Tobias Derfuss is a clinical neurologist with a specialisation in neuroimmunology. He received his clinical training at the Department of Neurology, Klinikum Grosshadern in Munich. His research at the Max-Planck Institute for Neurobiology, Department of Neuroimmunology, was focused on the discovery of new autoantigens in Multiple Sclerosis and the characterization of the immune response against latent herpesviruses. After training in neuromuscular diseases at the Friedrich-Baur Institute and in psychiatry at the Max-Planck Institute for Psychiatry in Munich he was appointed head of the out-patient department and MS clinic at the Department of Neurology of the university clinic in Erlangen.

Since 2010 he is professor and senior physician at the Department of Neurology and the Department of Biomedicine at the university clinic in Basel. His main research focus is the discovery of biomarkers and analyzing the mode of action of disease modifying treatments in MS. Especially the role of B cells in the pathogenesis of MS and the interaction of B cells with their target cells is explored in cell culture as well as in in vivo models. Dr. Derfuss is also involved in the design and conduct of clinical trials for newly emerging therapies in MS.