



Andrea J. Tenner, Ph.D.

Dr. Andrea Tenner is currently Distinguished Professor of Molecular Biology & Biochemistry, Neurobiology & Behavior, and Pathology & Laboratory Medicine at the University of California, Irvine. Professor Tenner is internationally recognized as a leader in complement research. She has made significant contributions demonstrating how complement and cells of innate immune system modulate immune responses, including adaptive immunity, how complement contributes to neuroprotection and, when dysregulated, causes detrimental inflammatory disorders in neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's disease, and highlighting the potential for therapeutic targeting of specific complement components for these diseases. Current laboratory research includes defining the roles of C5a-C5aR1 axis and the molecular drivers of complement-mediated synaptic plasticity, neuroprotection and neuroinflammation. Her laboratory explores the opportunities for specific therapeutic targeting of downstream components of the pathway to suppress inflammation and of upstream pathways to enhance neuroprotection. She is also Co-Director of UCI's MODEL-AD Center, whose goal is to generate new mouse models that mimic sporadic (late onset) AD to provide tools for testing hypotheses and treatments to accelerate the development and delivery of therapeutics to prevent or slow the progression of AD.

Dr. Tenner earned her BA at the University of Dallas and Ph.D. at UC, San Diego. She was a postdoctoral fellow and subsequently an Assistant Member at Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, California. Moving to the East Coast in 1983, she was at NIH and then at the American Red Cross Research Labs in Maryland. She joined the faculty at UCI in 1992, where she also served as Associate Director of the UCI Institute of Immunology (2003-2007), Associate Dean for Research, UCI School of Biological Sciences (2007-2012), and Director of the UC, Irvine Institute for Memory Impairment and Neurological Disorders (UC iMIND) (2014-2016). Dr. Tenner's professional activities have included Section Editor for the *Journal of Immunology*, Editorial Board for *Journal of Neuroinflammation*, member of NIH study sections and other grant reviewing committees, Councilor and Fundraising Chair for the Society of Leukocyte Biology, and Councilor, Treasurer and President of the International Complement Society. Dr. Tenner has been a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1994, received the UCI Emeritae/i Association Faculty Mentorship Award (2005-2006), was awarded a Society of Leukocyte Biology Lifetime Honorary Membership Award in 2015, and was the 2014-15 recipient of the UC, Irvine Daniel G. Aldrich, Jr. Distinguished University Service Award, an award conferred to those who, in addition to achieving distinction in their scholarly pursuits, have made sustained and outstanding contributions through service to the University. In 2019, she was an American Association of Immunologist Distinguished Lecturer. She is Co-Director of the Neurobiology of Aging Training Grant and is a champion for women and members of underrepresented groups in science.