

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## PERSONAL INFORMATION:

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Name: Tomabu ADJOBIMEY  
Date of birth: 23.02.1978  
Nationality: Beninese  
e-mail: [tomabuadjobi@hotmail.com](mailto:tomabuadjobi@hotmail.com)  
Current Position: Assistant Professor in Immunology  
Department of Biochemistry,  
Faculty of Science  
University of Abomey-Calavi ,  
Abomey-Calavi, Benin

## SKILLS:

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- Expertise in cellular immunology, cell sorting and in vitro cell culture techniques, flow cytometry, western blot, ELISA, ELISpot, Luminex, fluorescence microscopy
- Extensive experience in biochemistry and molecular biology technics
- Extensive experience in project supervision, scientific leadership, and administrative skills
- Experience with clinical trials, fieldwork, data collection, and analysis
- Passionate lecturer and excellent communication skills
- Excellent knowledge in informatics and proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite

## EDUCATION:

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### **April 2005 to November 2008:**

Ph.D. studies in Immunology at the University of Bonn, Germany.  
Theme: Modulation of B cell antibody production by antigen-induced regulatory T cells  
Diploma: Ph.D. Cellular Biology, with distinction.

### **October 2000 to September 2002:**

Postgraduate studies at the Faculty of Science, Department of Physiology and Pharmacology, University of Lomé, Togo.  
Diploma: Master of Science in Physiology and pharmacology of natural substances, with distinction.

### **October 1996 to June 2000:**

Graduate studies at the Faculty of Science and Technology, University of Abomey Calavi, Benin.  
Diploma: Master (Maitrise) in Biochemistry, with distinction.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

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### **Since November 2011**

Lecturer and Research Group Leader, Human Immunology, Institute of Medical Microbiology, Immunology and Parasitology; University of Bonn, Germany.

### **November 2008 to 2011**

Postdoctoral Fellow at the Institute for Medical Microbiology, Immunology, and Parasitology; University of Bonn, Germany.

### **April 2005 to November 2008**

Ph.D. studies at the Institute of Medical Microbiology, Immunology and Parasitology; University of Bonn.  
Theme: Modulation of B cell antibody production by antigen-induced regulatory T cells.

**October 2002 to September 2004**

Research assistant at the Laboratory of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, University of Abomey-Calavi.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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University of Abomey,-Calavi, Benin (since 2015)  
Lecturer in immunology and virology  
Department of Biochemistry,  
Faculty of Science

University of Bonn, Germany (since 2017)  
Graduate Courses Taught: **Parasitic Infections of the gastrointestinal tract**  
Program: Master of Science: Global Health, Faculty of Medicine, University of Bonn, Faculty of Medicine,  
University of Bonn, Germany

University of Bonn, Germany (since 2016)  
Graduate Courses Taught: **Leishmaniasis**  
Program: Master of Microbiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Bonn, Master of Science:  
Microbiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Bonn, Germany

University of Bonn, Germany since 2018)  
Graduate Courses Taught: **Health in Development Policies**  
Program: Summer School on Development Policy, University of Bonn, Germany

University of Bonn, Germany (since 2015)  
Graduate Courses Taught: **Modulation of Human Immune Responses by Filarial Parasites**  
Program: Master of Microbiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Bonn, Master of Science:  
Microbiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Bonn, Germany

**EXPERIENCE IN PROJECT SUPERVISION:**

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**Ph.D. level:**

1- Deciphering the role of T helper 17 (Th17) and regulatory T cells (Treg) in the pathological outcomes in human lymphatic filariasis, Gnatoulma Katawa, Ph.D. Student, University of Bonn, October 2011-February 2015. Ph.D. Thesis defended at the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, University of Bonn, March 2015.

2- Transcriptomics and immune profiling of filarial asymptomatic infected individuals, Kwame Kwarteng, Thesis defended at the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, University of Bonn, December 2015.

3- Mechanisms underlying the induction and the immunoregulatory properties of IgG4 antibodies in human filariasis, Prodjinotho Fabien, Thesis defended at the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, University of Bonn, January 2017.

**Bachelor and Master level:**

4- Differential Antibody reactivity to Wolbachia and filarial antigens during hypo and hyperreactive human onchocerciasis, **Julia Meyer, Bachelor thesis**, defended at the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences, September 2018.

- 5- Role of complement pathways in the physiopathology of human onchocerciasis, **Judith Weyergraf**, **Bachelor thesis**, defended at the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences, April 2018.
- 6- Importance of Granulocytes' activation in the physiopathology of human onchocerciasis, **Katharina Günther**, **Bachelor thesis**, defended at the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences, March 2018.
- 7- Differential expression and activation of TLR2 and 4 on human peripheral blood monocytes and granulocytes, **Mariatou Dramé**, **Bachelor thesis**, defended at the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences, April 2018.
- 8- Antibody-mediated regulation of granulocytes activation and survival and its impact on the immunopathogenesis of human lymphatic filariasis, **Charlotte von Horn**, **Master thesis**, defended at the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences, September.2016.
- 9- Differential modulation of human immunoglobulin isotype secretion by regulatory T cell subsets, **Charlotte von Horn**, **Bachelor thesis**, defended at the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences, August 2014.
- 10- Comparative study of the immune responses of human peripheral blood cells to *Litomosoides sigmodontis* and *Onchocerca volvulus*, **Alina Meyer**, **Master Thesis**, defended at the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, University of Bonn, April 2013.
- 11- Suppression of Th17 polarisation by *Onchocerca volvulus* antigens, **Joanna Atemkeng**, **Bachelor thesis**, defended at the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences, December 2013.

#### SELECTED PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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1. Prodjinotho F., Hoerauf A., **Adjobimey T.**, IgG4 antibodies from patients with asymptomatic bancroftian filariasis inhibit the binding of IgG1 and IgG2 to C1q in a Fc-Fc dependent mechanism, *Parasitology Research*, (2019). [Epub ahead of print]. doi: 10.1007/s00436-019-06451-2.
2. Prodjinotho F., von Horn C., Debrah A.Y., Batsa Debrah L., Albers A., Layland LE., Hoerauf A., **Adjobimey T.**, Pathological Manifestations in Lymphatic Filariasis Correlate with Lack of Inhibitory Properties of IgG4 Antibodies on IgE-activated Granulocytes, *PLoS neglected tropical diseases* 11(7), (2017) e0005777.
3. Katawa G., Layland LE., Debrah AY., von Horn C., Batsa L., Kwarteng A., Arriens S., Taylor DW., Specht S, Hoerauf A. and **Adjobimey T.**, Hyperreactive Onchocerciasis is Characterized by a Combination of Th17-Th2 Immune Responses and Reduced Regulatory T Cells. *PLoS neglected tropical diseases* 9 (2015) e3414.
4. **Adjobimey T.**, Satoguina T., Oldenburg J., Hoerauf A., and Layland LE. Co-activation through TLR4 and TLR9 but not TLR2 skews Treg-mediated modulation of immunoglobulins and induces IL-17-secretion in Treg: B cell co-cultures. *Innate Immunity* 20 (1) (2013) 12-23.
5. Arndts, K., Deininger, S., Specht, S., Klarmann, U., Mand, S., **Adjobimey, T.**, Debrah, A. Y., Batsa, L., Kwarteng, A., Epp, C., Taylor, M., Adjei, O., Layland, L. E. & Hoerauf, A. Elevated Adaptive Immune Responses Are Associated with Latent Infections of *Wuchereria bancrofti*. *PLoS Negl Trop Dis*, 6, (2012) e1611.
6. **Adjobimey T.**, Hoerauf A., Induction of immunoglobulin G4 in human filariasis: an indicator of immunoregulation. *Ann Trop Med Parasitol* 104 (6) (2010) 455-464.

7. Satoguina J.S\*, **Adjobimey T\***, Arndts, K., Hoch J., Oldenburg, J., Layland L.E., and Hoerauf A. 2008. Tr-1-and Naturally-Occurring Regulatory T cells induce IgG4 in B cells through GITR/GITRL interaction, IL-10, and TGF- $\beta$ . *Eur. J. Immunol* 38(11) (2008) 3101-13 (*\*equal contribution*).
8. Akele-Akpo MT, Baba-Moussa LS., **Adjobimey T.**, Missihoun DT., and Sanni A., What do the inflammatory cervical smears hide? A comparison study of cytopathology and PCR in Cotonou, *Revue Africaine de Pathologie* 5 (1) (2006) 21-26.
9. Weniger B., Lagnika L., Vonthron-Sénécheau C., **Adjobimey T.**, Gbenou J., Moudachirou M., Brun R., Anton R, and Sanni A.; Evaluation of ethnobotanically selected Benin medicinal plants for their *in vitro* antiplasmodial activity; *Journal of Ethnopharmacology* 90 (2004) 279-284
10. **Adjobimey T.**, Edayé I., Lagnika L., Gbenou J., Moudachirou M., and Ambaliou Sanni, *In vitro* antiplasmodial activity of some antimalarial plants of Beninese pharmacopeia; *C. R. Chimie* 7 (2004) 1023-1027.

#### SCIENTIFIC MEMBERSHIPS:

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BSI: Benin Society of Immunology

DGP: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Parasitologie (German Society for Parasitology)

DGfi: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Immunologie (German Society for Immunology).

FASBMB: Federation of African Societies of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

WANNPRES: Western Africa Network of Natural Products Research Scientists.  
The Antibody Society.

#### EXPERT AND ADVISORY ACTIVITIES:

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Review Editor, *Frontiers in Immunology and Microbiology* ( since November 2019).

Expert for the evaluation of eligible proposals in Inflammation and Immunity, *European Commission*, H2020-MSCA-IF-2019.

Expert in the Interview Assessments of the European Framework Programme for Research and Innovation ATHENEA3i MSCA-COFUND-2019

Expert for the evaluation of eligible proposals in Inflammation and Immunity, *European Commission*, H2020-MSCA-IF-2018.

Expert for the evaluation of eligible proposals in Inflammation and Immunity, *European Commission*, H2020-MSCA-IF-2017.

Editorial Board Member of the *International Journal of Infectious Diseases and Therapy*, edited by Science Publishing Group ( since November 2018).

Member of the international advisory board of *Science, Environment, and Climate* edited by the Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC). (since August 2018).

Executive board member and regional coordinator of the *DAAD-Freundeskreis-Bonn* (2008-2017)

Executive board member and national coordinator of the Western Africa Network of Natural Products Research Scientists WANNPRES (2004-2006)

## REVIEWER ACTIVITIES FOR SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS SINCE

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### *Peer Review Summary*

Over 20 reviews performed for scientific journals, including Molecular Biology Reports, PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases, Parasitology Research, and BMC Microbiology.

## AWARDS AND HONOURS:

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Travel Grant to attend the European Congress of Immunology, Glasgow, 2012.

Travel Grant to attend the World Immunoregulatory Meeting in Davos, 2011.

Ph.D. scholarship from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), 2005-2008.

Research scholarship from Bonfor (Forschungsförderprogramm der Medizinischen Fakultät der Universität Bonn) 2005-2008.

Travel grant to attend the first scientific meeting of the Western Africa Network of Natural Products Research Scientists (WANNPRES) 2004.

## INTRAMURAL AND THIRD-PARTY FUNDED PROJECTS IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS

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2019- 2020 Co-applicant and co-coordinator, ImmunoBenin 2019: Regional Immunology Schools in Sub-Saharan Africa: Immuno-Benin 2019 and Immuno-Ethiopia 2020 (Volkswagen Stiftung, Wissen für morgen – Kooperative Forschungsvorhaben im subsaharischen Afrika)

Since 2018 - Senior investigator, Project "Determination of molecular mechanisms supporting the anti-inflammatory properties of IgG4 antibodies in filarial infected individuals" (DFG).

2013 – 2016 Principal Investigator, Project "Mechanisms underlying the induction and the immunoregulatory properties of IgG4 antibodies in human filariasis" (DAAD/Bonfor).

2012 – 2015 Principal Investigator, Project "Deciphering the role of T helper 17 (Th17) and regulatory T cells (Treg) in the pathological outcomes in human lymphatic filariasis" (DAAD/Bonfor).

2012 – 2015 Co-Principal Investigator, Project "Transcriptomics and immune profiling of filarial asymptomatic infected individuals (DAAD/Bonfor).

2008 – 2014 Postdoctoral Fellow and senior investigator, Project "Molecular mechanisms of IgG4 induction by human antigen-specific regulatory T cells" (DFG).

## LANGUAGES:

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**French:** Arterial language,

**English,** Fluent (reading listening, writing and speaking),

**German,** Fluent (reading listening, writing, and speaking).