Current Position

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Department of Medical Psychology and Medical Sociology,

Faculty of Medicine, Ruhr University Bochum

Professional Experience

2021-present	Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Department of Medical Psychology and Medical Sociology, Faculty of Medicine, Ruhr University Bochum
2021-present	Principal Investigator, DFG SFB1280 "Extinction Learning", Project A10
2021	Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Department of Neurology, Translational Pain Research Unit, Faculty of Medicine, University of Duisburg-Essen
2017-2020	Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Institute of Medical Psychology and Behavioural Immunobiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Duisburg-Essen
2016-2017	Visiting Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Center for Medical Image Science and Visualization / Institute of Experimental Medicine, University Hospital Linköping
2012-2015	Ph.D. Student, Research Assistant, Institute of Medical Psychology and Behavioural Immunobiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Duisburg-Essen

Academic Degrees

2015	Ph.D. (summa cum laude), Institute of Medical Psychology and Behavioral Immunobiology, University Duisburg-Essen (Prof. Dr. Sigrid Elsenbruch)
2011	Diploma in Psychology, Department of Psychology, Justus Liebig University of Giessen

Awards and Honours

2018	Most Cited Paper Award, European Society of Neurogastroenterology & Motility
2015	Dissertation Award, Medical Faculty, University of Duisburg-Essen
2015	Best Young Investigator Presentation Award, European Society of Neurogastroenterology & Motility
2013	Young Investigator Award, Deutsche Schmerzgesellschaft

Funding

German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, DFG) Project A10 "From Pavlov to pain: Extinction learning in visceral pain" within SFB1280 "Extinction Learning". (2021-2025) Total ~ 544.000 €

Treasure Grant project funding, DFG SFB1280 "Extinction Learning" Project "An offer you cannot refuse – the true cost of avoidance" (2019) <u>Total</u> ~ 6.000 €

German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, DFG) Research Fellowship (IC 81/1) Project "A multi-modal approach addressing brain-gut-interaction in irritable bowel syndrome". (2016-2017) Total ~ 54.000 €

Treasure Grant project funding, DFG Research Unit FOR1581 "Extinction Learning: Neural Mechanisms, Behavioral Manifestations, and Clinical Implications" Project "Sex differences in context-dependent extinction and the renewal-effect in visceral pain-related fear conditioning". (2013) Total ~ 3.000 €

Selected Publications (Full list: https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6323-0960)

- **Icenhour A**, Petrakova L, Hazzan N, Theysohn N, Merz CJ, Elsenbruch S. When gut feelings teach the brain to fear pain: Context-dependent activation of the central fear network in a novel interoceptive conditioning paradigm.

 <u>Neuroimage</u>. 2021;238:118229.
- Koenen LR, Pawlik RJ, Icenhour A, Petrakova L, Forkmann K, Theysohn N, Engler H, Elsenbruch S. Associative learning and extinction of conditioned threat predictors across sensory modalities. <u>Commun Biol</u>. 2021;4(1):553.
- Simon RA, Barazanji N, Jones MP, Bednarska O, Icenhour A, Engstöm M, Hamilton JP, Keita AV, Walter S. Vasoactive intestinal polypeptide plasma levels associated with affective symptoms and brain structure and function in healthy females. Sci Rep. 2021;11(1):1406.
- Norlin AK, Walter S, **Icenhour A**, Keita AV, Elsenbruch S, Bednarska O, Jones MP, Simon R, Engström M. Fatigue in irritable bowel syndrome is associated with plasma levels of TNF-α and mesocorticolimbic connectivity. <u>Brain Behav Immun.</u> 2021;92:211-222.
- Rahal H, Videlock EJ, **Icenhour A**, Shir W, Naliboff B, Gupta A, Mayer EA, Chang L. Importance of trauma-related fear in patients with irritable bowel syndrome and early adverse life events. <u>Neurogastroenterol Motil</u>. 2020;32(9):e13896.
- **Icenhour A**, Labrenz F, Roderigo T, Benson S, Elsenbruch S. The role of chronic stress in normal visceroception: Insights from an experimental visceral pain study in healthy volunteers. <u>Front Psychiatry</u>. 2020;11:107.
- **Icenhour A**, Tapper S, Bednarska O, Witt ST, Tisell A, Lundberg P, Elsenbruch S, Walter S. Elucidating the putative link between prefrontal neurotransmission, functional connectivity, and affective symptoms in irritable bowel syndrome. Sci Rep. 2019;9(1):13590.
- **Icenhour A**, Labrenz F, Roderigo T, Siebert C, Elsenbruch S, Benson S. Are there sex differences in visceral sensitivity in young healthy men and women? <u>Neurogastroenterol Motil</u>. 2019;31(9):e13664.
- Bednarska O*, Icenhour A*, Tapper S, Witt ST, Tisell A, Lundberg P, Elsenbruch S, Engström M, Walter S. Reduced excitatory neurotransmitter levels in anterior insulae are associated with abdominal pain in irritable bowel syndrome. Pain. 2019;160(9):2004-2012.
- Benson S, Siebert C, Koenen LR, Engler H, Kleine-Borgmann J, Bingel U, Icenhour A, Elsenbruch S. Cortisol affects pain sensitivity and pain-related emotional learning in experimental visceral but not somatic pain: a randomized controlled study in healthy men and women. Pain. 2019;160(8):1719-1728.
- Simon RA, Engström M, **Icenhour A**, Lowén M, Ström M, Tillisch K, Mayer E, Elsenbruch S, Walter S (2019). On Functional Connectivity and Symptom Relief After Gut-directed Hypnotherapy in Irritable Bowel Syndrome: A Preliminary Study. <u>J Neurogastroenterol Motil</u>. 2019;25(3):478-479.
- Witt ST, Bednarska O, Keita ÅV, **Icenhour A**, Jones MP, Elsenbruch S, Söderholm JD, Engström M, Mayer EA, Walter S. Interactions between gut permeability and brain structure and function in health and irritable bowel syndrome. Neuroimage Clin. 2019;21:101602.
- Koenen LR, Icenhour A, Forkmann K, Theysohn N, Forsting M, Bingel U, Elsenbruch S. From Anticipation to the Experience of Pain: The Importance of Visceral Versus Somatic Pain Modality in Neural and Behavioral Responses to Pain-Predictive Cues. Psychosom Med. 2018;80(9):826-835.
- **Icenhour A**, Witt ST, Elsenbruch S, Lowén M, Engström M, Tillisch K, Mayer EA, Walter S. Brain functional connectivity is associated with visceral sensitivity in women with Irritable Bowel Syndrome. <u>Neuroimage Clin</u>. 2017;15:449-457.
- Koenen LR, Icenhour A, Forkmann K, Pasler A, Theysohn N, Forsting M, Bingel U, Elsenbruch S. Greater fear of visceral pain contributes to differences between visceral and somatic pain in healthy women. <u>Pain</u>. 2017;158(8):1599-1608.
- **Icenhour A**, Labrenz F, Ritter C, Theysohn N, Forsting M, Bingel U, Elsenbruch S. Learning by experience? A study addressing visceral pain-related neural and behavioral responses in a classical conditioning paradigm. <u>Neurogastroenterol Motil</u>. 2016;29(6):e13026.
- Labrenz F, Icenhour A, Schlamann M, Forsting M, Bingel U, Elsenbruch S. From Pavlov to pain: How predictability affects the anticipation and processing of visceral pain in a fear conditioning paradigm. Neuroimage. 2016;130:104-114.
- Labrenz F*, Icenhour A*, Benson S, Elsenbruch S (2015). Contingency awareness shapes acquisition and extinction of emotional responses in a conditioning model of pain-related fear. Front Behav Neurosci. 2015;9:318.