

# CHIARA HERZOG, PH.D.

King's Prize Fellow  
King's College London

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## SUMMARY

Independent group leader in epigenetics and ageing with a track record of competitive funding and research awards. Full CV and publications available at [chiaraherzog.github.io](https://chiaraherzog.github.io).

## KEY TOPICS

 epigenetics

 biomarkers & multi-omic human studies

 ageing research

## EDUCATION

2015 – 2019	<b>Ph.D. in Neuroscience (awarded 29 Jun 2019)</b>	University of Edinburgh, UK
2014 – 2015	<b>M.Sc. by Research in Integrative Neuroscience (distinction ★)</b>	University of Edinburgh, UK
2011 – 2014	<b>B.Sc. in Molecular Medicine (distinction ★)</b> graduated top of my class aged 19; joint classes with medical school	Innsbruck Medical University, AT

## EXPERIENCE (SELECTED)

2024 – current	<b>King's Prize Fellow (group leader)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Established research programme on epigenetic ageing and stem cell function</li><li>Recruitment of 1-2 Ph.D. students, 1 postdoc, and 2 research assistants planned for 2026</li></ul>	King's College London, UK
2023 – current	<b>Executive Committee</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Leading consensus to establish biomarkers of ageing as reliable tools for longevity interventions</li><li>Co-chair of the annual Biomarkers of Aging Conference (Harvard Medical School, 2023-ongoing)</li></ul>	Biomarkers of Aging Consortium, US
2020 – 2024	<b>Senior Scientist and Lecturer</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Head of computational biology team (up to 4 postdocs and research assistants), specialising in high-dimensional DNA methylation data analyses; leading several projects</li><li>Co-PI of a human multi-omic intervention trial (TirolGESUND, NCT05678426), assessing the impact of lifestyle changes on omic biomarkers of ageing and cancer</li><li>Teaching and course material development, supervision of staff and students</li></ul>	Universität Innsbruck, AT
2019 – 2020	<b>Associate Business Development Manager</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Scientific liaison for research and clinical collaborations at omics-based precision diagnostics company</li></ul>	BioClavis Ltd., Glasgow, UK
2019 – 2019	<b>Postdoctoral researcher</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Investigated immune-derived signalling factors involved in neuroprotection using molecular and computational methods (gene expression analysis, <i>in vivo</i> CRISPR/Cas9, microscopy, data analysis)</li></ul>	University of Edinburgh, UK
2015 – 2019	<b>Ph.D. researcher</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Explored the immune system's contribution to central nervous system repair in a regenerative organism (<i>D. rerio</i>) using molecular, cellular, and computational tools (<i>in vivo</i> confocal timelapse microscopy, RNA-seq/qRT-PCR, pharmacological and genetic perturbations, computation analysis)</li></ul>	University of Edinburgh, UK
2014 – 2015	<b>M.Sc. researcher</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Extensive biochemical analysis of evolutionary conservation of synaptic protein complexes</li></ul>	University of Edinburgh, UK

## PUBLICATIONS (SELECTED)

A full list of >45 peer-reviewed articles can be found on [Google Scholar](#) and [my website](#).

\* denotes joint first authorship, ■ denotes corresponding authorship.

2026	<b>Best Practices for Selection and Use of Immune Aging Biomarkers for Geroscience-Guided Clinical Trials</b> <i>Nature Medicine</i> Cipriano A, Justice J, [...], & Herzog C ■. (under review)
2025	<b>Multi-modal atlas of lifestyle interventions reveals malleability of ageing-linked molecular features</b> <i>bioRxiv</i> Herzog C ■, Vavourakis CD, Redl E, [...] & Widschwendter M. (10.1101/2025.08.30.673115)
2025	<b>Systems epigenetic approach towards non-invasive breast cancer detection</b> <i>Nature Communications</i> Herzog C, Theeuwes B, Jones A, [...] & Widschwendter M. (10.1038/s41467-024-53696-2)

2025	<b>Functionally enriched epigenetic clocks reveal tissue-specific discordant aging patterns in individuals with cancer</b> Herzog C, Redl E, Barret J, Aminzadeh-Gohari S, [...] & Widschwendter M. (10.1038/s43856-025-00739-4)	Communications Medicine
2024	<b>Challenges and Recommendations for The Translation of Biomarkers of Aging</b> Herzog C*, Goeminne L*, Poganik JR*, [...], & Gladyshev VN. (10.1038/s43587-024-00683-3)	Nature Aging
2024	<b>Cigarette Smoking and E-cigarette Use Induce Shared DNA Methylation Changes Linked to Carcinogenesis</b> Herzog C, [...], & Widschwendter M. (10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-23-2957)	Cancer Research
2024	<b>Validation of Biomarkers of Aging</b> Moqri M*, Herzog C*, Poganik JR*, [...], & Gladyshev VN. (10.1038/s41591-023-02784-9)	Nature Medicine
2023	<b>Biomarkers of Aging for the Identification of Longevity Interventions</b> Moqri M*, Herzog C*, Poganik JR*, [...], & Gladyshev VN. (10.1016/j.cell.2023.08.003)	Cell
2023	<b>Performance of the WID-qEC test versus sonography to detect uterine cancers in women with abnormal uterine bleeding (EPI-SURE)</b> Evans I, [...], Herzog C, Jurkovic D, & Widschwendter M. (10.1016/S1470-2045(23)00466-7)	Lancet Oncology
2022	<b>A Simple Cervicovaginal Epigenetic Test for Screening and Rapid Triage of Women With Suspected Endometrial Cancer: Validation in Several Cohort and Case/Control Sets</b> Herzog C*, Marin F*, [...] & Widschwendter M. (10.1200/JCO.22.00266)	Journal of Clinical Oncology
2022	<b>The WID-BC-index identifies women with primary poor prognostic breast cancer based on DNA methylation in cervical samples</b> Barrett J*, Herzog C*, [...] & Widschwendter M. (10.1038/s41467-021-27918-w)	Nature Communications

## AWARDS

2026	<b>Early Career Award</b>	AACR (American Association for Cancer Research), Cancer Research, US
2025	<b>Rising Star</b>	Longevity Summit Dublin, IE
2024	<b>Prof. Anthony Mellows Medal</b>	Prof. Anthony and Elizabeth Mellows Trust, UK
2024	<b>Life Sciences Award - Basic Science</b> • most prestigious award for outstanding research in the life sciences for early career scientists in Austria	ÖGMBT (Austrian Association of Molecular Life Sciences and Biotechnology), AT
2024	<b>Young Scientist Award</b>	Austrian Society for Gynaecologic Oncology, AT
2024	<b>Prof. Ernst Brandl Prize</b>	Ernst Brandl Stiftung, AT
2022	<b>Falling Walls Lab Winner and Global Finalist</b>	Falling Walls Austria, AT
2018	<b>Runner-up Student Publication of the Year</b>	Scottish Newspaper Society, UK

## FUNDING - AWARDED

Secured over £2.8M funding to date.

2026	<b>Wellcome Career Development Award - unlock:epi; £2.8M</b>	Wellcome Trust, UK
2026	<b>Mercator Fellowship, TauAge Project</b> • collaboration with researchers at TU Munich; this fellowship enables outstanding international researchers to enter long-term collaborations with German institutions	DFG, DE
2025	<b>University Partners Networking Award; £8k</b>	Francis Crick Institute, UK
2025	<b>Collaborative Seed Funding Grant; £8.5k</b>	King's Mechanobiology Centre, UK
2024	<b>King's Prize &amp; Prof. Anthony Mellows Medal Fellowship</b>	King's College London, UK
2015	<b>Competitive Ph.D. Scholarship</b>	University of Edinburgh, UK
2016	<b>Travelling Fellowship for two-month exchange to LMU Munich</b>	Company of Biologists, UK

## FUNDING - PENDING

2026	<b>epiPRIME: Sustained Viral Resilience Programme Grant; £8M</b> • outcome expected Mar 2026	Advanced Research and Innovation Agency, UK
2026	<b>Future Leaders Fellowship; £2.8M</b> • full submission following successful internal triage; withdrawn due to acceptance of Wellcome CDA	UKRI, UK
2026	<b>Synthetic Biology Principles in Immunology; \$600k</b> • pending; outcome expected Mar 2026	Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, US

2026	<b>GenZ Gut; £1.5M</b> • co-PI on multi-omic study in GenZ; outcome expected Apr 2026	Chronic Disease Research Foundation, UK
<b>PATENTS</b>		
2024	<b>Endometrial cancer detection</b>	
2022	<b>Methods for detecting and predicting breast cancer</b>	
<b>INVITED TALKS AND KEYNOTES – CONFERENCES (SELECTED)</b>		
2026	<b>Biomarkers of Aging Consortium: Updates and Future Directions</b>	GRC Systems Aging, US
2025	<b>Validation of Ageing Biomarkers</b>	EHA-SWG Scientific Workshop, ES
2025	<b>What the epigenome remembers: past, present, and future</b>	Longevity Summit Dublin, IE
2024	<b>The Path to Biomarker Standardization (Keynote)</b>	Foresight Institute Vision Weekend, DE
2024	<b>Biomarkers of Aging Consortium: Establishing Reliable Biomarkers of Aging</b>	GRC Systems Aging, ES
2022	<b>Discordance in general &amp; epithelial ageing signatures</b>	CSHL Mechanisms of Aging
2022	<b>Harnessing the epigenetic footprint for cancer detection and prediction</b> <small>Young European Scientist Meeting, PT</small> • I was an invited keynote speaker presenting alongside highly esteemed researchers, such as Nobel Prize winners Prof. Drew Weissman and Prof. William Kaelin	Young European Scientist Meeting, PT
<b>INVITED TALKS – OUTREACH AND POLICY (SELECTED)</b>		
2024	<b>Epigenetics and ageing biomarkers</b>	Long Night of Museums, Futurium Berlin, DE
2024	<b>Panelist at 'A shared definition of longevity medicine in Italy' session</b>	Milan Longevity Summit, IT
2024	<b>Biomarkers of Aging for the Identification of Longevity Interventions</b>	Italian Government Briefing, Rome, IT
<b>PRESS &amp; MEDIA (SELECTED)</b>		
2024	<b>Epigenetic impact of smoking and vaping (live TV interview)</b>	Sky News
2024	<b>Vaping 'linked to cancer and damages body like smoking'</b>	Front page article in The Times
2023	<b>Womb cancer 2023 test breakthrough 'cuts diagnosis time'</b>	The Standard Tech & Science Daily Podcast
<b>MENTORSHIP AND TEACHING (SELECTED)</b>		
2023 – 2024	<b>Cell cycle and tumour biology</b> • Development of new materials and lecture delivery	B.Sc. Biology – Universität Innsbruck, AT
2022 – 2024	<b>Epigenetics and cancer</b> • Developed new month-long module on translational epigenetics cancer research from bench to bedside, including personalised prevention, profiling tools, clinical study design, biomarkers, biobanking, and ethics	M.Sc. Molecular and Cellular Developmental Biology – Universität Innsbruck, AT
<b>CONFERENCE ORGANISATION</b>		
2025	<b>Inaugural Symposium at the Francis Crick Institute</b>	London Ageing Research Network, UK
2023 – current	<b>Biomarkers of Aging Conference</b>	Harvard Medical School, US
<b>BOARD AND EDITORIAL ROLES</b>		
2025 – current	<b>Chair and Founder</b> • Established cross-institutional network, raising >£15k in funding for event and seed-funding grant scheme • Organised inaugural London Ageing Research Symposium at the Francis Crick Institute (November 2025)	London Ageing Research Network, UK
2025 – current	<b>Associate Editor</b>	Longevity, UK
2025 – current	<b>Early Career Editor</b>	Epigenomics, UK
2025 – current	<b>Scientific Advisory Board</b>	Aniva Health, DE
2023 – current	<b>Scientific Advisory Board</b>	Aeon Foundation, IT
<b>PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT &amp; SCIENCE COMMUNICATION</b>		
2021 – 2022	<b>Pint of Science City Coordinator</b>	Pint of Science Innsbruck, AT
2016 – 2019	<b>President and Editor</b>	Edinburgh University Science Magazine
2016 – 2017	<b>Pint of Science Team Lead</b>	Pint of Science Edinburgh, UK