

# Thomas Binz, PhD

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Thomas Binz received a diploma degree in Biology in 1988 and a PhD degree in 1991 both from Giessen University, Germany. Following a postdoc at the Federal Research Center for Virus Diseases of Animals in Tübingen, Germany, he became group leader at the Department of Biochemistry at Hannover Medical School in 1997.

His initial work has been concerned with the elucidation of amino acid sequences of botulinum neurotoxins and the intracellular mode of action of their catalytic domains. Subsequently the arrangement of recombinant full-length botulinum neurotoxins for biochemical research and the identification of the cellular receptors of botulinum neurotoxins as well as characterization of the binding mode became the major research topics. Current research activities include the investigation of botulinum neurotoxin subtypes and engineering of the substrate specificity of botulinum neurotoxin catalytic domains.