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I obtained a “Diplom” in Biology from the University of Münster (Germany) and a doctoral degree in Microbiology from the University Paris 7-Denis Diderot (France). I carried out doctoral studies at the Institut Pasteur in Paris, focusing on Rift Valley fever virus. Following this I joined Richard Elliott’s group at the University of Glasgow (which later moved to the University of St Andrews) in 2000 to continue my work on bunyaviruses. In 2006 I obtained a Wellcome Trust Research Career Development Fellowship to set up my group at the University of Edinburgh, and later also joined the Roslin Institute as Career Track Fellow. In 2011 I joined the MRC-University of Glasgow Centre for Virus Research as MRC Programme Leader.

My research focuses on arboviruses, and more specifically on virus replication and interaction with host responses. On the vector side we try to understand how these responses modulate the relationship between the arthropod vector and the virus, specifically with regards to RNA interference pathways. We also have a programme on the genetic modification of mosquitoes. With regards to vertebrate cells, which is a minor topic in the group, we also study innate immune responses and virus-cell interactions. All major arbovirus families are currently being worked on: *Togaviridae* (chikungunya, Semliki Forest viruses), *Flaviviridae* (dengue, Zika, tick-borne encephalitis viruses) and *Bunyaviridae* (various orthobunyaviruses and phleboviruses including Rift Valley fever viruses). Many more viruses are available. I am generally interested in topics relating to arboviruses as well other emerging viruses. In recent years I have also become more involved in virus and mosquito ecology, which involves studies with partners overseas. I currently have overseas collaborations with partners in Brazil on Zika virus (MRC Newton Fund, UK-Brazil Neglected Infectious Diseases Partnership with FIOCRUZ Recife), and Uganda.

Key references:

[Host Inflammatory Response to Mosquito Bites Enhances the Severity of Arbovirus Infection.](#)

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[Dengue in Java, Indonesia: Relevance of Mosquito Indices as Risk Predictors.](#)

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[Vector competence of *Aedes vexans* \(Meigen\), *Culex poicilipes* \(Theobald\) and *Cx. quinquefasciatus* Say from Senegal for West and East African lineages of Rift Valley fever virus.](#)

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[Zika virus: a previously slow pandemic spreads rapidly through the Americas.](#)

Gatherer D, **Kohl A**. *J Gen Virol.* 2016 Feb;97(2):269-73. doi: 10.1099/jgv.0.000381.