

ALBERT OSTERHAUS

Director of the Center of Infection Medicine and Zoonosis Research (RIZ) ? University of Veterinary Medicine Hannover (TiHo)



Professor Osterhaus Head of the Department of Viroscience at Erasmus MC Rotterdam until 2014, is currently Director of the Center of Infection Medicine and Zoonosis Research (RIZ) at the University of Veterinary Medicine Hannover (TiHo). With a long track record as scientific researcher and PI of numerous major international projects, his research programme follows a novel integrated “viroscience” concept, bringing together world-leading scientists in molecular virology, immunology, epidemiology, pathogenesis, and intervention studies on human and animal virus infections. He and his team have discovered more than 70 new viruses of humans and animals (e.g. human metapneumovirus, coronaviruses, influenza viruses), elucidated the pathogenesis of major human and animal virus infections, and developed novel intervention strategies. This has enabled health authorities like the WHO to effectively combat disease outbreaks like SARS and avian influenza. The respective spin-offs he and his staff established -Viroclinics Biosciences DDL BV, Vironovative BV and CR20 BV- collectively employing more than 400 people, allow effective testing and refining of diagnostic tools and other intervention strategies. The international recognition of Professor Osterhaus is further highlighted by major prizes, guest lecture invitations, (co-)organiserships of international meetings and editorships of scientific journals. Professor Osterhaus has acted as mentor for more than 80 PhD students and holds several key patents. He is also the author of more than 1300 papers in peer-reviewed journals, together cited more than 75,000 times, with a H index > 118. Currently he also is Chair of the European Working Group on Influenza (ESWI) and of the International One Health Platform (OHP). He organised numerous international scientific conferences on influenza and other emerging infections, holds several senior editorships, and received numerous prestigious awards. He is member of the Dutch and German National Academies of Sciences and Commander of the Order of the Dutch Lion.