



International Alliance for
Biological Standardization



The Role of Real-World Evidence for Regulatory and Public Health Decision Making for Accelerated Vaccine Deployment

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Pieter NEELS, MD

Ex-CHMP member
Ex-EMA Vaccine Working Party Vice-chair
Vaccine-Advice BVBA Founder
Ex-Associate Professor University of Namur

Chair – Human Vaccine Committee
Ex officio member – Executive Committee

Tel:

E-mail:

Dr Pieter Neels is a native of Belgium where he trained as an MD (University of Antwerp, 1985) and was boarded as a general practitioner. In 1994, his interest for medical research led him to work for a pharmaceutical company.

In 1997, he joined the Belgian Ministry of Public Health as a senior evaluator of the clinical part of registration files in the field of cardiology, nephrology, endocrinology (diabetes), ...

In 2001 he was appointed CPMP member. In 2002 he was asked to take over all Belgian central vaccine rapporteurships. During this year he became infected by the world of vaccines and until June 2013 he was the rapporteur of more than 15 vaccines.

After being an observer for more than 5 years at the Vaccine Working Party, he was elected vice-chair of this CHMP Working Party for discussion on development and evaluation of registration files for vaccines until June 2013.

The Belgian agency started a spearhead policy in 2007 and Dr Neels was appointed co-ordinator for the spearhead domain vaccines.

EMA/CHMP has asked Dr Neels to be an observer at the SAGE/WHO meetings and to attend several scientific meetings on vaccines until June 2013.

WHO has asked Dr Neels to attend many meetings on vaccine development all over the world in order to share the EU regulatory requirements/competence in vaccinology.

Dr. Neels is also a member of the worldwide network on vaccine promotion as he is asked to attend the ADVAC course (Foundation Mérieux) and the IABS conferences.



In 2013 Dr. Neels was nominated associate Professor at the Namur University for a course in Vaccinology, in 2020 dr. Neels retired as associate professor at the university.

In June 2013 Dr Neels stepped down from the CHMP and left the Belgian Federal Agency to start his own consultancy company "Vaccine-Advice" in order to be able to support vaccine development in a more efficacious way.

In 2014 Dr Neels was elected board member of IABS-EU and in 2016 he accepted to chair the Human Vaccine committee of IABS.

