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Curriculum Vitae - 2012

Summary of qualifications

I am the Chief Surgeon of the Department of Maxillofacial Surgery in Schwerin/Germany. There I treat patients suffering on the whole scope of maxillofacial diseases in adults, children and newborns. Moreover, I am engaged in medical and scientific research throughout my career. Although I completed my residency in *Maxillofacial Surgery* and earned the additional title *Plastic Surgeries* as well as a plethora of experience and knowledge in both areas, microsurgery is my strongest area of expertise in the field of medicine. For that reason I apply this technique not only during free flap surgery, but also for other maxillofacial procedures like the primary surgery of the cleft nose in newborns.

Career-Related Experience

2008-present Commission for Training of Physicians

2-year Commission from the Medical Association Mecklenburg-Vorpommern to teach additional education courses for physicians already in the field of mouth, jaw, and facial surgery to obtain the additional certification for performing plastic surgery.

2007-present Commission for Training of Physicians

5-year Commission from the Medical Association Mecklenburg-Vorpommern to teach continuing education courses for physicians in the field of mouth, jaw, and facial surgery.

1999-present Professor of Medicine, University of Rostock

In 1999, I was appointed as a Professor in the Medical Faculty of the University of Rostock to teach medical students in the field of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

1999-present Chief Surgeon in the Department of Maxillofacial Surgery

In 1999, I was appointed Chief of the Department of Maxillofacial Surgery in the Hospital of Schwerin, Germany because of my accomplishments, which I achieved due to my strong leadership, creativity, and organizational skills.

1997 Assistant Professor at the University of Hamburg, Germany

I was bestowed with the title of a tenured University Professor in 1997 because of my success in scientific research and my achievements in teaching other doctors and treating patients.

1995-1996 Senior physician at the University of Hamburg, Germany

During my time as an attending at the University of Hamburg, I concentrated on my postgraduate studies in scientific research such as the development of a new technique in harvesting a microvascular forearm flap. This new flap is based on the distal artery and its venae comitantes. The reverse of the blood flow, both in the artery as well as in the veins, was the key to success for my method. In 1995, I finished my habilitation treatise. Its title was "Der Eppendorfer Stromumkehrappen (The Reverse-blood-flow Flap of Eppendorf)".

1994-1995 Consultant at the University of Hamburg, Germany

Starting in 1994, I studied the techniques of maxillofacial and plastic surgery at the University of Hamburg. Shortly after, I became a consultant of oral and maxillofacial surgery. A year later, I earned the additional title of "Plastic Surgeries" and was appointed a senior physician. During my time at the University of Hamburg, Professor Schmelzle was my mentor. Besides being the director of the University Hospital in Hamburg, the largest one in the field, he is one of the most talented, most skillful, and most experienced plastic surgeons around the globe. I have been very fortunate and grateful for his mentoring and the knowledge that he passed on to me.

1990-1994 Residency in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, University of Tübingen, Germany

I started my residency in maxillofacial surgery at the globally renowned University of Tübingen (Prof. Schwenzler). There, I was taught soft and hard tissue treatment at a remarkably high level. I eventually became a consultant of oral surgery.

Education

3rd University Degree

1994, University of Hamburg

“University Professor”

Title: „*Der Eppendorfer Stromumkehrappen*“

This scientific thesis deals with the improvement of microsurgical techniques. Investigated improvements resulted in increasing survival rates of microvascular flaps and a reduction of donor site morbidity as well. Beyond that a new flap was found and described first.

Chair: Faculty of Medicine of the University of Hamburg

Advisor: Professor Dr. Dr. R. Schmelzle

2nd University Degree

1990, University of Tübingen

Doctor of Dentistry

Title: „*Experimentelle Untersuchungen zur Fibronectinvorbeschichtung kleinlumiger Gefäßprothesen im Rahmen des Endothelial Cell Seeding*“.

The thesis deals with the research of biological improvements of artificial vascular grafts. Once we get important improvements we will get healing of many areas of restricted blood flows and in patients with general vascular diseases (e.g. after stent surgery; circulatory disorders)

Chair Professor Dr. W. Küsswetter

Advisor: Professor Dr. G. Köveker

Advisor: Professor Dr. Dr. N. Schwenzler

1st University Degree

1987, University of Göttingen

Doctor of Medicine

Title: „*Epilepsie und Soziales Vorurteil*“

The thesis deals with the exploration of the misbehavior of people to patients suffering from epilepsy. These patients suffer not only from the disease itself but also from the reaction of the surrounding people. Knowing that epilepsy is very common that behavior is not understandable. To alleviate this suffering we have to know more about the origin of that misbehavior.

Chair Professor Dr. O. Götze

Advisor: Professor Dr. G. Ritter

Course of Studies for 1st University Degree

1982-1987, University of Göttingen

Study of Medicine and Dentistry

I got a spot in medicine for the 5th semester and immediately continued to study medicine in 1982. Two years later I began to study dentistry at the same time. After five years studying at 3 different Universities 4 different majors I graduated in medicine. I got the license to practice medicine in Mai 1987 and, a few weeks later, the doctoral viva. In order to become a Maxillofacial Surgeon I still had to finish my studies in dentistry in 1990 and was also licensed to practice dentistry in the same year.

1981-1982, Phillips-University of Marburg

Study of Human Biology

Due to excellent marks in school I got a place to study Human Biology at the University of Marburg in 1981. The courses in human biology were similar to the ones in medicine, but they were more in-depth.

1980-1981, Ludwig-Maximilian-University of Munich

Study of Physics

I started physics at the University of Munich always in mind to switch to a more medical major whenever an opportunity occurs. That semester was kind of premedical and I already had good experiences with physics during school time. Some courses showed similarity to basic medical courses.

Professional Associations

I am member of several national and international medical societies. My engagement in these organizations ranges from the participation in regular intervals to presenting scientific work and from serving as a member of the admissions committee for scientific work to the whole meeting itself. In 2003, I became Vice-president of the organizing Schuchardt Foundation. The Schuchardt Foundation is an organization of German Maxillofacial Surgeons who share the goal of supporting each other in teaching other physicians. The world famous Professor Dr. Dr. Karl Schuchardt was the founder of this foundation, and it is truly an honor to follow in his footsteps.

In 1995, I became internationally known for organizing an important interdisciplinary national conference. The Joint Meeting with the Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeons of the American Society of Maxillofacial Surgery. Also, for many years, I was responsible for the finance audit of the German Association of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery.

Volunteer Work

As I grew into an experienced surgeon, I started volunteering to treat severely

disabled children from poor countries who did not have the financial means. With the help of medical societies, we made their travel arrangements and performed the operations. We also helped improve the environment that our patients were growing up in.

Honors and Awards

I got academic honors during a scientific meeting for my scientific presentation. But more valuable I was invited and honored for the medical treatment of the year in 1998. This TV-Show is broadcasted at the turn of the year each year. Together with nationally and internationally very famous people like the formula one world champion Michael Schumacher, the women's tennis star Steffi Graf, the former chancellor of Germany Gerd Schröder, the soccer coach of the German team that year Jürgen Klinsmann and many others we showed what highlights of the year made it so good. And I got personal awards, for volunteering by treating severely disabled children.

Skills

In 1998, I successfully performed a total-nose-replantation, which had been globally accomplished only twice before. On the one hand the difficulty in was that there were only two arteries with a diameter of 0.5 mm to perform the microsurgical suturing. On the other hand there was no vein for the drainage, which made it worse. So I technically succeeded in doing the suturing. But with the special trick known from my scientific work, the reverse blood flow I sutured one of the arteries of the served nose to a vein of the lip of the patient. And that worked, for the first time in Germany and the third time in the world. Thus, I became nationally and internationally known for my surgical achievements. I was invited to several German TV-shows for my surgical accomplishment (e.g. "Stern-TV" and "Menschen, Bilder, Emotionen 1998").

Knowledge gained from experience

After 17 years permanent training and improvement in the whole field of maxillofacial surgery I have acquired vast knowledge and expertise surgical skills. Because of my special interest in micro-vessel-and-nerve surgery from early on I focused my scientific work on reconstructive surgery as well. That kind of treatment is of main emphasis. On the other hand I got profound knowledge in leadership skills while climbing up the whole ladder in the career. Managing the department as a chief executive provided me with responsibilities such as the daily routine in the operating room, the surgical results of all patients of the department and ending with the budget today, qualified intense administrative skills as well.

Publications

The number and the diverseness of my publications and the speeches I held demonstrate my engagement and knowledge in the entire scientific medical field. I am

author of a medical yearbook "Plastische- und Wiederherstellungschirurgie" and wrote 3 further paperback books. I did 40 scientific short papers, 30 scientific posters, more than 77 scientific papers. Concerning my work and my person there were 87 newspaper articles contributed to a newspaper. Out of these 87 newspaper articles 18 had a superregional level. They mainly focus on my volunteer work. Above that there were 16 TV appearances showing my work, five of them nationwide.

Knowledge

From the beginning of my medical studies, I have always been very interested in vessel-and-nerve surgery. Therefore, I acquired a vast knowledge in this specific medical section. For that reason I focused my scientific and clinical work on reconstructive surgery. Furthermore, the number and the diverseness of my publications and the speeches I held demonstrate my engagement and knowledge in the entire medical field.

Highlights

I am a member of several national and international Societies and Organizations. In 2003, I became Vice-president of the Schuchardt Foundation, which is a Society of German University Professors of Medicine.

In 1998, I successfully performed a surgery with total-nose-replantation. This kind of surgery had only been performed successfully twice in the world before. Because of that, I became nationally and internationally known for my surgical achievements. I was invited to several German TV-shows for my surgical accomplishment (e.g. "Stern-TV" and "Menschen 98").

In November of the same year I traveled to Bagdad with a team of international scientists within the scope of the Oil-for-Food Program. This program had been established by the United Nations in 1995, and was introduced by President Bill Clinton in order to help the Iraqi citizens that were affected by economic sanctions. Our team lectured at various hospitals throughout Bagdad and cared for severely disabled patients. The travel took place during the time of ceasefire within the operation desert fox and lasted 10 days.

Extracurricular Activities

I love to spend time with my family. Two of my children are going to college in Davidson NC and St. Louis MO. My youngest is 11 years old. We enjoy playing tennis.