

Pamela Rendi-Wagner, MD, MSc, DTM&H

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Biographical summary

Dr. Pamela Rendi-Wagner, born 1971 in Vienna, is a medical doctor, former researcher, and health politician, who graduated in 1996 at the Medical University of Vienna. 1996 to 1997, she did a postgraduate at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (Master of Science). Moreover, she obtained a clinical Diploma in Tropical Medicine (DTM&H) at the Royal College of Physicians, London. She finished a clinical specialization in tropical medicine in 2005 at the Medical University of Vienna and obtained her *venia docendi* (Associate Professor) in vaccine prevention and infectious diseases in 2008.

Her main field of research at the Medical University of Vienna were the epidemiology of infectious diseases, vaccine prevention, and travel medicine. Furthermore, she established a national epidemiological network for the surveillance of vaccine-preventable infectious diseases. From 2008 to 2011, Rendi-Wagner worked as a professor at the Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine at the Tel Aviv University, Israel, focusing on the epidemiology of *Bordetella pertussis* in the Israeli population. There, she was also a member of the Tiberio Swartz Research Forum on Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases and Biosecurity, Tel Aviv, Israel.

In 2011, she was appointed Director General for Public Health and Chief Medical Officer at the Ministry of Health, Austria. She was responsible for pandemic preparedness, chief crisis management and communication (e.g. Fukushima, EHEC, Ebola, Avian flu, refugee crises), AMR prevention, health promotion, health equity, and the national immunization programme. One of the main issues was to optimize preparedness and outbreak response by implementing of a fully digitalized national infectious disease reporting system (EMS). She was also Chair of the Federal Office for Safety in Health Care (BASG), the national authority for medicines, medical devices, blood and tissue. During this time, Rendi was appointed member of the ECDC Management Board and also member of the Standing Committee of WHO-Euro.

In 2017, Rendi-Wagner was appointed Minister of Health and Women's Affairs. As minister she adopted a reform of primary health care and introduced e-health application in Austria. From 2018 to 2023, she was the first woman to chair the Austrian Social Democratic Party. Currently, she works at the Medical University of Vienna.