibrosis

Pulmonary fibrosis is a serious, chronic illness for which there is still no specific treatment. For many patients, a lung transplant remains the only option. A research team headed by Sylvia Knapp and Riem Gawish of the Department of Medicine I found that an aging immune system plays a major part in the development and progression of the disease. As a result, the researchers laid the foundations for the development of new therapies based on immunomodulation.

Science Immunology



New findings on the liver, gall bladder and intestine

Gastroenterology. Two studies looked at drugs for the treatment of gastrointestinal conditions.

Therapy for bowel diseases

The semi-synthetic gall acid NorUDCA has an anti-inflammatory effect on the gut. This was the main finding of a research team under Michael Trauner of the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology (Department of Medicine III) and Wilfried Ellmeier from the Institute of Immunology. Their research could form the basis for the development of new treatments for patients suffering from inflammatory bowel diseases such as ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease.

Gut

Research into drug for PSC

At present, no medications are available for the treatment of primary sclerosing cholangitis (PSC), a chronic inflammatory disease of the bile duct. A multicentre, randomised phase III trial that investigated the farnesoid X receptor agonist cilofexor generated valuable data on the side effects. The trial had to be terminated because the drug did not significantly limit the progression of the disease compared with a placebo, while the trial participants experienced itching more frequently than members of the control group. The findings have been the subject of international discussions and will play an important role in the refinement of future therapeutic approaches.

The Lancet Gastroenterology and Hepatology

New cancer treatments

Oncology. Cancer research is aimed at finding more effective, lower-impact therapies for tumour diseases.

Combined approach for melanoma and breast cancer

Maria Sibilia of the Center for Cancer Research and her team investigated a new combination therapy for cancer, which involved systemic administration of the interferon- γ tissue hormone together with local application of the medication imiquimod. The results were highly promising in skin cancer and breast cancer models. The treatment resulted in the death of tumour cells in the treated areas, while also simultaneously activating the immune system to tackle metastases – including those at a distance from the point of treatment.

Nature Cancer

Diabetes drug combats prostate cancer

The protein PPAR γ – which plays a central role in the regulation of metabolic processes and has long been a focus of attention in diabe-

tes research – can also influence the growth of prostate cancer cells. This was the main finding of an international research team led by Lukas Kenner of the Department of Pathology. As a consequence, drugs that target PPAR γ could form part of a new treatment approach for prostate cancer.

Molecular Cancer

Thyroid hormone and prostate cancer

Another study demonstrated for the first time that thyroid hormone plays a role in the development and progression of prostate cancer. Tumour growth can be inhibited by blocking the thyroid hormone receptor TR β . As a result, the researchers – led by Olaf Merkel, Brigitte Hantusch and Lukas Kenner of the Department of Pathology, as well as first author Aleksandra Fesiuk from the Department of Bio-medical Imaging and Image-guided

Therapy – identified a new point of departure for therapy, particularly in a phase where current methods reach their limits.

Molecular Cancer

New chemotherapy developed

In spite of the well-known toxic side effects and drug resistance it causes, chemotherapy is still a cornerstone of cancer treatment. Now, a research team under Gergely Szakács of the Center for Cancer Research has developed a new chemotherapeutic agent called LiPyDau. A liposomal formulation, it delivers the active ingredient directly to tumour cells while also minimising damage to healthy tissue. Preclinical tests underlined the treatment's remarkable efficacy against various forms of cancer, including multiresistant tumour cells.

Molecular Cancer





Combination therapy for heart disease

Aortic valve stenosis combined with cardiac amyloidosis is a heart condition associated with a high risk of mortality. An international research consortium led by Christian Nitsche from the Division of Cardiology (Department of Medicine II) and University College London has shown for the first time that combined treatment featuring a heart valve replacement and specific drug therapy can increase survival rates among patients.

European Heart Journal

New guidelines for Janus kinase inhibitors

Janus kinase inhibitors (JAKis) are an important treatment option for people affected by chronic inflammatory diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis, psoriasis, Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis. However, concerns have recently been raised about their safety. To promote safe JAKi use, an international working group chaired by Josef Smolen of the Department of Medicine III revised the relevant guidelines – which dated back to 2019 – to take account of the latest research findings.

Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases



Patrick Mayrhofer received a prosthetic hand in 2010, which he is now using intuitively in his day-to-day life.

Controlling prosthetics

A team from the Clinical Laboratory for Bionic Limb Reconstruction – part of the Department of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery – and Imperial College London took a major step towards achieving the intuitive control of bionic limbs by combining surgical reinnervation with implantable microelectrodes. They succeeded for the first time in directly measuring the activity of individual motor neurons – the nerve cells in the spinal cord that transmit movement commands to the muscles – and linking the signals with particular movements.

Nature Biomedical Engineering

New findings on Candida auris

A multiresistant fungus, *Candida auris* uses carbon dioxide to survive in the nutrient-poor conditions on the skin and tolerate antifungal treatments more effectively. This was demonstrated for the first time by a research team led by Adelheid Elbe-Bürger of the Department of Dermatology and Karl Kuchler of the Max Perutz Labs Vienna. The researchers also identified several targets for therapy that could limit the spread of *Candida auris*. Inhibiting the mitochondrial cytochrome bc1 weakens the fungus and enhances the efficacy of amphotericin B, the most important agent used in treatment.

Nature Microbiology



From left: Michaela Fritz,
Wolfgang Peter Weninger,
Georg Stary and Sylvia Knapp
of MedUni Vienna with Sara
Leitao from Johnson & Johnson
Innovative Medicine Austria



Christian Doppler Laboratories

Joining forces. World-class, application-driven basic research centred on close cooperation between science and business – this is the guiding principle behind the Christian Doppler Laboratories. A new lab was launched in 2025.

The **Christian Doppler (CD) Laboratory for Chronic Inflammatory Skin Diseases** opened at MedUni Vienna at the end of April 2025. The researchers, headed by Georg Stary of the Department of Dermatology, aim to unravel the molecular mechanisms behind conditions such as psoriasis. Their investigations will focus on special immune cells – known as tissue-resident memory T cells – that are found in the skin and can exacerbate inflammation. The goal is for research findings to feed directly into the development of new treatment approaches which, in turn, will translate into improved patient care in the long run. One of the partners of the new laboratory is Johnson & Johnson company Janssen-Cilag Pharma.

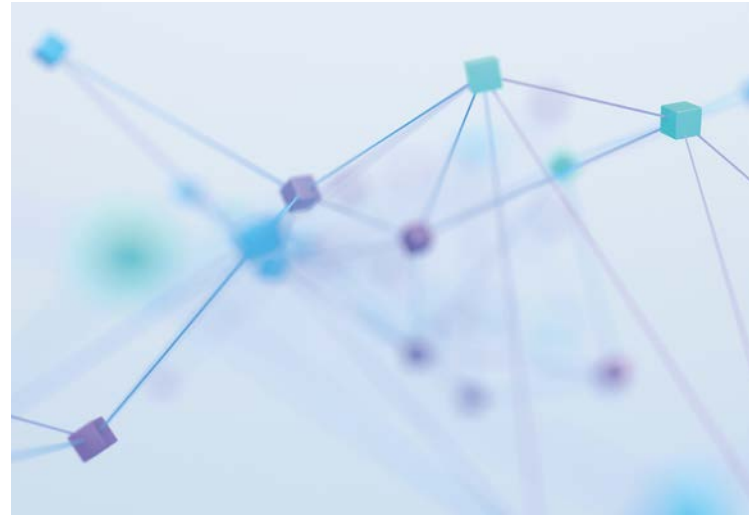
The following Christian Doppler Laboratories were also operational in 2025:

- Applied Metabolomics
- Artificial Intelligence in Retina
- Image and Knowledge Driven Precision Radiation Oncology
- Immunometabolism and Systems Biology of Obesity-Related Diseases
- Inner Ear Research: Function Preservation and Regeneration
- Machine Learning Driven Precision Imaging
- Mechanical Circulatory Support
- Microinvasive Heart Surgery
- MR Imaging Biomarkers
- Patient-Centered Breast Imaging
- Personalized Immunotherapy
- Portal Hypertension and Fibrosis in Liver Disease
- Skin Multimodal Analytical Imaging of Aging and Senescence

Comprehensive Centers

Interdisciplinary care. MedUni Vienna's Comprehensive Centers bring together specialist and professional groups from the various divisions and departments, with the aim of facilitating knowledge transfer and providing effective patient care. There are currently 13 Comprehensive Centers.

- Comprehensive Cancer Center
- Comprehensive Center for Artificial Intelligence in Medicine
- Comprehensive Center for Cardiovascular Medicine
- Comprehensive Center for Chest Diseases
- Comprehensive Center for Clinical Neurosciences and Mental Health
- Comprehensive Center for Infection Medicine
- Comprehensive Center for Inflammation and Immunity
- Comprehensive Center for Integrated Diagnostics
- Comprehensive Center for Musculoskeletal Disorders
- Comprehensive Center for Pediatrics
- Comprehensive Center for Perioperative Medicine
- Comprehensive Center for Preventive Medicine
- Comprehensive Center for Rare and Undiagnosed Diseases



Top rankings

Excellence and a strong reputation. Various rankings have underlined MedUni Vienna's outstanding position as a hospital, research hub and training centre.



One of the world's leading hospitals

In the 2025 World's Best Hospitals ranking, University Hospital Vienna and the various departments operated in cooperation with MedUni Vienna were placed 27th in a list of the leading 250 hospitals worldwide. Compiled by US news magazine Newsweek and data provider Statista, the ranking evaluated more than 2,400 hospitals in 30 countries.

Austria's best medical university

In the US News Global University Ranking, MedUni Vienna jumped several places in the Clinical Medicine category – to 66th, up from 78th last year – making it the best-placed Austrian medical university once again. The university was also rated among the leaders in several other medical disci-

plines. In the Best Global Universities list, MedUni Vienna came in among the top 200, taking 189th place.

Global comparison

MedUni Vienna also improved its standing in the 2026 edition of the renowned Times Higher Education World University Ranking, to 181st (compared with 201-250 last year). One of the top 200 universities worldwide, it is MedUni Vienna's best-ever position in this non-medical ranking, which assessed a total of 2,191 institutions. In the Times Higher Education Impact Ranking 2025 – which measures universities' contribution to achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals – MedUni Vienna came 10th worldwide.

Interacting with the public

Making a difference. As a major healthcare institution, MedUni Vienna takes its responsibilities towards society extremely seriously. Its numerous activities include initiatives to enhance health literacy among the population.

New Institute for Science Communication and Pandemic Preparedness

Led by renowned virologist Florian Krammer, the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Science Outreach and Pandemic Preparedness (LBI SOAP) was officially launched in July 2025. One of the key focuses of the institute is the question of how to present research findings in such a way that they are understandable, accessible and relevant to policymakers, the media and the general public. The institute also develops citizen science projects and participatory approaches to health issues. In addition, LBI SOAP makes an important contribution to long-term pandemic preparedness through international research, analysis of global health developments, and the creation of new communication tools.



Michael Fischer from MedUni Vienna with bestselling author Thomas Brezina

Thomas Brezina book project with MedUni Vienna

In November, bestselling author Thomas Brezina presented his new children's book "What Your Body Would Say If It Could Speak" at Vienna City Hall to selected school classes. The aim of the project was to give children and young people a simple yet scientifically sound understanding of how their bodies actually work. Michael Fischer, Head of the Institute of Physiology at MedUni Vienna, supported the project by ensuring scientific accuracy and verifying all medical content.

KinderuniMedizin

In mid-July, MedUni Vienna once again opened its lecture halls to curious seven- to twelve-year-olds. A total of 73 events provided fascinating insights into the world of medicine and medical research. Children learned how medicines travel through the body, how the immune system works, what happens during brain surgery, how tumour cells are hunted down, and what causes stomach aches.





Naturkalender app expanded

The Pollen Service Vienna at MedUni Vienna, in cooperation with GeoSphere Austria, increased the scope of the popular Naturkalender app to include allergenic plants. Allergy sufferers can now track the flowering periods of pollen-heavy plants directly in the app and contribute their own observations as citizen scientists.

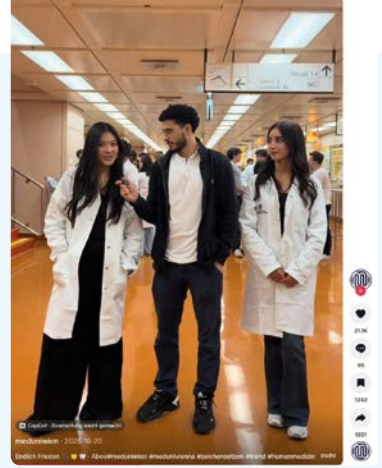
www.naturkalender.at

Welcome to TikTok and Bluesky

In April 2025, MedUni Vienna left X and switched its activities to Bluesky. Since March 2025, three TikTok ambassadors have also been giving followers an insight into student life at MedUni Vienna. In 2025, the university reached large audiences across its social media channels:

139,780 interactions on Instagram
 126,934 interactions on TikTok
 29,246 interactions on LinkedIn
 4,520 interactions on Facebook
 1,139 interactions on Bluesky
 50,000 views on YouTube

www.meduniwien.ac.at/socialmedia



Vienna Research Festival

In March, Vienna City Hall provided the stage for the Research Festival. With admission completely free, it featured numerous interactive stations. Several representatives of MedUni Vienna took part in the event, including a team from the Institute of Hygiene and Applied Immunology, which informed visitors about various topics such as water quality and health. In the Research Café, Nicole Amberg from the Department of Neurology spoke about the connection between stem cells and brain research, while Sylvia Kerschbaum-Gruber from the Department of Radiation Oncology gave a talk titled "A Beacon Against Cancer".

Science ambassadors on the road

More than 40 MedUni Vienna researchers are actively involved as volunteer Science Ambassadors, and they visited schools across Austria once again in 2025. The goal is to break down barriers between science and society. School pupils gain real insights into everyday research and can ask experts their questions directly – ranging from cancer research to immunology. The initiative is part of a Federal Ministry of Women, Science and Research programme aimed at strengthening public trust in science and democracy.



Running in glorious autumn weather for a good cause

Successful cancer research run

Charity run. The 2025 Cancer Research Run was another major success. The event raised EUR 275,000, with every cent going directly to cancer research projects at MedUni Vienna.

On 4 October, Campus Altes AKH was once again packed with runners showing solidarity. A total of 4,004 participants took part in this year's Cancer Research Run, sending a strong signal of support for cancer research. Patients, scientists, doctors, and many supporters ran laps to raise funds.

Showing initiative

In total, an impressive 46,239 laps were completed – equivalent to roughly 74,398 kilometres. The longest individual distance covered was 48.27km, or 30 laps. 91% of runners started at the Altes

AKH campus, while 9% took part in the “Distant Run”. A highlight: the involvement of 94 companies which participated as partners, sponsors, or with their own running teams.

Thanks to the outstanding commitment of all concerned, a significant sum was raised to advance innovative cancer diagnostics and therapies at MedUni Vienna. Since its launch in 2007 with 350 participants, the event has grown into one of the largest charity runs in the country, with over 4,000 runners.

Ten years of the Gesundheit.Wissen series:

Deep-diving and practice-based. Produced in cooperation with the MANZ Verlag publishing house, the MedUni Vienna book series celebrated a milestone anniversary.

MedUni Vienna and MANZ Verlag launched the Gesundheit.Wissen series of guidebooks ten years ago. The aim: to make the expertise of MedUni Vienna researchers and clinicians accessible to patients, their families, and interested readers. To date, 21 books have been published, covering a wide range of topics – from gut health to diabetes, smoking to back pain, pollen allergies to prostate cancer, headaches to the climate crisis, and many more.

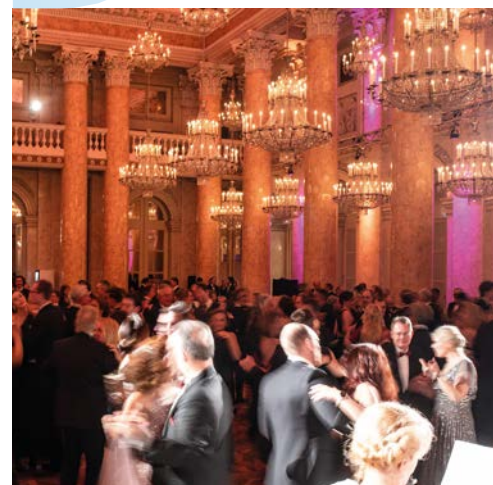
In mid-November 2025, the people involved in the successful cooperation looked back on their achievements at an anniversary celebration and provided an outlook on upcoming projects. Guidebooks on eating disorders, dementia, vaccinations, and pain management are currently in preparation. Numerous additional topics at the interface of individual health and public health are already on the list for future titles.

The initiators of the book series: Anita Rieder, Vice Rector for Education at MedUni Vienna, Christopher Dietz, Programme Manager at MANZ Verlag (right), and Johannes Angerer, Head of Communications & Public Relations at MedUni Vienna (left).



Programme highlights at the Alumni Club

Right at the heart of things. Throughout 2025, the MedUni Vienna Alumni Club offered a diverse range of activities – from cultural events to professional exchange.



“Let’s Waltz”: On 25 January, members of the Alumni Club graced the parquet at two ball events. At the Ball of Sciences in Vienna City Hall, the club shared a box of honour in the ceremonial hall with Vice Rector Michaela Fritz. At the Physicians’ Ball – which took place simultaneously at the Hofburg – members had 40 seats at their disposal in the Künstlerzimmer room.

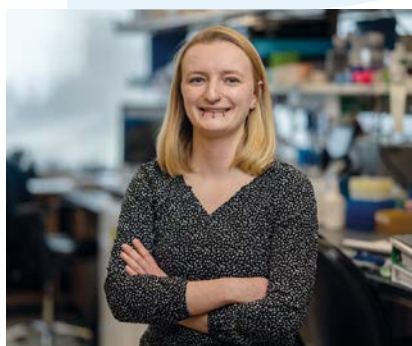


“Gustav Klimt – Pigment & Pixel”:

On 6 March, the Alumni Club organised two curator-guided tours at the Belvedere. Members had the opportunity to discover the AI reconstruction of Klimt’s Faculty Paintings, including the allegorical depiction of Medicine, whose replica has adorned the façade of the new Anna-Spiegel Research Building at MedUni Campus AKH since November 2024.

ASciNA mentoring programme:

In cooperation with Austrian Scientists & Scholars in North America (ASciNA), the Alumni Club once again supported two mentoring pairs in North America in 2025. Under the programme, young Austrian researchers are matched with established professionals. A total of 29 MedUni Vienna mentees have already taken advantage of this opportunity.



“Lebenswege” at the Day of MedUni Vienna on 12 March:

Arnold Pollak, former long-standing Head of the Department of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, reflected on his career together with Vice Rector Anita Rieder.

Semester opening concert: On 29 September 2025, the Alumni Club invited members to get the new academic year off to a musical start. Under Michael Rot, the Sinfonia Academica performed a gala programme featuring works by Brahms, Haydn and members of the Strauss dynasty. Minae Chung treated the audience to a solo performance of Haydn’s Violin Concerto in G major.



Careers after studying medicine:

This format puts the career paths of high-profile medical figures in the spotlight in the relaxed atmosphere of Café Museum. On 22 October, surgeons Joy Feka (right, with microphone) and Katayoun Tonninger-Bahadori (centre) fielded questions from the audience. At the table left: moderator Britta Blumencron

Active internationally

Together. From clinical and research work to professional exchange and competitions – MedUni Vienna staff made an international impact in 2025.



Both Premedics teams after the award ceremony – front row (l-r): Alexander Rogalas, Paula Stowasser, Daniel Laxar, Gabriel Mewald; second row (l-r): Tamino Hasler, Benedikt Steiner, Jakob Auer, Johannes Schön, Josefa Mayrhofer; last row (l-r): Benedikt Schlederer, Georg Büchler, Florian Röder, Lorenz Höslinger

Double victory for the Vienna Premedics

The Vienna Premedics student association took first and second place at the international Ride & Rescue emergency medicine competition on 30 August. Teams from across Austria as well as from Slovenia, Luxembourg and Germany competed. At eleven challenging stations, they had to demonstrate knowledge, teamwork and practical skills – making their way from task to task by bicycle.

Treatment of East African sleeping sickness

Luzia Veletzky and Stefan Winkler from the Department of Medicine I presented an interesting case of East African trypanosomiasis (sleeping sickness): a 34-year-old man developed the disease after returning from a safari in Zimbabwe and presented with a crusted lesion on his scalp. While pentamidine – the only easily available medication – led to clinical improvement, blood smears remained positive after four days. Treatment with fexinidazole rendered the smears negative after two days. After a ten-day course, the patient made a full recovery.

New England Journal of Medicine



From left to right: Onise Khuzishvili, Christian Dorfer, Lado Tsikarishvili, Zviad Malazonia, Tsothe Samadashvili

Epilepsy surgery in Georgia

A mentorship project is laying the foundations for sustainable improvements in epilepsy care in Georgia – with significant involvement from MedUni Vienna. Christian Dorfer (Department of Neurosurgery) and Ekaterina Patarai (Department of Neurology) are leading the project. They examined suitable patients jointly with Georgian colleagues in autumn 2024, and a symposium was held to promote knowledge exchange on the latest techniques. In November 2024, three surgical procedures were performed using different methods. Six additional patients have been scheduled for surgery.

Cardiological mentoring in Africa

Between 300,000 and 400,000 people die worldwide each year from rheumatic heart disease – a condition caused by scarred heart valves following untreated infections, which could easily be prevented with antibiotics. Bruno Podesser from the Center for Biomedical Research and Translational Surgery at MedUni Vienna is involved as President of the Cardiac Surgery Intersociety Alliance (CSIA) in building sustainable cardiac surgery programmes in countries of the Global South. The project launched in Mozambique in 2019. The hospital in Maputo has benefited greatly from the mentoring programme and has significantly increased the number of heart operations performed. In May 2025, an application phase began for two additional centres. A residency programme is also planned, enabling colleagues from Africa to learn specialised techniques in Europe and the USA.



The hospital in Maputo has benefited greatly from the mentoring programme. Since 2019 the number of heart operations has increased significantly.

Bruno Podesser from the Center for Biomedical Research and Translational Surgery at MedUni Vienna is involved as President of the Cardiac Surgery Intersociety Alliance (CSIA) and the vfwf.



Off to distant shores! The mobility programmes at MedUni Vienna continue to enjoy great popularity.

Mobility programmes at MedUni Vienna

Erasmus and more. It's not just MedUni students that have the chance to gain valuable experience abroad – there are programmes for all staff members, too.

Each year, around 650 MedUni Vienna students spend time at one of over a hundred partner institutions through the Erasmus programme, bilateral cooperations or as free movers during their fifth or sixth year. "I see it as an immensely valuable experience – both on an individual level and for society as a whole. Time spent abroad fosters an openness to the world that is more important today than ever," says Birgit Hanak-Sommerer from the International Office. "The numerous incoming students, lecturers and administrative staff from partner universities also make a significant contribution to the internationalisation of our university."

Open to faculty and back office staff

Lecturers and administrative staff also have the opportunity to take part in mobility programmes. Sophie Neubauer from the Human Resources and Staff Development department was the first to use Erasmus+ for a job shadowing placement, spending three days at the Free University of Berlin at the end of March 2025. "It gave me lots of ideas for my work at MedUni Vienna. It was a fantastic experience that I can only recommend to others!"

New professorships at MedUni Vienna

Expertise. In 2025, MedUni Vienna awarded numerous professorships to specialists in their fields.

Section 98 Universities Act professorships



Christoph Arnoldner
Otorhinolaryngology



Pascal Baltzer
Magnetic Resonance
Radiology



Balázs Hangya
Neurophysiology

Section 99(1) Universities Act professorships

Michael Bonelli
Experimental Rheumatology

Stephan Polterauer
Gynecological Oncology

Andreas Zuckermann
Heart Transplantation

Section 99(4) Universities Act professorships

Christian Loewe
Professorship in the subject field Cardiovascular and Interventional Radiology

Francesco Moscato
Professorship in the subject field Biomedical Engineering

Thomas Scherer
Professorship in the subject field Endocrinology and Metabolism

Section 99(5) Universities Act assistant professorships under the tenure track model

Julia Dumfahrt
Hereditary Aortic Disease

Adam Gosztolai
AI/ML Research

Efstathios Megas
Machine Learning in the Life Sciences

Philipp Tschandl
Dermatopathology and Diagnostic Imaging

Helmut Reul Young Investigator Award for Hebe Al Asadi



Resident physician Hebe Al Asadi from the Department of Cardiac and Thoracic Aortic Surgery received the Helmut Reul Young Investigator Award at the conference of the International Society of Mechanical Circulatory Support (ISMCS). She demonstrated that patients with mechanical circulatory support systems benefit from additional cold plasma therapy in cases of driveline infections. Wounds heal better and hospitalisations are reduced.

Helmut Sinzinger Prize for Florentina Porsch

Florentina Porsch, postdoc in Christoph Binder's group at the Clinical Institute of Laboratory Medicine, was awarded the Helmut Sinzinger Prize in October for her atherosclerosis research. The prize honours outstanding scientific contributions in the field of lipid metabolism disorders and atherosclerotic diseases. In her study, Porsch investigates the role of the TREM2 receptor. Targeted activation of this receptor could help stabilise atherosclerotic plaques.



Researcher of the Month 2025

Outstanding next generation. Since 2004, an independent jury has selected early-career academics as Researcher of the Month.

In 2025 the following individuals were awarded the title. In some months, more than one work was recognised.

January:
Lorenz Kapral

February:
Katharina Mayer

March:
Matthias Farlik
Nikolaus Fortelny

April:
Andreas Goreis
Claudia Zimmermann

May:
Caglayan Demirel
Edvinas Stankunas

June:
Christian Behm
Lisa Körner

July:
Matthias Jachs
Christina Sternberg

August:
Hilal Demir
David Haberl
Clemens Spielvogel

September:
Johannes Thaler
Carla Tripisciano
Juliane Winkler

October:
Ralph Gradisch
Stefanie Widder

November:
Anja Agneter
Daniel Bormann

December:
Vinod Rajendra
Sarah Stadlmayr





Biochemist Katalin Karikó

Honorary doctorate for Katalin Karikó

Distinguished visitor. On 19 May, Nobel Prize winner Katalin Karikó delivered a lecture on mRNA research at the invitation of MedUni Vienna. During the event, she was awarded an honorary doctorate and presented with the Semmelweis Medal.

Katalin Karikó played a decisive role in the development of mRNA technology, which formed the basis for the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna Covid-19 vaccines. The Hungarian-American biochemist, who received the 2023 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine together with Drew Weissman, gave a talk in front of a packed lecture hall at MedUni Vienna about the progress and future applications of mRNA technology and fielded questions from the audience.

Meeting with PhD students

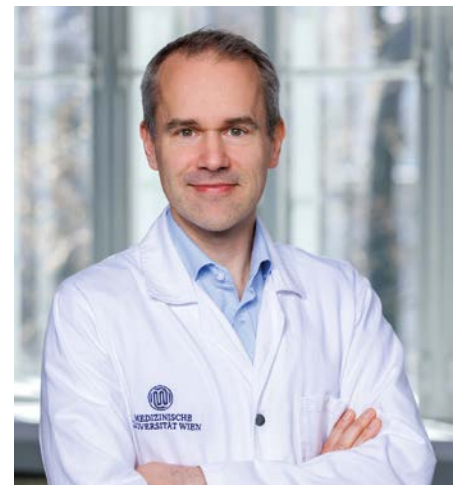
Earlier that morning, selected PhD and doctoral students had the unique opportunity to meet her in person and discuss their own research projects.



Katalin Karikó shared several pieces of advice with the students, particularly on the topic of resilience: "It is important for students to learn how to deal with stress and stay focused so they can lead a happy and productive life."



Biochemist Katalin Karikó, in a collaboration with Drew Weissman, discovered how to suppress the immunogenicity of RNA through nucleoside modification. In May 2025, she spoke at MedUni Vienna about the latest developments in mRNA research.



Paul Langerhans Award

Georg Stary from the Department of Dermatology received the Paul Langerhans Award at the Annual Meeting of the Arbeitsgemeinschaft Dermatologische Forschung in Berlin in March 2025. He was recognised for his outstanding research in immunodermatology and infectious dermatology, published in leading journals such as Immunity, Science Immunology, Journal of Clinical Investigation, Lancet Rheumatology, and Journal of Experimental Medicine.

German Cancer Aid Award

Christoph Huber, a recognised expert in haematology, oncology, immunotherapy and stem cell transplantation, co-founder of BioNTech and member of MedUni Vienna's University Council, received the German Cancer Aid Award. Recognising the enormous potential of immunological approaches at an early stage, he has made a significant contribution to the advancement of cancer research and its clinical application.



Anne-Sophie Mutter presents the German Cancer Aid Award to Christoph Huber

Sub Auspiciis Praesidentis doctoral graduations

Benedikt Simbrunner, PhD graduate of MedUni Vienna, was awarded the distinction “Promotio sub auspiciis Praesidentis rei publicae” for his outstanding academic achievements. Federal President Alexander Van der Bellen presented the honorary rings at a ceremony in the Presidential Chancellery at the Hofburg. Simbrunner's research focuses on the mechanisms of advanced chronic liver disease, particularly systemic inflammation, immune disorders and the gut-liver axis.

In the Presidential Chancellery at the Hofburg Palace (from left): Rector Markus Müller, Science Minister Eva-Maria Holzleitner, Benedikt Simbrunner and Austrian President Alexander Van der Bellen



FWF ASTRA Award

Anne Miller from the Center for Pathobiochemistry and Genetics received one of the 18 FWF ASTRA Awards, each worth approximately one million euros. This new career development programme from the Austrian Science Fund (FWF) enables advanced postdocs in Austria to reach the pinnacle of research in their particular field. Miller and her team research metabolic pathways in the cell nucleus and how they control gene regulation.



Katja Knapp (third from left) at the award ceremony held as part of the Austrian Infection Congress in Saalfelden

Austrian Infection Prize

The Austrian Infection Prize was awarded to Katja Knapp from the Department of Dermatology at the Austrian Infection Congress in Saalfelden in March 2025. Presented by the Austrian Society for Infectious Diseases and Tropical Medicine, the award recognises the contributions of first authors of basic and clinically oriented scientific papers in the field of infectiology. The research, published in *Cell Reports Medicine*, identifies the active substance pentamidine as a promising candidate for the prophylaxis of chlamydia infections and potentially other sexually transmitted diseases.



EACTS Innovation Grant Award

Daniel Zimpfer from the Department of Cardiac and Thoracic Aortic Surgery received the 2025 EACTS Innovation Grant Award from the European Association for Cardio-Thoracic Surgery. The award recognises the development of a novel artificial heart known as the ShuttlePump. This artificial heart works by pumping in rhythmic pulses using a single, contactless moving piston and requires no valves. As a result it can support both systemic and pulmonary circulation simultaneously.

Mannagetta Prize for Medicine

Juliane Winkler, a trained pharmacist and cancer researcher at the Center for Cancer Research, was awarded the Johann Wilhelm Ritter von Mannagetta Prize for Medicine by the Austrian Academy of Sciences. Using state-of-the-art single-cell analysis techniques, she investigates the formation and control of metastases, making a pioneering contribution to research into one of the most common causes of death in cancer patients.

*Juliane Winkler
with Austrian
Academy of
Sciences Vice
President
Ulrike Diebold*



Christiane Druml with State Secretary Alexander Pröll



Grand Decoration of Honour in Silver

Christiane Druml was awarded the Grand Decoration of Honour in Silver for Services to the Republic of Austria in her role as Chair of the Bioethics Commission. She heads MedUni Vienna's historical collections at the Josephinum, and has held the UNESCO Chair of Bioethics since 2016. From 2011 to 2015 she served as Vice Rector for Clinical Affairs at MedUni Vienna.

Paracelsus Prize

Clemens Gutmann from the Division of Cardiology at the Department of Internal Medicine II was awarded the Paracelsus Prize by the Austrian Society of Internal Medicine (ÖGIM). The prize honours outstanding experimental scientific work related to the field of clinical internal medicine. His research looked at the role of non-coding RNAs in the context of platelet aggregation and antiplatelet therapy in acute myocardial infarction.





Anna Weijler and Konstantin Doberer received funding for their projects on cell therapy and the microbiome in organ transplantation.

EANO Mentorship Award

Matthias Preusser from the Division of Oncology at the Department of Internal Medicine I received the EANO Mentorship Award 2025. Given by the European Association of Neuro-Oncology (EANO), it honours outstanding commitment to the mentoring and support of young scientists in the field of neuro-oncology. The award was presented during the opening ceremony of the EANO Annual Meeting 2025 in Prague.

Start-up grants awarded

The Transplantation Research Platform awarded two start-up grants in January 2025. The grants are intended to generate initial research results that can be used to apply for third-party funding in the future. Anna Weijler, postdoc in Thomas Wekerle's group, is researching the use of regulatory T cells in various transplantation settings. Konstantin Doberer is investigating new approaches to monitor immune status after kidney transplantation as part of his doctoral studies in the Programme for Organfailure, -replacement and Transplantation (POeT).

2025 Veronika Fialka-Moser Diversity Prize

Celebrating diversity. For ten years, MedUni Vienna has been sending a clear signal for the promotion of diversity with the Veronika Fialka-Moser Diversity Prize. The 2025 winners were honoured at a ceremony in April.

Research category: First place went to Diana Klinger for her work on the mental health of transgender and gender-diverse adolescents and young adults. Jojo Steininger took second place with the first analysis of treatment pathways for trans adolescents seeking gender-affirming hormone therapy. Third place was awarded to Jürgen Grafeneder, Anita Holzinger, Jan Niederdöckl and Dominik Roth for their study on how patients' migration background influences pain treatment by medical students.

Teaching category: Kathrin Kirchheiner and Igor Grabovac received first place for the course "Sex-positive, Queer-positive and Kink-positive Sexual Medicine and Psychology", which they have been running since 2021. Second place went to Susanne Gahbauer for the seminar "feminize your resonance!", an interactive teaching format on the importance of voice in the context of gender and health. Third place was shared by two projects: the podcast "Interdisciplinary Case Conferences Compact – Interview on Gender Medicine" by Luka Laub and Melanie Schirl, and the master's programme "Transcultural Medicine and Diversity Care" by Türkan Akkaya-Kalayci.



Pictured (from left): Igor Grabovac, Susanne Gahbauer, Türkan Akkaya-Kalayci, Jojo Steininger, Diana Klinger, Vice Rectors Michaela Fritz and Anita Rieder, Melanie Schirl, Luka Laub, Anita Holzinger, Dominik Roth and Jürgen Grafeneder.

MedUni Vienna's national research partners

Strong together. MedUni Vienna cooperates with numerous partners to unlock synergies and bundle competencies.



Subsidiaries and investments

ACOMarket GmbH

Established together with five other Austrian universities to bundle digital activities, this company is a central IT Service Broker and service provider.

Alumni Club

This postgraduate knowledge, dialogue and career platform for MedUni Vienna graduates, students and staff also involves the general public.

CBmed GmbH – Center for Biomarker Research in Medicine

Besides MedUni Vienna and Graz's three universities, CBmed's shareholders include the Austrian Institute of Technology (AIT) and Joanneum Research, as well as numerous partners in science and industry.

Forensisches DNA-Zentrallabor Wien GmbH (DNA Central Laboratory)

The DNA Central Laboratory's principal services are trace analysis and forensic DNA analysis in relation to criminal and parentage investigations.

ITCC P4 gGmbH

ITCC-P4 gGmbH, a non-profit enterprise with private companies and academic centres as shareholders, provides academic institutions and pharmaceutical companies with a comprehensive repertoire of modern laboratory models of paediatric tumours.

Josephinum – Medizinische Sammlungen GmbH

The Josephinum keeps the university's medical legacy alive. It houses MedUni Vienna's medical history collections, as well as operating a museum and staging exhibitions to make them accessible to the public.

Karl Landsteiner Privatuniversität für Gesundheitswissenschaften GmbH

MedUni Vienna is one of the four maintaining bodies of the private Karl Landsteiner University of Health Sciences in Krems.

Max Perutz Labs Support GmbH

A joint enterprise with the University of Vienna, Max Perutz Labs Support GmbH promotes scientific research at the inter-university Max F. Perutz Laboratories organisational unit, by managing shared core facilities and infrastructure, and delivering high-quality services.

Medical University of Vienna International GmbH (MUVI)

This international healthcare consultancy is specialised in providing management, knowledge transfer and medical education services.

Universitätszahnklinik Wien GmbH

A subsidiary of MedUni Vienna with around 400 employees, Universitätszahnklinik Wien GmbH operates one of the largest and most advanced university dental hospitals in Europe.

Pan-European cooperation

MedUni Vienna was involved in a total of 120 EU-funded projects:

- 86 in the core Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe framework programmes (Health, ERC, MSCA etc.) and an additional seven Cancer Mission projects.
- 13 projects in the Innovative Medicine Initiative (IMI 2) / Innovative Health Initiative (IHI)
- 9 projects in the EU4Health Programme
- 5 projects in the DIGITAL Programme

17 MedUni Vienna researchers coordinated EU consortiums with partners from European and other countries.

23 new projects launched in 2025.

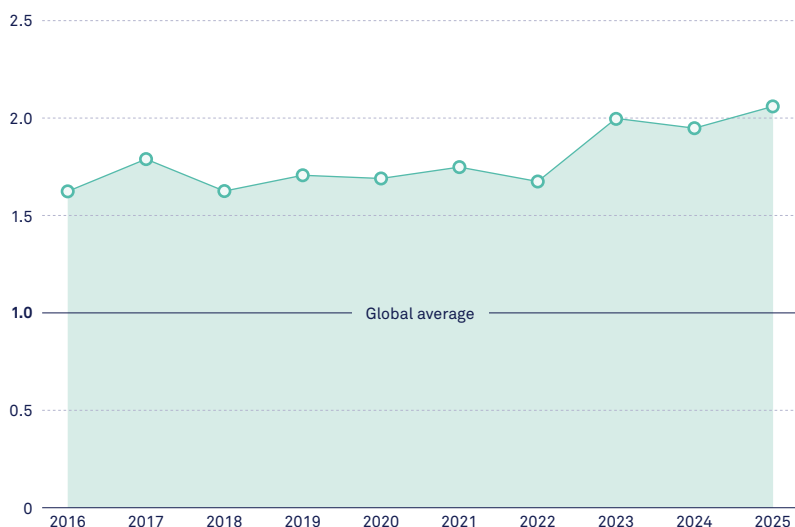
European networks

European research infrastructures and international networks play a central role. They strengthen cooperation, provide access to excellent scientific infrastructure and promote the joint development of innovative solutions at European level. Examples include:

- European University Hospital Alliance
- European University Alliance for Global Health
- Association of Academic Health Centers International
- International Vaccine Institute
- European Reference Networks
- EMBL
- Euro-Biolmaging
- BBMRI
- ELIXIR
- EIRENE
- EU-OPENSREEN
- ISIDORE
- CANDLE – National Cancer Data Node Developers Network for AI in Oncology and Medical Imaging

Frequency of citations

compared with global average in the discipline concerned



Source: InCites Dataset and ESCI

2025
in brief

218,010
citations of
publications,
2016-2025

University Clinic of Dentistry Vienna

41,545

patients (140,059 treatment sessions)

4,571
academic
publications

13

Comprehensive
Centers

14

Christian Doppler Laboratories

12

centres of medical science

20

ERC grants

32

departments and
clinical institutes

5

Ludwig Boltzmann Institutes

Patient care at

University Hospital Vienna

65,079

inpatients (cases)

570,692

outpatients (cases)

1,886,808

clinic appointments incl. inpatients

48,636

operations

143

Partner universities

in 38 countries worldwide

International partners

Top 10 international research partnerships by
number of publications

1,674	University of London
1,309	Charité University Hospital Berlin, Free University of Berlin, Humboldt University of Berlin
1,271	Harvard University
1,242	University of Texas System
1,201	University of Hamburg, University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf
1,162	Université Paris Cité
1,143	Ruprecht Karls University Heidelberg
1,121	Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich
1,085	Cornell University
1,062	University of Zurich
1,061	Weill Cornell Medicine
1,043	Charles University Prague

Period: 2020-2025, source: InCites by Clarivate, figures as at 15 May 2026

EUR 178.1m

revenue

from R&D projects (176.4)
and donations (2.7)

6,584
employees

incl. 4,491 researchers

9,039
students

28
patent applications

14 patents granted
4 spin-offs
44 commercialisation partners

Organisational structure



as at 31 December 2025

University Council

5 members

Scientific Advisory Board

Organisational units with university management responsibilities (Infrastructure and services)

12 service departments

- University Management Office
- Human Resources
- Legal Affairs and Compliance
- Corporate Communications
- Studies and Examinations Department
- Research Service
- Technology Transfer Office
- International Office
- Clinical Trials Coordination Centre
- Finance Department
- Facility, Security and Infrastructure Management
- IT Services and Strategic Information Management

4 staff units

- Internal Audit
- Evaluation and Quality Management
- Gender Mainstreaming and Diversity
- Controlling

Interuniversity Organizational Units

- Max Perutz Labs (A joint venture with the University of Vienna)
- Ignaz Semmelweis Institute (ISI) – Interuniversity Institute for Infection Research

Subsidiaries and shareholdings

- Alumni Club
- Medical University of Vienna International GmbH
- Universitätszahnklinik Wien GmbH
- Max Perutz Labs Support GmbH
- FDZ – Forensisches DNA-Zentral-labor GmbH
- CBmed GmbH
- Karl Landsteiner Privatuniversität für Gesundheitswissenschaften GmbH
- Josephinum – Medizinische Sammlungen GmbH
- ACOmarket GmbH
- ITCC-P4 gGmbH

Committees

- Working Group on Equal Opportunities
- Works Council for scientific university staff
- Works Council for General University Staff
- Ethics Committee
- Data Protection Commission
- Arbitration Committee
- Students' Union (ÖH Med Vienna)
- Data Clearing House
- Ombudsman for Good Scientific Practice
- Intramural Committee for Animal Experimentation
- Advisory Board for People with Disabilities

Curriculum Directors

- Medicine
- Dentistry
- PhD Programme and Doctoral Programme in Applied Medical Science
- Medical Informatics master's programme
- Molecular Precision Medicine master's programme
- Continuing education courses

University management

• Rectorate

The Rectorate is the university's executive management body.

Prof. Markus Müller, Rector

Dr. Michaela Fritz, Vice Rector for Research and Innovation

Prof. Anita Rieder, Vice Rector for Education

Dr. Volkan Talazoglu, Vice Rector for Finance

Prof. Oswald Wagner, Vice Rector for Clinical Affairs

www.meduniwien.ac.at/rectorate

• University Council

The University Council is one of the University's three most senior management bodies, alongside the Rectorate and the Senate. Two of the Council's members are appointed by the Senate of the Medical University of Vienna, and two by the federal government. A fifth member is elected by these four members.

Dr. Eva Dichand (Chair)

Prof. Christoph Huber

Prof. Peter Husslein

Dr. Sigrid Pilz

Prof. Thomas Zeltner (Deputy Chair)

www.meduniwien.ac.at/university-council

• Senate

The Senate is made up of 13 representatives from among the University's professors including heads of organisational units, six representatives of the university's lecturers and academic teaching and research staff including doctors in specialist training, six student representatives and one representative of the general university staff.

Until 10/2025

Professors

Prof. Maria Sibilía (Chair)

Prof. Angelika Berger

Prof. Christoph Binder

Prof. Barbara Bohle

Prof. Wilfried Ellmeier

Prof. Renate Kain

Prof. Irene Lang

Prof. Shahrokh Shariat

Prof. Tanja Stamm

Prof. Michael Trauner (Third Deputy)

Prof. Edda Tschernko

Prof. Rudolf Valenta

Prof. Markus Zeitlinger

University lecturers/academic staff involved in research and teaching, incl. doctors in specialist training

Dr. Carina Borst

Dr. Miriam Kristin Hufgard-Leitner

Dr. Judith Rittenschober-Böhm

Prof. René Wenzl

Prof. Stefanie Widder

Prof. Birgit Willinger (First Deputy)

Students

Jakob Hütter

Marius Polay

Alexis Treitler

Carolin Vollbrecht

Sophie Weißgärber (Second Deputy)

David Zach

General university staff

Gerda Bernhard

Representative of the Working Group for Equal Opportunities

Prof. Alexandra Kautzky-Willer

From 1 October 2025 (eighth term of office)

Professors

Prof. Maria Sibilía (Chair)

Prof. Angelika Berger

Prof. Walter Berger

Prof. Christoph Binder

Prof. Barbara Bohle

Prof. Wilfried Ellmeier

Prof. Irene Lang

Prof. Eva Schernhammer

Prof. Shahrokh Shariat

Prof. Tanja Stamm

Prof. Rudolf Valenta

Prof. Ursula Wiedermann-Schmidt

Prof. Markus Zeitlinger (Third Deputy Chair)

University lecturers/academic staff involved in research and teaching, incl. doctors in specialist training

Dr. Carina Borst

Prof. Zeljko Kikic

Prof. René Wenzl

Prof. Stefanie Widder

Prof. Birgit Willinger (First Deputy Chair)

Dr. Raphael Wurm

Students

Olivia Detzlhofer

Natascha Hett

Alessandro Querner

Anant Thind

Sophie Weißgärber (Second Deputy Chair)

David Zach

General university staff

Gordana Sikanic (First Deputy Chair)

Representative of the Working Group for Equal Opportunities

Prof. Alexandra Kautzky-Willer

www.meduniwien.ac.at/senate

From 1 October 2025

Chair: Natascha Hett

First Deputy: Olivia Detzlhofer

Second Deputy: Anant Thind

www.oehmedwien.at

• Data Clearing House

Chair: Dr. Michael Prinz

www.meduniwien.ac.at/data-clearing-house

• Ombudsman for Good Scientific Practice

Spokesperson: Prof. Elisabeth Förster-Waldl

www.meduniwien.ac.at/gsp

• Medicine Curriculum Director

Prof. Anahit Anvari-Pirsch

Deputy: Prof. Günther Körmöczy

Deputy: Prof. Harald Leitich

Deputy: Prof. Michaela Riedl

• Dentistry Curriculum Director

Prof. Anita Holzinger

Deputy: Prof. Andreas Schedle

Deputy: Prof. Martina Schmid-Schwap

• PhD Programme and Doctorate Programme in Applied Medical Science Curriculum Director

Prof. Stefan Böhm

Deputy: Prof. Sylvia Knapp

• Medical Informatics Curriculum Director

Prof. Georg Dorffner

Deputy: Prof. Georg Duftschmid

• Molecular Precision Medicine Master's Programme Curriculum Director

Prof. Thomas Ashley Leonard

Deputy: Prof. Ruth Herbst

• Continuing Education Curriculum Director

Prof. Henriette Löffler-Stastka

Deputy: Prof. Karin Hoffmann-Sommergruber

• Intramural Committee for Animal Experimentation

Chair: Prof. Daniela Pollak-Monje Quiroga

www.meduniwien.ac.at/intramural-committee-for-animal-experimentation/

Committees

• Working Group on Equal Opportunities

Chair: Prof. Alexandra Kautzky-Willer

First Deputy Chair: Prof. Daniela Marhofer

Second Deputy Chair: Irene Bednar

www.meduniwien.ac.at/equalopportunities

• Works Council for Scientific University Staff

Chair: Dr. Johannes Kastner

First Deputy: Dr. Stefan Konrad

Second Deputy: Dr. Sophie Pils

Third Deputy: Prof. Michael Holzer

www.meduniwien.ac.at/wc-sus

• Works Council for General University Staff

Chair: Gabriele Waidringer

First Deputy Chair: Gerda Bernhard

www.meduniwien.ac.at/wc-gus

• Ethics Committee

Dr. Martin Brunner and Prof. Jürgen Zezula

www.meduniwien.ac.at/ethics

• Intra-university Data Protection Commission

Chair: Samir Memisevic

Deputy Chair: Gordana Sikanic

Data Protection Officer: Martina Kirisits

www.meduniwien.ac.at/dbc

• Advisory Board for People with Disabilities

Chair: Prof. Richard Crevenna

www.meduniwien.ac.at/disabilities

• Arbitration Committee

Chair: Dr. Verena Kreiner (from 10 June 2025)

Dr. Anna Sporrer (until 2 March 2025)

www.meduniwien.ac.at/arbitrationcommittee

• Students' Union (ÖH Med Vienna)

Until 10/2025

Chair: Carolin Vollbrecht

First Deputy: Anant Thind

Second Deputy: Sophie Weißgärber

Scientific Advisory Board

This external body advises the MedUni Vienna Rectorate on all matters related to research, with the aim of safeguarding the University's strategic positioning for the long term.

• Joseph Thomas Coyle

Professor of Psychiatry and Neuroscience,
Harvard Medical School, Boston

• Hedvig Hricak

Chair, Department of Radiology,
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York City

• Sarah König

Head of the Institute of Medical Education and Education
Research,

Julius Maximilian University of Würzburg

• Michael Roden

Professor of Medicine, Scientific Director of the German
Diabetes Center and Director, Institute for Clinical
Diabetology,

Heinrich Heine University Duesseldorf

• Robert Schwarcz

Professor of Psychiatry, Pharmacology and Pediatrics,
Department of Psychiatry,
University of Maryland School of Medicine

University Departments

MedUni Vienna's clinical division consists of 30 departments, including two clinical institutes. 11 of these comprise a number of different divisions (in accordance with section 31(4) Universities Act). Departments, institutes and divisions also serve as patient care departments (pursuant to section 7(4) Hospitals Act).

Department of Medicine I

Head: Prof. Heinz Burgmann

- Division of Oncology
- Division of Hematology and Hemostaseology
- Division of Palliative Medicine
- Division of Infectious Diseases and Tropical Medicine

Department of Medicine II

Head: Prof. Christian Hengstenberg

- Division of Cardiology
- Division of Angiology
- Division of Pulmonology

Department of Medicine III

Head: Prof. Alexandra Kautzky-Willer

- Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism
- Division of Nephrology and Dialysis
- Division of Rheumatology
- Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology

Department of General Surgery

Head: Prof. Oliver Strobel

- Division of Visceral Surgery
- Division of Vascular Surgery
- Division of Transplantation

Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Head: Prof. Nicole Concin

- Division of Obstetrics and Feto-Maternal Medicine
- Division of General Gynecology and Gynecologic Oncology
- Division of Gynecological Endocrinology and Reproductive Medicine

Department of Otorhinolaryngology

Head: Prof. Christoph Arnoldner

- Division of General Ear, Nose and Throat Diseases
- Division of Speech and Language Therapy

Department of Anaesthesia, Intensive Care Medicine and Pain Medicine

Head: Prof. Edda Tschernko

- Division of General Anaesthesia and Intensive Care Medicine
- Division of Pain Medicine
- Division of Cardiac Thoracic Vascular Anaesthesia and Intensive Care Medicine

Department of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy

Deputy Head: Prof. Dan Rujescu-Balcu

- Division of Biological Psychiatry
- Division of Social Psychiatry

Department of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine

Head: Prof. Susanne Greber-Platzer

- Division of Neonatology, Intensive Care Medicine and Neuropediatrics
- Division of Pediatric Cardiology
- Division of Pediatric Pulmonology, Allergology and Endocrinology
- Division of Pediatric Nephrology and Gastroenterology
- Clinical Division of Pediatrics with special focus on Pediatric Hematology-Oncology (St. Anna Children's Hospital)

Department of Biomedical Imaging and Image-guided Therapy

Head: Prof. Ulrike Attenberger

- Division of General and Paediatric Radiology
- Division of Cardiovascular and Interventional Radiology
- Division of Neuroradiology and Musculoskeletal Radiology
- Division of Nuclear Medicine

Department of Orthopedics and Trauma-Surgery

Head: Prof. Reinhard Windhager

- Division of Orthopedics
- Division of Trauma Surgery

Department of Dermatology

Head: Prof. Wolfgang P. Weninger

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- Division of Anatomy
- Division of Cell and Developmental Biology

Center for Physiology and Pharmacology

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- Institute of Pharmacology
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Comprehensive Center for Artificial Intelligence in Medicine (*from 1 January 2025*)

Comprehensive Center for Preventive Medicine (*from 1 January 2025*)

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- Genomics: genome analysis
- Imaging
- Proteomics
- Cell Sorting

Core facility laboratory animal breeding and husbandry

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Head: Karin Cepicka

Ethics, History of Medicine and Historical Collections

Head: Dr. Christiane Druml

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Head: Prof. Anahit Anvari-Pirsch

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- Resources Management
- Curriculum Management
- Assessment and Skills
- Medical Didactics
- Digital Learning

Interuniversitäre Organisationseinheiten

Max Perutz Labs

A joint venture with the University of Vienna

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- Division of Molecular Biology
- Division of Molecular Genetics

Ignaz Semmelweis Institute (ISI) – Interuniversity Institute for Infection Research

A joint venture of MedUni Vienna, MedUni Graz, MedUni Innsbruck, Johannes Kepler University Linz and the University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna.

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Head: Dr. Katharina Stowasser-Bloch

Gender Mainstreaming

Head: Sandra Steinböck

Controlling

Head: Karin Fartacek

Financial Statements

I. Statement of financial position as at 31 December 2025

ASSETS	31 December 2025 EUR	31 December 2024 EUR
A. Fixed assets		
I. Intangible assets		
1. Concessions and similar rights, and licences thereto	957,794.11	1,091,974.17
<i>Acquired by purchase</i>	957,794.11	1,091,974.17
2. Rights of use	33,472,000.00	20,000,000.00
Total intangible assets	34,429,794.11	21,091,974.17
II. Property, plant and equipment		
1. Land, leasehold rights and buildings including buildings on third-party land	19,239,876.37	19,504,695.80
a) <i>Land value</i>	907,034.40	907,034.40
b) <i>Building value</i>	729,645.22	799,060.33
2. Plant and machinery	17,324,792.04	18,000,329.75
3. Scientific literature and other scientific media	10,808,270.95	9,787,498.40
4. Other plants, operating and office equipment	3,569,817.28	3,281,891.26
5. Advance payments and plants under construction	35,557,138.12	27,502,441.75
Total property, plant and equipment	86,499,894.76	78,076,856.96
III. Financial assets		
1. Investments in subsidiaries and associates	349,739.00	649,739.00
2. Loans to subsidiaries and associates	328,829.69	139,382.92
3. Securities and similar instruments held as fixed assets	276,585,229.14	266,295,231.63
Total financial assets	277,263,797.83	267,084,353.55
Total fixed assets	398,193,486.70	366,253,184.68
B. Current assets		
I. Inventories		
1. Operating resources	1,100,000.00	980,000.00
2. Services rendered to third parties not yet invoiced	54,552,807.30	61,764,630.97
Total inventories	55,652,807.30	62,744,630.97
II. Receivables and other assets		
1. Trade receivables	20,694,513.12	20,219,799.12
2. Receivables from associates	1,235,412.07	1,299,969.95
3. Other receivables and other assets	39,202,424.52	30,902,959.71
Total receivables and other assets	61,132,349.71	52,422,728.78
III. Securities and equity interests	6,285,061.19	6,859,514.49
IV. Cash and cash equivalents	347,609,703.18	223,261,320.36
Total current assets	470,679,921.38	345,288,194.60
C. Accruals and deferrals	5,479,571.91	5,678,207.94
TOTAL ASSETS	874,352,979.99	717,219,587.22

The 2025 financial statements were given an unqualified audit certificate by auditors
Leitgeb Wirtschaftsprüfung und Steuerberatung GmbH.

EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	31 December 2025 EUR	31 December 2024 EUR
A. Equity		
1. University negative equity	-8,334,166.31	-8,334,166.31
2. Net profit	47,872,125.58	39,375,046.43
<i>Profit brought forward</i>	39,375,046.43	33,705,368.30
Total equity	39,537,959.27	31,040,880.12
B. Investment grants	54,959,650.85	31,443,111.25
C. Provisions		
1. Provisions for severance payments	23,261,903.04	24,550,787.74
2. Other provisions	280,786,706.13	248,847,076.16
Total provisions	304,048,609.17	273,397,863.90
D. Liabilities		
1. Advances received	160,461,124.63	155,684,512.90
<i>Deductible from inventories</i>	46,861,726.82	55,267,273.26
2. Trade payables	18,941,022.02	29,691,303.76
3. Payables to associates	6,490,086.26	479,999.39
4. Other liabilities	38,992,897.04	37,800,505.47
Total liabilities	224,885,129.95	223,656,321.52
E. Accruals and deferrals	250,921,630.75	157,681,410.43
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	874,352,979.99	717,219,587.22

Note regarding equity:

The university has reported positive equity every year since 2019. In 2025, equity increased to EUR 39.5m.

Irrespective of this, the Universitäten-Rechnungsabschlussverordnung (University Financial Statements Order) 2010 gives medical universities the option of capitalising investments relating to additional clinical expense, research and teaching as rights of use. As a result of capitalising these investments, taking into account investment grants recognised as at 31 December 2025, positive equity in the meaning of section 16(2) University Financial Statements Order was EUR 94.5m (2024: EUR 62.5m).

II. Statement of profit or loss for 2025

	2025 EUR	2024 EUR
1. Revenue		
a) Revenue from Federal Government global budget allocation	682,175,261.93	670,708,120.53
b) Revenue from tuition fees	1,068,152.79	1,026,519.55
c) Revenue from postgraduate training programmes	2,672,062.84	2,905,753.66
d) Revenue pursuant to section 27 Universities Act	166,185,166.62	199,244,857.47
e) Reimbursements of costs pursuant section 26 Universities Act	13,798,995.22	18,860,155.95
f) Other revenue and reimbursements	42,883,324.77	32,003,970.93
<i>Revenue from federal ministries</i>	<i>23,968,315.02</i>	<i>14,427,531.96</i>
	908,782,964.17	924,749,378.09
2. Change in services rendered to third parties not yet invoiced	-6,279,111.80	-46,049,180.54
3. Other operating income		
a) Income from disposal or write-up of fixed assets (excl. financial assets)	159,306.37	74,274.08
b) Income from reversal of provisions	3,863,868.09	27,384,844.85
c) Other	20,320,565.23	16,121,403.15
<i>Reversal of investment grants</i>	<i>13,624,556.87</i>	<i>10,235,285.69</i>
	24,343,739.69	43,580,522.08
4. Expenditure for materials, consumables and purchased services		
a) Expenditure for materials and consumables	-25,934,168.78	-23,800,208.99
b) Expenditure for purchased services	-9,137,989.13	-8,971,115.69
	-35,072,157.91	-32,771,324.68
5. Staff costs		
a) Salaries and wages	-557,249,320.55	-535,072,200.68
<i>Refunds to the Federal Government for officials assigned to the university</i>	<i>69,447,348.81</i>	<i>65,136,751.11</i>
b) Expenditures for teaching according to use category 17 und 18 Hochschulstatistik- und Bildungsdokumentationsverordnung – UHSBV, BGBl. II Nr. 216/2019, current version	-2,222,371.41	-1,947,938.50
c) Cost of severance payments and payments to employee benefits funds	-9,374,230.47	-7,794,510.58
<i>Refunds to the Federal Government for officials assigned to the university</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>
d) Cost of pensions	-21,592,202.10	-17,916,226.85
<i>Refunds to the Federal Government for officials assigned to the university</i>	<i>374,994.03</i>	<i>383,736.32</i>
e) Social security contributions and other pay-related contributions	-101,315,435.64	-93,801,511.81
<i>Refunds to the Federal Government for officials assigned to the university</i>	<i>12,885,199.58</i>	<i>13,544,792.05</i>
f) Other employee benefits	-5,143,435.36	-48,103,638.73
	-696,896,995.53	-704,636,027.15

	2025 EUR	2024 EUR
6. Depreciation and amortisation	-29,385,574.13	-25,109,679.96
7. Other operating expenses		
a) Taxes other than those under item 13	-1,306,496.64	-1,297,384.27
b) Reimbursements to hospital operator pursuant section 33 Universities Act	-41,183,600.00	-54,684,759.29
c) Other	-95,900,850.52	-85,816,972.75
	-138,390,947.16	-141,799,116.31
8. Subtotal items 1 to 7	27,101,917.33	17,964,571.53
9. Income from financial resources and investments	10,324,654.53	10,078,808.75
Write-ups	31,367.09	132,887.18
10. Expenditure arising from financial resources and equity holdings	-26,519,845.99	-19,966,827.25
a) Write-downs	0.00	20,999.53
b) Expenditure arising from subsidiaries and associates	24,761,418.99	19,563,000.00
11. Subtotal items 9 to 10	-16,195,191.46	-9,888,018.50
12. Earnings before tax (sum of items 8 and 11)	10,906,725.87	8,076,553.03
13. Taxes on income and profit	2,409,646.72	2,406,874.90
14. Profit after tax	8,497,079.15	5,669,678.13
15. Profit brought forward	39,375,046.43	33,705,368.30
16. Net profit for the year	47,872,125.58	39,375,046.43

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