



Filip Van Immerseel received a Master in Bio-engineering Sciences at the Catholic University of Leuven (KUL) in 1999, and a Master in Laboratory Animal Sciences at Ghent University in 2004. He received a PhD in Veterinary Medical Sciences at Ghent University in 2004, studying intestinal immune cell infiltration after *Salmonella* infection of chickens, and environmental triggers in the gut that influence *Salmonella* invasion. After a post-doc period, he was appointed as Research Professor by Ghent University in 2008. Currently he is Professor at the Laboratory of Veterinary Bacteriology of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at Ghent University in Belgium and is head of a research group that studies host-bacterium interactions.

The research group of Filip Van Immerseel focuses on different topics, being:

- Mechanisms of oviduct colonization and egg contamination by *Salmonella* Enteritidis
- Pathogenesis of diseases caused by *Clostridium perfringens* in cattle, poultry and pigs
- Anti-inflammatory potential of butyrate-producing strains to counterbalance chronic inflammatory intestinal diseases in animals and humans
- Dysbiosis in production animals and effects of dietary factors to steer the gut microbiota composition

The general approach is always to study host-pathogen or host-bacterium interactions and to collect scientific data on mechanisms of a) the pathogenesis of diseases or b) the protective effects of bacterial strains and bacterial metabolites on gut homeostasis and on vaccine-induced protection against disease. These data can then be used for rational development of control measures to control pathogen colonization or intestinal disease.

Filip Van Immerseel currently has more than 160 scientific papers in international peer-reviewed journals, has written book chapters and edited books on *Salmonella* and *Clostridium perfringens* and is a well-known speaker at international events. He is editor of the journal Avian Pathology and involved in many international collaborative research networks.

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