



Science Lunch in Genetic Epidemiology

“The contributions of twin studies to health research”



Mag. Leonie-Helen Bogl, PhD

Department of Epidemiology, Center for Public Health, Medical University of Vienna, Austria

Institute of Molecular Medicine FIMM, University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland

Location: Center for Public Health, Kinderspitalgasse 15, 1090 Vienna, 2nd Floor Seminar room 3

Time: February 6, 2020, 12:00 pm

Host: Eva Schernhammer

Mag. Leonie-Helen Bogl, PhD

Dr. Bogl is currently a senior postdoc at the Department of Epidemiology at the Medical University of Vienna, Austria, while maintaining a visiting researcher status at the Twin Study group at FIMM, Helsinki, Finland. After graduating with a Master's degree in nutritional sciences from the University of Vienna in 2009, she moved to Finland and completed her doctoral dissertation at the Faculty of Medicine in 2014 on the associations of dietary factors, obesity and serum lipoprotein profile among young adult twins. She has extensively worked with family and twin data in order to better tease apart the influences of genes and the environment in explaining individual differences in traits such as obesity and dietary intake. Funded by the German Academic Exchange Service, she moved to Bremen in 2017 and worked at the Leibniz Institute for Prevention Research and Epidemiology analyzing data from the multi-center cohort study called IDEFICS/I.Family to answer questions on familial resemblance of obesity, metabolic health and dietary intake. Dr. Bogl is serving as a guest editor for the Special Issue “Twin Registries worldwide: An important resource for scientific research“ for the journal *Twin Research and Human Genetics*, to which about 60 twin study groups around the world contribute papers to the upcoming Special Issue.

Dr. Bogl is currently funded by the Lise Meitner Programme of the Austrian Science Fund FWF. During this project, she is examining the associations between maternal diet (in particular, diet quality and the intake of B-Vitamins) during pregnancy and the long-term risk of overweight and obesity in their offspring, with frequent research visits to Harvard Medical School in Boston, USA. Her career to date has resulted in about 30 peer-reviewed publications. She is also enthusiastic about teaching, and is currently supervising a PhD student on the role of eating behaviors, such as appetite, in genetic susceptibility to obesity. Dr. Bogl was granted the title of Docent in Nutritional Epidemiology that is awarded in recognition of scientific and educational merit from the University of Helsinki in 2018.

Selected Publications:

Bogl LH, Latvala A, Kaprio J, Sovijärvi O, Rissanen A, Pietiläinen KH. An investigation into the relationship between soft tissue body composition and bone mineral density in a young adult twin sample. *J Bone Miner Res* 2011; 26(1):79-87.

Bogl LH, Kaye SM, Ramö JT, Kangas AJ, Soininen P, Hakkarainen A, et al. Abdominal obesity and circulating metabolites: A twin study approach. *Metabolism* 2016; 65(3):111-21.

Bogl LH, Silventoinen K, Hebestreit A, Intemann T, Williams G, Michels N, et al. Familial Resemblance in Dietary Intakes of Children, Adolescents, and Parents: Does Dietary Quality Play a Role? *Nutrients* 2017; 9(8).

Bogl LH, Jelenkovic A, Vuoksima E, Ahrenfeldt L, Pietiläinen KH, Stazi MA, et al. Does the sex of one's co-twin affect height and BMI in adulthood? A study of dizygotic adult twins from 31 cohorts. *Biol Sex Differ* 2017; 8:14.

Bogl LH, Mehlig K, Intemann T, Masip G, Keski-Rahkonen A, Russo P, et al. A within-sibling pair analysis of lifestyle behaviours and BMI z-score in the multi-centre I.Family study. *Nutr Metab Cardiovasc Dis* 2019; 29(6):580-589.