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Bart Haagmans is a workgroup leader at the department of Viroscience of the Erasmus Medical Center in Rotterdam. He did his training at the Utrecht University and holds a PhD from the same university. His research line focusses on the pathogenesis of viral infections and especially those viruses that emerge through zoonotic transmission, including SARS-CoV-2. This brings together work performed earlier at the Veterinary faculty in Utrecht and more recent research on human coronaviruses in Rotterdam. Over the last several years, we have characterized the genome of Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS) coronavirus, identified the receptor used by this virus and contributed to the identification of the dromedary camel as the reservoir species. We have tested a vaccine candidate that reduces the transmission of MERS-CoV by vaccinating dromedary camels. Recently, we expanded our research to include studies on the pathogenesis of SARS-CoV-2 using organoids and animal models. In addition, we worked with several research groups to test human monoclonal antibodies blocking SARS-CoV-2 infection and vaccine candidates.