

Biography

Dr. PIERRE-A. CLAVIEN, MD, Ph.D, FACS, FRCS
Professor and Chairman

Department of Visceral & Transplantation Surgery
University of Zurich / Switzerland

Dr. Clavien completed his medical study at the University of Geneva and then performed a residency in General Surgery at the University of Basel and Geneva. After the Swiss Board of Surgery Dr. Clavien moved to Toronto, and spent three years in laboratory research and obtained a PhD in Immunology and Medicine Science at the University of Toronto. Subsequently, he performed a liver and pancreas as well as a liver transplant fellowship at the Toronto General Hospital and Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. He then worked as a junior faculty at the University of Toronto. Dr. Clavien accepted the position of Chief of Liver Transplant and HPB Program in January 1994 at the Duke University Medical Center in North Carolina. Two years after he was appointed as a Head of the Division of Transplantation and Hepatobiliary Surgery at Duke University Medical Center. At Duke he started as an Assistant Professor and was promoted within five years to the rank of Full Professor with tenure. In July 2000 he accepted the current position of Head of the Department of Visceral and Transplant Surgery at the University of Zurich.

The main interest of Dr. Clavien has been in several aspects of transplantation and liver surgery. Since 1994 he has run an active basic science laboratory funded through NIH and Swiss National Grants and other private and non private fundings. The main focus of research has been on liver regeneration, preservation of organ before transplantation, a novel therapy to attack cancer. He is currently on the Editorial Board or Associated Editor of several high ranked international journals, such as Gastroenterology, Hepatology, Surgery, American Journal of Transplantation, Journal of Hepatology, Annals of Surgery etc. He has written five books in the field of transplantation and liver surgery, and recently a major atlas of Upper GI Surgery and HPB Surgery has been published. He is also in the council of the Swiss Society of Surgery, in the research council of the Swiss National Funds and a few International Societies dealing with transplantation and liver diseases, as well as a member of the Swiss Academy and Medical Science. Finally, another major interest has been on outcome research and definition of complications with a classification proposed about eight years ago, which is currently in use in a number of centers around the world.

Actually, his clinic is very successful, and became a center for HPB, Upper and Lower GI Surgery. In basic and clinical research he achieved with his group a cumulative impact factor over 220. An anonymous evaluation of the clinic by the residents showed an excellent result, clearly over the benchmark in all investigated fields, e.g. evidence based medicine and positive handling with errors.