

# DR. ARMIN SCHWARZBACH, MD, PhD

# ARMINLABS



**Dr. Armin Schwarzbach is a world expert in the field of laboratory medicine and infectious diseases. He is committed to working tirelessly on refining the various diagnostic tests for *Borrelia burgdorferi* and coinfections, a research area to which he has devoted more than 20 years of his professional life.**

His unparalleled expertise in testing for tick-borne disease culminated in the creation in 2015 of his own laboratory, ArminLabs, in Augsburg, Germany. Under his watchful eye, his 30-strong, hand-picked laboratory team has processed over 150.000 samples from patients with tick-borne disease, in addition to all the other medical and specialised tests run daily for practitioners from over 150 countries. Dr. Schwarzbach's fondest wish is for the leaders in the field of laboratory medicine to cooperate and share their discoveries and knowledge so as to positively impact the lives of patients, particularly those affected by Lyme disease and coinfections.

One of the steps he took in order to accomplish this goal was to partner with Gaertner Laboratories (one of the 30 Limbach Group labs, the largest network of laboratories in Germany), ensuring that ArminLabs is able to offer an unparalleled range of diagnostic tests to doctors, naturopaths, complementary practitioners and patients. Thanks to this cooperation, ArminLabs is able to provide additionally not only genetic testing, but also specialised testing for autoimmune disorders and hormones, as well as tests used by functional and complementary medicine specialists.

Dr. Schwarzbach first studied biochemistry and pharmacy in Frankfurt, Germany, before turning to medicine. He received his MD in 1991 from the University of Mainz and went straight on to complete a PhD.

He then worked as a medical assistant in internal medicine, oncology, cardiology, gastroenterology, and infectiology for several years.

This experience made him realise that, if he were to truly assist patients suffering from the complexity of symptoms that accompany tick-borne disease, he had to broaden and further expand his medical experience. As a result, he went the extra mile and specialised in the fields of infectiology, microbiology, immunology, haematology, clinical chemistry, endocrinology and gynaecological endocrinology while working in hospitals and laboratories in Limburg, Koblenz, Munich, Augsburg and Weisbaden up until 2006. At that point, he joined the BCA Laboratory and became its CEO until 2015.

Always driven by a strong desire for excellence, Dr. Schwarzbach resolved to develop a range of specialist tests that would be instrumental for practitioners and specialists who support patients with both acute and chronic infections. To do this, he decided to set up his own laboratory which was accredited by the German Accreditation Authorities DAkkS. He has been the CEO and Managing Director of ArminLabs ever since and, using it as his platform, he continues to push forward the knowledge boundaries of infectious disease, always striving to provide advances in both testing and treatment options for his international clientele.

Dr. Schwarzbach continues to practice as a medical doctor and consistently helps practitioners determine the best testing and treatment protocols for their clients. He endeavours to share his time between, on the one hand, providing mentorship, training and support to the many medical and specialist practitioners who test for infectious disease and, on the other, being intimately involved with the day-to-day running of ArminLabs.

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His passion for sharing his wealth of knowledge makes Dr. Schwarzbach greatly sought-after as a conference and webinar speaker. He loves nothing more than to impart his wisdom and experience to specialists and laymen alike. As a result, he regularly lectures around the world on laboratory medicine and specialised tests for chronic infections originating from tick-borne disease.

He is an innovator in the field of immunoassays and laboratory medicine developing, as part of his research and studies in medicine, the first worldwide Radioimmunoassay (RIA) for human Gastric Inhibitory Polypeptide (hGIP).

With his field leadership incontestable, Dr. Schwarzbach is regularly invited as a valued member of several international committees, societies and associations. Likewise, his worldwide renown for sharing his expertise in navigating the difficulties of laboratory testing has contributed to him being requested to join several advisory boards for Lyme and tick-borne disease. To mention but a few, he was international expert for the Chief Medical Officer's Clinical Advisory Committee on Lyme Disease in Australia (CACLD) and has served as Director of the International Lyme and Associated Diseases Society (ILADS) in the USA.

He was also a member of the working group for Lyme disease of the Haut Conseil de la Santé Publique in Paris, France, and of the working group 'Lyme Disease Think Tank' which operated within the Complex Chronic Disease Program of the Women's Hospital, British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada.

Dr. Schwarzbach was invited speaker on the prevention and treatment of Borreliosis at the Joint Committee on Health and Children, Dublin, Ireland and, together with seven other European partners from Spain, Italy, Portugal, Finland and Belgium, took part in the FP7 scientific research program of the European Union regarding the HILYSENS project for the development of a highly sensitive and specific low-cost prototype of a lab-on-a-chip system for *Borrelia burgdorferi* IgG and IgM antibodies. He was also invited to make a presentation at the Lyme Disease Forum of the Houses of Parliament, London, England.

His broad range of expertise is reflected in his membership of the German Borreliosis Society, the Swiss Association for Tick-borne diseases, the German Association of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine, the German Society for Medical Laboratory Specialists (DGKL) and the Australasian Integrative Medicine Association.

