



Liliana Schaefer, M.D. has been trained in Internal Medicine and Nephrology at the University of Poznan, School of Medicine, Poland. She graduated as a Medical Doctor from the University of Wuerzburg, Germany. After working as a Postdoc at the University of Wuerzburg, she became a principal investigator in the Department of Medicine at the University of Muenster, Germany. Since 2006 she is a Professor of Nephropharmacology at the Institute of Pharmacology and Toxicology, University of Frankfurt/Main with extensive expertise in matrix biology.

Her laboratory is addressing the role(s) of the two TGF-beta-binding, small leucine-rich repeat proteoglycans decorin and biglycan in inflammation and fibrosis. Her work gave rise to the novel concept that, under certain conditions, matrix components may act as endogenous “danger” signals, which can be recognized by innate immunity receptors, and which are capable to trigger inflammatory response reactions. Currently, Dr. Schaefer is president of the German Society for Matrix Biology.