

**Schlender, Michael**

University of Heidelberg



**Michael Schlender** is chair of health economics at the University of Heidelberg and Head of the Division of Health Economics for the German Cancer Research Center (Deutsches Krebsforschungszentrum, DKFZ), Heidelberg, Germany (since 2017).

He has been founding chairman of the not-for-profit “Institute for Innovation & Valuation in Health Care” (InnoValHC) in Wiesbaden, Germany (as of 2005), and scientific director of its consulting branch, InnoValHC-Forschungsgesellschaft mbH (InnoValHC Research Inc., also since 2005).

Prior to his appointment with the University of Heidelberg, he was a professor of health care and innovation management at the University of Applied Economic Sciences (Hochschule für Wirtschaft) Ludwigshafen (2002-2016). He is member of numerous scientific associations, including the International Health Economics Association (iHEA) and the International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research (ISPOR); in 2008, he was a co-founder of the German Society for Health Economics (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Gesundheits-ökonomie, DGGÖ). He further acted as scientific program chair for the 15th Annual European Congress of ISPOR in 2012, with more than 3,500 attendants.

After six years in experimental brain research and clinical neurology, he joined the international pharmaceutical industry in 1987, where he spent 15 years in executive roles in clinical development (1987-1993), marketing (1993-1998), and general management (1998-2002) in Belgium, Germany, Switzerland, and the United States. Inter alia, he led the one of most successful new product launches ever accomplished by a German pharmaceutical company (pantoprazole, a proton pump inhibitor), and managed the turn-around of a medium-sized German pharmaceutical company, successfully refocusing the enterprise towards a research-based niche strategy – consistently achieving double-digit growth rates (revenues and profits) ever since.

He studied medicine and psychology at the University of Frankfurt and has been licensed as a physician in Germany since 1985.

He received his M.D. (summa cum laude) from the Johann Wolfgang Goethe University Frankfurt am

Main, Germany, an M.B.A. degree (as valedictorian of the class of 1994) from City University of Seattle, Washington, a diploma in health economics from the Stockholm School of Economics, and the *venia legendi* (Ph.D. equivalent) for health economics from the University of Heidelberg (2007). His scientific publications include two monographs, on 'The Contribution of Health Economics to Market-Oriented Pharmaceutical Research and Development' (Witten/Herdecke University Press; Witten, Germany: 1998) and on 'Health Technology Assessments by the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE)' in England and Wales (Springer; New York, NY: 2007). A new volume on the normative foundations of health economic evaluation methods is scheduled to appear with Springer shortly.

He is the recipient of a Best Contributed Poster Presentation Award (out of 750 presentations at the 8th Annual European ISPOR Congress in Florence, Italy, in November 2005) and the ISPOR Distinguished Service Award for acting as scientific program chair at the 15th Annual European ISPOR Congress in Berlin, Germany, in November 2012. [www.michaelschlander.com](http://www.michaelschlander.com); [www.innoval-hc.com](http://www.innoval-hc.com)

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