

Short biography

Simon Sedej is Associate Professor of Cardiovascular Physiology at the Division of Cardiology, Medical University of Graz (Austria). He qualified in Biology from the University of Ljubljana (Slovenia) in 1999, and then moved to Goettingen (Germany) to undertake a PhD on excitation-secretion coupling of pituitary endocrine cells. Upon completion of his PhD in 2004, he changed his research focus to excitation-contraction coupling in cardiomyocytes. While his studies on cardiac calcium signalling have provided important insights into the mechanisms of stress-induced arrhythmias and development of heart failure, in the last decade, his attention has shifted towards caloric restriction mimetics and the mechanisms of cardiovascular aging and heart failure with preserved ejection fraction (HFpEF). He is now a key researcher of the Excellence Cluster METAGE, addressing how disturbances in metabolic control influence age-related cardiac decline and HFpEF. This knowledge will advance research in the area of improving healthspan to benefit human cardiovascular aging.