

Media release

Former Ava Data Science Lead Lisa Koch joins Diabetes Center Berne and University of Bern as professor, specialising in data science for treatment systems

Bern, 2 April 2024 - The newly created assistant professorship with tenure track is the third of a total of three professorships in the field of "Diabetes Technology and Artificial Pancreas" jointly created by the University of Bern, the Inselgruppe and the Diabetes Center Berne (DCB).

Before taking up her new position, Lisa Koch worked on machine learning for biomedical data analysis. She has a background in academic research as well as developing data science products for medical devices, with a strong focus on technology that can ultimately benefit people's health in a safe and trustworthy way.

After an undergraduate degree in electrical (BSc) and biomedical engineering (MSc) at ETH Zürich, Switzerland, Lisa Koch did a PhD in machine learning for medical image analysis at Imperial College London, UK. After a post-doc at ETH Zürich, she joined the Swiss wearable medical device startup Ava, where she eventually became the data science team lead. In this position, she came to appreciate the need for demonstrably safe machine learning in healthcare.

In 2021, Lisa Koch returned to academic research to pursue research on this topic as a group leader for machine learning in medical diagnostics at the Hertie Institute for AI in Brain Health at the University of Tübingen, Germany. In her new role as assistant professor at the University of Bern, her long-term goal is to develop certifiably safe, reliable, and effective data science tools for patient-specific treatment systems in diabetes care.

"With my research, I strive to deliver trustworthy AI-enabled diabetes care that provides real benefit to patients and clinicians. I am thrilled to join the cross-disciplinary ecosystem at the Diabetes Center Berne and the University of Bern Clinic for Diabetology, Endocrinology, Nutritional Medicine and Metabolism (UDEM), an ideal environment to advance this vision" says Koch.

Derek Brandt, CEO of the DCB adds: *"In addition to Lilian Witthauer, professor in the field of sensor technology, and José Garcia Tirado, professor for technology-assisted precision medicine, we have taken a third and important step with Professor Koch for the topic of data science in*

diabetes care. This enables us to further strengthen our international pioneering role in the field of translational diabetes technology research. We will continue doing everything we can to improve daily life for people with diabetes".

About DCB

The Diabetes Center Berne (DCB) is a private, independent Swiss foundation established in 2017 with the aim of making life with diabetes easier. DCB supports ideas and projects in the field of diabetes technology worldwide by providing expertise, access to clinical research facilities and its own laboratories, as well as financial resources. The goal is to bring them a big step closer to market entry in a collaborative partnership. The work of the DCB is non-profit - the goal is new insights and innovations around diabetes management as well as a vibrant community.

Diabetes Center Berne

Freiburgstrasse 3

CH-3010 Bern

www.dcberne.com

Media contact

Sunjoy Mathieu

Communications Manager

sunjoy.mathieu@dcberne.com