

Wolfgang Schmidt was born and received his medical education in Berlin, Germany. He received his degree in internal medicine in 1989 and in emergency medicine in 1992. He became a senior physician at Immanuel Krankenhaus Berlin, Medical Centre for Rheumatology in Berlin-Buch in 1993 and received his rheumatology degree in 1996. Since 2005 he is deputy director and rheumatology fellowship director of this hospital.

His scientific work focuses on musculoskeletal ultrasound and on imaging in vasculitis. He completed habilitation in 2002 and became a professor of Free and Humboldt Universities in Berlin in 2010.

From 1999 to 2009 he conducted ultrasound workshops at annual ACR meetings. He is teaching at ultrasound courses worldwide and organized the EULAR ultrasound courses in 2002, 2004 and 2012. He initiated the Eular Ultrasound Trainer Courses in 2012. He has first described the ultrasound halo sign in giant cell arteritis (GCA; Lancet 1995) and has published the first study on ultrasound in GCA (NEJM 1997). In the late 1990ies he has introduced the first ultrasound fast-track clinic in Berlin-Buch which to date sees 100 patients annually with newly diagnosed GCA. He convened the EULAR guidelines on imaging in large vessel vasculitis (LVV) and leads the OMERACT group on ultrasound in LVV. He is principal investigator of phase 2 and 3 trials in GCA.