

Gabriel Schäfer studied Chemistry at the University of Basel. He then moved to ETH Zürich to obtain his Dr. sc. under the supervision of Prof. Jeffrey Bode, working on Friedel-Crafts benzylations and the synthesis of sterically hindered amides. After completing his postdoctoral research stay with Prof. F. Dean Toste in Berkeley, he started his industrial career in 2015 as a Process Chemist at Actelion Pharmaceuticals in Allschwil BL (Switzerland). After the acquisition of Actelion by Johnson & Johnson and the subsequent demerger of Idorsia Pharmaceuticals in 2017, he worked as a Senior Scientist in Idorsia's Chemistry Process R&D group. In this function, he developed robust and scalable chemical routes for Idorsia's preclinical candidates & clinical assets. In 2020, he was promoted to Group Leader of the Chemistry Process R&D group, leading a fantastic team of 20 highly motivated people (6 process labs and one crystallization lab). The work of Gabriel and his team has been published in OPRD and other journals. He also serves as a member of the "Early Career International Advisory Board" of Helvetica Chimica Acta.