

Mari-Anne Härma

Professional Experience:

Health Board of Estonia Deputy Director General	May 2022 to present
Health Board of Estonia Acting Director General, Head of National health emergency	Oct 2021 to Apr 2022
The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) Eurosurveillance editorial advisor	Jan 2022 to present
The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) Management board member	Jan 2021 to Jan 2022
Folkhälsan Institute of Genetics, FinnDiane research group Visiting researcher	Jan 2020 to present
Health Board of Estonia Deputy Director General	Oct 2020 to Sep 2021
Health Board of Estonia Acting Director General, Head of National health emergency	July to Sep 2020
Health Board of Estonia, Department of communicable disease surveillance and epidemic control Head of Department	Jan to June 2020
Folkhälsan Institute of Genetics, FinnDiane research group Researcher	May 2016 to Dec 2019
Abdominal Center Nephrology, University of Helsinki and Helsinki University Hospital Researcher	May 2016 to Dec 2019
Avatar translation bureau Freelance medical and scientific translator	Nov 2016 to 2018
PSI CRO Clinical Research Assistant	Dec 2014 – Apr 2016
University of Helsinki, Institute of Biotechnology MSc student	June 2013 – Oct 2014
University of Tartu, Institute of Technology Project coordinator for EU structural funding project	Nov 2011 – May 2013

Tallinn University of Technology, Institute of Gene Technology BSc student	Oct 2008 – Dec 2010
CRO Dokumeds Clinical Research Assistant	Sep 2009 – Jan 2010

EDUCATION:

University of Helsinki, Finland PhD fellow, Clinical research (faculty of medicine) supervised by prof. Per-Henrik Groop and Doc. Markku Lehto	May 2016 to present
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*Title of future dissertation: "Crosslink of infections and plasma kallikrein-kinin system in diabetic kidney disease".
Dissertation defense planned in 2025.*

University of Tartu, Estonia / University of Helsinki, Finland MSc degree in Gene Technology supervised by prof. Mart Saarma and Doc. Jaan-Olle Andressoo	June 2014
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Dissertation: "*The role of endogenously expressed GDNF on striatal dopamine neurons*"

Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia BSc degree in Gene Technology supervised by prof. Ruth Sepper and Doc. Svetlana Sergejeva.	June 2011
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Dissertation: "*Relationship between eosinophilic activity and development of allergy during infancy*"

AWARDS AND GRANTS:

Yrjö Jahnsson Foundation Personal grant of 24 000 EUR for doctoral research	2019
Estonian Research Council National Contest for University Students award for best thesis	2016
Winter Academy Estonian National Contest for Best Scientific Article award for best scientific article	2012

MEMBERSHIP IN SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZATIONS:

European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD)	2017 to present
The Finnish Diabetes Research Society	2016 to present
European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI)	2011 to present

Reviewer For:

Journal of Clinical and Translational Allergy Reviewer	2016 to present
EAACI 2013 Review board of scientific abstracts Assistant reviewer	2013

Additional Licensed Training:

Newton leadership programme of the Top Civil Service Excellence Centre Estonian Business School, Estonia	2023
Higher Civil Defense course Vihula, Estonia	2022
Public spokesperson media training Tallinn, Estonia	2021
Higher National Defense course Roosta, Estonia	2021
Higher Social Defense course Vihula, Estonia	2020
The EU General Data Protection Regulation, Helsinki university, Finland	2018
Good Laboratory Practice, Helsinki university, Finland	2016
Good Clinical Practice PSI-CRO, Estonia	2015
Research design in health sciences University of Tartu, Estonia	2013
Good Clinical Practice CRO Dokumeds, Estonia	2009
Laboratory animal handling and in vivo work Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia	2009
Driver's license	2006

Language Skills:

Estonian (native speaker)

English (advanced, C1)

Finnish (intermediate, B1)

Swedish (beginner, A2)

Publications in Peer-Reviewed Journals:

Päll T, Abroi A, Avi R, Niglas H, Shablinskaja A, Pauskar M, Jõgeda EL, Soeorg H, Kallas E, Lahesaare A, Truusalu K, Hoidmets D, Sadikova O, Ratnik K, Sepp H, Dotsenko L, Epstein J, Suija H, Kaarna K, Smit S, Milani L, Metspalu M, Oopkaup OE, Koppel I, Jaaniso E, Kuzmin I, Inno H, Raudvere U, **Härma MA**, Naaber P, Reisberg T, Peterson H, Talas UG, Lutsar I, Huik K. SARS-CoV-2 clade dynamics and their associations with hospitalisations during the first two years of the COVID-19 pandemic. PLoS One. 2024 May 10;19(5):e0303176.

Happonen N, **Härma MA**, Akhi R, Nissinen AE, Savolainen MJ, Ruuth M, Öörni K, Adeshara K, Lehto M, Groop PH, Koivukangas V, Hukkanen J, Hörkö S. Impact of RYGB surgery on plasma immunoglobulins: association between blood pressure and glucose levels six months after surgery. APMIS. 2024 Mar;132(3):187-197.

Istomin, Natalie & **Härma, Mari-Anne** & Akhi, Ramin & Nissinen, Antti & Savolainen, Markku & Adeshara, Krishna & Lehto, Markku & Groop, Per-Henrik & Koivukangas, Vesa & Hukkanen, Janne & Hörkö, Sohvi. (2022). Total fecal IgA levels increase and natural IgM antibodies decrease after gastric bypass surgery. APMIS. 10.1111/apm.13268.

Leskelä J, Toppila I, **Härma MA**, Palviainen T, Salminen A, Sandholm N, Pietiäinen M, Kopra E, Pais de Barros JP; FinnGen, Lassenius MI, Kumar A, Harjutsalo V, Roslund K, Forsblom C, Loukola A, Havulinna AS, Lagrost L, Salomaa V, Groop PH, Perola M, Kaprio J, Lehto M, Pussinen PJ. Genetic Profile of Endotoxemia Reveals an Association With Thromboembolism and Stroke. J Am Heart Assoc. 2021 Nov 2;10(21):e022482. doi: 10.1161/JAHA.121.022482. Epub 2021 Oct 20. PMID: 34668383; PMCID: PMC8751832.

Härma MA, Adeshara K, Istomin N, Lehto M, Blaut M, Savolainen MJ, Hörkö S, Groop PH, Koivukangas V, Hukkanen J. Gastrointestinal manifestations after Roux-en-Y gastric bypass surgery in individuals with and without type 2 diabetes. Surg Obes Relat Dis. 2021 Mar;17(3):585-594.

Mari-Anne Härma, Emma H. Dahlström, Niina Sandholm, Carol Forsblom, Per-Henrik Groop, Markku Lehto & on behalf of the FinnDiane Study Group “Decreased plasma kallikrein activity is associated with reduced kidney function in individuals with type 1 diabetes” Diabetologia volume 63, pages1349–1354(2020)

Mariann I. Lassenius, Christopher L. Fogarty, Michael Blaut, Katri Haimila, Leena Riittinen, Annukka Paju, Juha Kirveskari, Josephine Järvelä, Aila J. Ahola, Daniel Gordin, **Mari-Anne Härma**, Anmol Kumar, Sulaiman R. Hamarneh, Richard A. Hodin, Timo Sorsa, Taina Tervahartiala, Sohvi Hörkö, Pirkko J. Pussinen, Carol Forsblom, Matti Jauhiainen, Marja-Riitta Taskinen, Per-Henrik Groop, Markku Lehto “Intestinal alkaline phosphatase at the crossroad of intestinal health and disease: a putative role in type 1 diabetes” Journal of Internal Medicine, April 2017, doi: [10.1111/joim.12607](https://doi.org/10.1111/joim.12607)

Anmol Kumar, Jaakko Kopra, Kärt Varendi, Lauriina L. Porokuokka, Anne Panhelainen, Satu Kuure, Pepin Marshall, Nina Karalija, **Mari-Anne Härma**, Carolina Vilenius, Kersti Lilleväli, Triin Tekko, Jelena Mijatovic, Nita Pulkkinen, Madis Jakobson, Maili Jakobson, Roxana Ola, Erik Palm, Maria Lindahl, Ingrid Strömberg, Vootele Võikar, T. Petteri Piepponen, Mart Saarma, Jaan-Olle Andressoo „GDNF overexpression from the native locus reveals its role in the nigrostriatal dopaminergic system function" PLOS Genetics, January 2016, [doi: 10.1371/journal.pgen.1005808](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgen.1005808)

Jaakko Kopra, Carolina Vilenius, Shane Grealish, **Mari-Anne Härma**, Kärt Varendi, Jesse Lindholm, Eero Castrén, Vootele Võikar, Anders Björklund, T. Petteri Piepponen, Mart Saarma, Jaan-Olle Andressoo „GDNF is not required for catecholaminergic neuron survival in vivo" Nature neuroscience, February 2015, [doi: 10.1038/nn.3941](https://doi.org/10.1038/nn.3941).

Kärt Varendi, Anmol Kumar, **Mari-Anne Härma**, Jaan-Olle Andressoo. „miR-1, miR-10b, miR-155, and miR-191 are novel regulators of BDNF" Cellular and Molecular Life Sciences, June 2014, [doi: 10.1007/s00018-014-1628-x](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00018-014-1628-x)

Conference Presentations:

Mari-Anne Härma “Experience Report: COVID-19 in Estonia” (Oral presentation, Resilient Health Systems 2020 conference, Berlin 2020)

Mari-Anne Härma “COVID-19 yesterday, today and tomorrow” (Oral presentation, Higher Social Defence course, Estonia 2020)

Emma Dahlström, **Mari-Anne Härma**, Carol Forsblom, Niina Sandholm, Markku Lehto, Per-Henrik Groop “Is there a causal association between plasma kallikrein and diabetic kidney disease in type 1 diabetes?” (Mendelian randomization conference, Bristol 2019)

Mari-Anne Härma, Iiro Toppila, Kristiina Uusi-Rauva, Valma Harjutsalo, Carol Forsblom, Per-Henrik Groop, and Markku Lehto, the FinnDiane Study Group, “Decreased plasma kallikrein activity is associated with kidney function decline in patients with type 1 diabetes” (abstract is available in EASD Association's website, and online version of Diabetologia, as of 1-Jul-2017)

Renata Melnikova, Berit Bilden-Sarv, **Mari-Anne Härma**, Kaja Julge, Svetlana Sergejeva, “Data on prevalence of atopic dermatitis and sensitisation towards foods in Tartu county kids” EAACI School for Translational Immunology, Conference publications (35–35), 2014

Mari-Anne Härma. „Relationship between eosinophilic activity and development of allergy during infancy” WinterAcademy scientific short articles, Collection (30 – 40) University of Tartu Press, 2012