Heiko Herwald
Division of Infection Medicine (BMC)
Host parasite interactions
Visiting address:
BMC, B14, Sölvegatan 19
Rm BMC B1414c, BMC B14
Lund
Sweden
Postal address:
221 84
Lund
Sweden
Visiting address:
Klinikgatan, BMC B14
Lund
Sweden
Postal address:
22184
Lund
Sweden
Email: heiko.herwald@med.lu.se, heiko.herwald@med.lu.se
Phone: +46462224182, +46462224182
Web address: http://www.med.lu.se/english/klinvetlund/infectious_diseases

Research

Modulation of inflammatory responses to bacterial infections
Severe infectious diseases, including sepsis, remain a serious medical challenge worldwide. Clinical symptoms of patients suffering from sepsis are a culmination of complex interactions between the infecting microorganism and host immune responses, such as the induction of overwhelming inflammatory reactions, systemic activation of the coagulation system, and impaired fibrinolysis. These alarming findings prompted many research groups, including my own, to search for novel strategies to treat severe infectious diseases. Many of these approaches are focused on so-called “host effector systems”, since evidence has accumulated that complications from an infection are caused by an over-stimulation of host defense systems that are modulated by bacteria or bacterial products. In severe infections, such as sepsis and septic shock, vascular leakage, increased cytokine levels, and coagulation/fibrinolysis dysfunction are often observed.
My research projects aim to identify and characterize molecular mechanisms that lead to these complications. To accomplish these tasks various *in vitro*, *ex vivo*, and *in vivo* models will be employed. The results obtained from our investigations have a chance to open new routes for development of diagnostic tools and the discovery of novel treatments in severe infectious diseases.

Employment

Professor, Manager, Supervisor
Host-parasite Interactions
Lund University
Sweden
2024 Nov 20 → present

Senior Research Scientist
Ferring GmbH, Kiel
Kiel, Germany
2001 Feb 1 → 2001 Jun 30