

**Miia Jakava-Viljanen, DVM, PhD**

Specialist in Animal Disease (Finland)  
Chair, Veterinary Biologicals Committee



Following positions at the Helsinki University in Finland in teaching microbiology, immunology and epidemiology, and research, as a veterinarian, Dr Miia Jakava-Viljanen joined the Finnish Food Authority as Head of Section involved in virology, epidemiology and veterinary vaccines, and batch release and testing of vaccines. She subsequently moved into the policy area, assuming the post of Government Counsellor at the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Finland worked with Animal Health and Welfare legislation, rabies, pet movement, bee health, animals used for scientific purposes (3Rs), EU co-financed programs, funding for research projects and collaboration with Russia. Seconded to the European Commission, she was involved in the implementation of the EU legislation on Animal Health and participated to the work on EU climate change. She joined the European Medicines Agency in 2014 - 2019 as National Expert where she was responsible to provide consultation and expertise specifically in the area of veterinary biologicals, immunological medicines and emerging therapies, EU legislation and policy as scientific/content lead. Currently she is working at the Finnish Food Authority.

She is an expert of EDQM European Pharmacopoeia Group 15V (vaccines and sera) since 2002. She joined IABS in 2019 and is a member of the executive board and the Chair of the Veterinary Biologicals Committee. She is organizing IABS meetings focusing on the veterinary field.