



University Health Network announces arrival of the Robert R. McEwen Chair in Cardiac Regenerative Medicine

Dr. Rudiger von Harsdorf has been appointed in inaugural chairholder of the Robert R. McEwen Chair in Cardiac Regenerative Medicine.

For Dr. von Harsdorf, the challenge and opportunity offered by this position were more than enough to entice him to move his family from Berlin, where he was Asst. Medical Director and Professor, Internal Medicine, Dept. of Medicine, Charite Hospital.

Dr. von Harsdorf will apply his strong research background in molecular control of pathologic and regenerative growth of the failing heart to advancing the field of regenerative medicine, using the body's own cells to repair damaged organs.

His Chair was created as part of a larger gift from Rob and Cheryl McEwen for the establishment of the McEwen Centre for Regenerative Medicine.

"I'm very excited," Dr. von Harsdorf says. "There is an excellent environment here, and I can sense the opportunities. Regenerative medicine is complex, and still in its very early stages. Our task will be to advance our scientific understanding and clinical knowledge toward the development of molecular and regenerative therapies that will improve outcomes and quality of life for people with heart conditions."