

## **Short Biography**

### **Ulrich Specks, M.D.**



Dr. Specks received his medical and doctoral degree from the Rheinische Friedrich Wilhelms University, Bonn, Germany, completed Internal Medicine Residency and Pulmonary & Critical Care Medicine fellowship at Mayo Clinic Rochester, followed by a post-doctoral fellowship in Biochemistry at the Max-Planck-Institute in Martinsried near Munich, Germany. He's been a faculty member at Mayo Clinic since 1992 and is Professor of Medicine at the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine & Sciences. Dr. Specks

served as Education Chair and Program Director for the Pulmonary & Critical Care Medicine Fellowship 4/2003-12/2009 and Chair of the Division of Pulmonary & Critical Care Medicine 12/2012-1/2020.

Dr. Specks has had a career-long interest in the pathogenesis of ANCA-associated vasculitis as it informs improved treatment options. ANCA-associated vasculitis has been the focus of his clinical activities and widely published research. He's made substantial contributions to the refinement of ANCA test methodologies and our understanding of optimal clinical applications of ANCA testing. Dr. Specks has introduced rituximab to the treatment of ANCA-associated vasculitis that lead to the label-enabling "Rituximab for ANCA-associated Vasculitis (RAVE)" trial, of which he was the co-Principal Investigator. He has also served as Mayo Clinic site-PI or on the steering committee of most randomized controlled trials in ANCA-associated vasculitis enrolling patients in the US. His current collaborative laboratory-based translational research focuses on pathogenic (vs non-pathogenic) interactions of PR3-ANCA with its antigen, PR3, and on the pathogenic role of PR3-specific B cells as potential targets for novel therapy approaches.