Filip Van Immerseel

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.

The research group of Filip Van Immerseel currently 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 action of a) the pathogenesis of diseases or b) the protective effects of certain feed components of bacterial metabolites on gut homeostasis. These data can then be used for rational development of control measures for diseases or syndromes that affect gut health.

Filip Van Immerseel currently has more than 100 scientific papers in international peer-reviewed journals, has written book chapters and edited books, and has received more than 5 million Euro funding the last 5 years. He is editor of the journal Avian Pathology and involved in many international collaborative research networks.

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