Prof Dr Joachim Sieper works as a rheumatologist at the Campus Benjamin Franklin of the Charité University Hospital in Berlin, Germany.

After studying in Berlin and researching in London, Prof. Sieper has been developing and expanding rheumatology at the Benjamin Franklin campus since the early 1990s. His initial focus was on immunological studies on the development and diagnosis of reactive arthritis, a joint inflammation that occurs as a result of infection. From the mid-90s he focused on the inflammatory back pain and especially on the clinical picture of axial spondyloarthritis. These include ankylosing spondylitis and also the early forms before the onset of radiographic bone changes. He was involved in several of the pivotal clinical studies showing the dramatic efficacy of TNF-blocking agents in the treatment of ankylosing spondylitis. He is member of the editorial board of several international rheumatology journals.

Prof. Sieper has received numerous awards for his work, including the Carol Nachman Prize for Rheumatology, the European League Against Rheumatism Award (EULAR) and the Research Award of the German Association for Morbus Bechterew. He was on the board of the German Society of Rheumatology for many years and is a long-time member of the Assessment of Spondyloarthritis International Society (ASAS), the president from January 2018.