Founded in 1877 by Felix Hoppe-Seyler as Zeitschrift für Physiologische Chemie

Felix Hoppe-Seyler (1825–1895) was a pioneer of biochemistry, remembered not only for his discovery of hemoglobin and his contributions to the chemical characterization of many other biological compounds and processes but also for having been the mentor of Friedrich Miescher and Albrecht Kossel. In his preface to the first issue of Zeitschrift für Physiologische Chemie, Felix Hoppe-Seyler coined the term Biochemistry (‘Biochemie’) for the then newly emerging discipline.

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The cover illustration demonstrates increased in vitro tube formation of a peripheral blood endothelial progenitor cell (pbEPC) spheroid in response to microRNA-126 (miR-126) inhibitor transfection (lower image; upper image: control experiment). Gain-of-function and loss-of-function studies revealed that miR-126 displays anti-angiogenic effects in pbEPCs. Overexpression of miR-126 resulted in decreased proliferation, migration, invasion and tube formation, while inhibition of miR-126 induced the opposite effects. For further information about the modulation of angiogenic growth activity of pbEPCs by miR-126 see the article by Goerke et al., this issue pp. 245–252.

Image courtesy of S. Goerke, L. Kiefer, G.B. Stark, F. Simunovic and G. Finkenzeller, Department of Plastic and Hand Surgery, University of Freiburg Medical Center, Freiburg, Germany.
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