VaxInlive 2024

Novel Vaccine Technologies

26th of April, Antwerp



VaxInlive Symposia

VaxInlive Symposia serve as a dynamic discussion platform providing an opportunity to passionate researchers from all around the globe to get engaged in scientific discourse. VaxInlive 2024 is a continuation series of Symposia (2013, 2014, 2015, 2018, 2019, 2021, and 2022), which was conducted in the context of the LIVE (Leading International Vaccinology Education) Master Erasmus+ Mundus Joint Master´s Degree. The 1st promotion of LIVE started in September 2016. As a living story of VaxInlive symposia, the VaxInlive 2024 symposium is an initiative to build a collaborative discussion platform for Researchers and Vaccinologists across the globe to induce exciting exchanges of knowledge about infectious diseases and vaccines. VaxInlive symposium is an amalgamation of the efforts towards breaking the barriers and putting forth the scientific expertise to engage researchers from different nationalities. Similar to one of the objectives of Master LIVE, which focuses on the idea of breaking boundaries by recruiting students from all over the world with different nationalities. VaxInlive organizing committee is a group of enthusiastic and passionate scientists who are motivated to expand knowledge by bringing worldwide expertise on one platform

VaxInlive 2024 Local organizing committee
Prof. Peter Delputte, PhD, Chair (Professor of Virology and Vaccinology, University of Antwerp), drs. Sara Van Looy (Master LIVE Alumni, PhD - Assistant FBD, Local Master LIVE Advisor) and Naomi De Roeck (LIVE assistant, Labtechnician LMPH)

VaxInlive 2024 International committee
Prof. Christine Delprat (UCBL); LIVE master coordinator, Prof. Thomas Stratmann (UB), Prof. Carme Roura Mir (UAB), Prof. Dolores Jaraquemada Pérez de Guzmán (UAB), Prof. Stéphane Paul (UJM); Coordinators LIVE Master, Daria Chirita; LIVE assistant.

Detailed information is published on the website of the VaxInlive 2024 symposium:
https://www.uantwerpen.be/en/conferences/vaxinlive-symposium-2024/

Master LIVE

LIVE (Leading International Vaccinology Education) is a two-year dynamic and multidisciplinary Joint Master Degree co-organized by five European universities bringing forward their technical and diverse teaching expertise together and awarding a distinctive Master degree of excellent quality: Universitat Autónoma de Barcelona (ES), Universitat de Barcelona (ES), Universiteit Antwerpen (BE), Université de Saint-Etienne (FR) and Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1 (Coordinator, FR). The programme welcomes experts in the field of Vaccinology to gather and train the future generation of Vaccinologists. Academic internationality is enriched by a worldwide network of academic universities from Brazil, China, Europe and USA and a worldwide network of Associated Partners from the whole working chain in vaccinology. 25 LIVE students are recruited each year among more than 1500 registered applicants from 108 nationalities in 2023. During their studies, their mobility involves three different countries helping them to expand their vision and passion. It provides an ideal opportunity for them to learn foreign languages, English being the language of instruction of the LIVE Master. LIVE programme provides students with an advanced understanding of Immunology, Infectiology, Vaccinology, but also legislation, health policy and humanities around Vaccinology to prepare students for a professional international career and/or continuation with PhD studies. This degree opens a wide array of career opportunities where the graduates can choose a career in big pharma, vaccine manufacturers or in small and medium enterprises specialized in research and development of vaccines or in public organizations dealing with public health policy / clinic / research on vaccines. Graduates are also well prepared for doctorate research in PhD programs.

The Master live is co-funded by:

The Universitat Autónoma de Barcelona, Universitat de Barcelona, Universiteit Antwerpen, Université Jean Monnet de Saint Etienne and Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1 (Coordinator),

the European commission (EACEA), thanks to the Erasmus+ Mundus Joint Master Degrees (EMJMD) label of excellence,

















Sanofi Pasteur, Institut Mérieux, Fondation Mérieux, University of Paris-Est Créteil (UPEC), Vaccine Research Institute (VRI),The Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization (VIDO), CRODA and Le CEA.

For more information, visit: [Associated Partners - LIVE (masterlive-vaccinology.eu)]

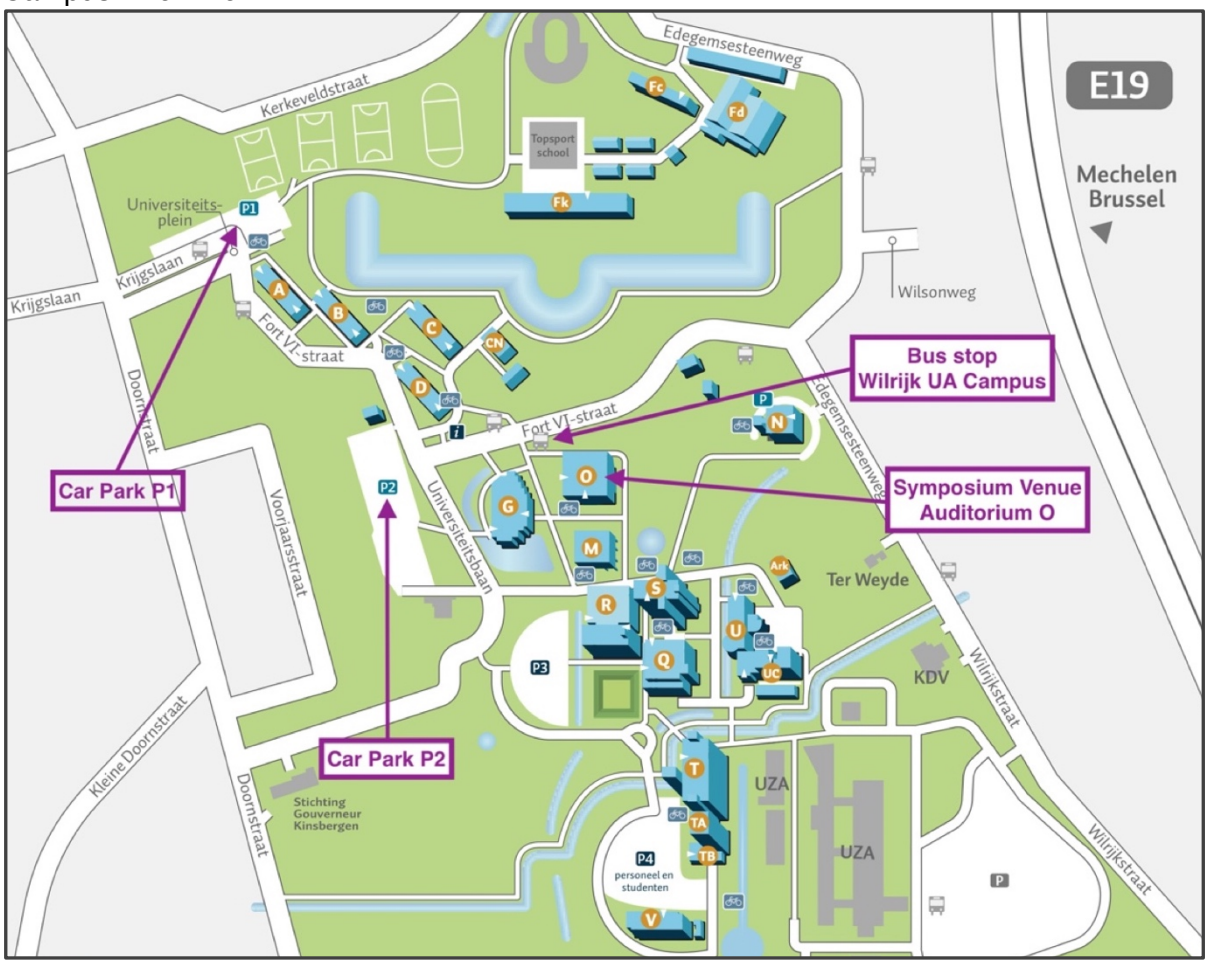
The venue

Symposium venue

University of Antwerp, Campus Drie Eiken (CDE)
Auditorium O.5, 1st floor
Universiteitsplein 1
2610 Antwerpen
BELGIUM



Campus Drie Eiken



VaxInlive 2024 Program

April 26th, 2024 Afternoon 12:15-18:30

live

Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

12.15: ***welcome with lunch – networking***

Opening of the symposium
Prof. dr. Peter Delputte, chair of the symposium

SESSION 1 – CHAIR Prof. Thomas Stratmann

13.20: **Setting the 'vaccine supply chain' scene: How innovations in vaccine development reshape the supply chain into an e-commerce alike full distribution ecosystem (Duo presentation)**
Prof. dr. Roel Gevaers (University of Antwerp and Antwerp Management School; Chair of the Pharma Logistics Masterclass
Frank Van Gelder, Secretary-General Pharma.Aero

13.45: **Multiple antigen presenting system (MAPS): state of the art and applications for bacterial vaccines**
dr. Florence Strubbe, GSK Vaccines

14.05: **Developing a next generation rabies vaccine with artificial intelligence**
Prof. dr. Pieter Meysman, Department of Informatics, University of Antwerp, and Chief Technology Officer, ImmuneWatch

14.25: **Pneumococcal vaccines: added value and future challenges**
Prof. dr. Heidi Theeten, University of Antwerp

14.45: ***coffee break***

SESSION 2 – CHAIR Prof. Stéphane Paul

15.30: **Diving deeper to uncover the possibilities of self-amplifying RNA**
dr. Katrien Poelaert, Ziphius Vaccines

15.50: **Vaccine confidence project**
Greet Hendrickx, University of Antwerp
Prof. dr. Emilie Karafillakis, London School of Hygiene and Medicine, University of Antwerp

16.15: **Elucidating Vaccine-Induced B-Cell Responses through BCR Repertoire and Single Cell Analyses**
dr. Bart Cuypers; Senior Data Scientist, Vaccine Immune Informatics, GSK

16.35: **New approaches for vaccines against human parasitic diseases**
Prof. Alvaro Baeza Garcia, Department Biomedical Sciences, University of Antwerp

16.55: **Systemic and mucosal immune responses to SARS-CoV-2 following infection and vaccination**
Dr Stephanie Longet, Pathophysiology and biotherapies of mucosal infections (GIMAP), University of Saint-Etienne

Closure of the symposium
Prof. dr. Christine Delprat, Coordinator LIVE master programme

17.30: ***Reception and networking***

VaxInlive 2024 Speakers

Prof. dr. Roel Gevaers



Prof. dr. Roel Gevaers is a professor at the University of Antwerp and the Antwerp Management School and he is also guest lecturer at several other international universities.
His focus research areas are last mile logistics, eCommerce logistics, pharma logistics and Supply Chain Management. He is the Chairman of the yearly Pharma Logistics Masterclass as well as the Chairman of the Urban Logistics zero-emission Topteam for the Flemish Government.

Roel Gevaers strongly believes in and supports collaborations and strong relations between business and academic research in last mile, eCommerce, and pharma supply chains to support knowledge sharing.

Frank Van Gelder



Frank has been active in different industries related to healthcare, ATMP, and supply chain for Life Science and Medtech industries. As a senior consultant he guides numerous projects related to critical supply chains, IT health applications, and medical educational projects. With a background in health care and being active for 15 years specifically in organ & cell clinical transplantation programs and clinical patient research, Frank started his freelance career involved in the quality improvements of critical supply chains of high-sensitive products by air. He is especially involved in digital solutions increasing transparency and acceleration of knowledge, where recently he became directly involved in Immersive Learning developments through Virtual Reality Experiences, and this in relation to clinical training programs in acute and intensive care settings.

He holds different leadership positions such as the position of the Secretary General of Pharma.Aero VZW, a non-profit organisation, working cross industrial to foster worldwide collaboration within the Life Science and Medtech airfreight industry, and recently he took up the Managing Director's position of GLC Medical International, an R&D and Medical Device Infection diagnostics company, using a groundbreaking new technology for infectious disease preparedness and surveillance. He is a guest teacher at the University of Antwerp and the Antwerp Management School. He is co-chair and co-founder of the Pharma Logistics Masterclass (PLMC). He beliefs strongly in disruptive and innovative approaches in which he favours training and education as keys to success to ensure acceleration of human skills as the essence to success.

Dr. Florence Strubbe



Florence Strubbe completed her Master's in Biomedical Sciences at the University of Ghent in 2012 and earned a Master's in General Management from Vlerick Business School in 2013. She began her career at GSK in 2013, participating in the R&D Vaccine leadership program with rotations through Clinical Operations, Regulatory Affairs, Finance, and Global Medical Affairs, focusing on MMRV and Rotavirus vaccines. From 2016 to 2019, she served as a global medical affairs manager in the United States, concentrating on meningococcal vaccines and playing a key role in promoting and increasing the uptake of the 4CMenB vaccine in the US and Europe. In 2020, Strubbe transitioned to BeLux, assuming the role of Medical Affairs Lead for vaccines, where she is recognized for her strategic approach to medical development, collaboration with vaccine experts, and commitment to evidence-based public health advocacy.

Prof. dr. Pieter Meysman



Prof. dr. ir. Pieter Meysman is an associate professor at the University of Antwerp, Belgium at the ADREM data lab and leads the immunoinformatics activities of the AUDACIS consortium. He graduated as a PhD in bioscience engineering from the KULeuven in 2012 and has published more than 90 research articles and patents. His research has directly resulted in two university spin-offs of the University of Antwerp and Antwerp University Hospital, namely Innocens and ImmuneWatch. He is active in the latter as the part-time CTO to oversee technology transfer from the university to ImmuneWatch, which develops novel AI technologies to aid in vaccine development.

His main research focus is on the use of artificial intelligence to gain understanding into the adaptive immune system. To this end, he has supervised the development of several immunoinformatics tools to handle complex immunological data, including TCRex, ClusTCR and ImRex. He has won a number of awards for his research into the human T-cell receptor repertoire, including the GSK Vaccines award.

Prof. dr. Heidi Theeten



Heidi Theeten, is a distinguished scholar and professor at the University of Antwerp, renowned for her expertise in vaccine evaluation and infectious disease research. With a Doctorate in Medicine, Heidi has dedicated her career to advancing our understanding of immunology and vaccine efficacy.

Currently serving as a professor in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Antwerp, Heidi plays a pivotal role in shaping the next generation of healthcare professionals. In addition to her academic responsibilities, Heidi is actively engaged in research at the Center of Evaluation of Vaccines, where she leads pioneering studies on vaccine development and evaluation.

Dr. Katrien Poelaert



Dr. Katrien Poelaert is a veterinarian by training and obtained her PhD in Veterinary Sciences in 2019 at the Laboratory of Virology, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (Ghent University, Belgium) under the supervision of Prof. Nauwynck. She was granted a fellowship of the Belgian American Educational Foundation (BAEF) to start a post-doctoral research project at Fox Chase Cancer Center (Philadelphia, Temple University, USA) focusing on measles virus spread and dormancy in the central nervous system.

After this stay in the USA, she joined the research group of Prof. van Kuppeveld at Utrecht University to study the neuropathogenesis of non-polio enteroviruses (Enterovirus D68). In October 2021, she moved to industry and joint Ziphius (a start-up pharmaceutical company located in Merelbeke, Belgium) as a Senior Scientist. She is leading the prophylactic products program of Ziphius, focusing on the vaccine development.

Greet Hendrickx



Greet Hendrickx, a seasoned professional in the field of biomedical sciences and vaccine advocacy, embarked on her journey after completing her studies as a Biomedical Engineer and a postgraduate in Biotechnology and Biomedical Sciences. After 18 years working at Innogenetics, she transitioned to a pivotal role as a Senior Project Coordinator within VAXINFECTIO at the Centre for the Evaluation of Vaccination, University of Antwerp. Here, she spearheaded the executive secretariat of two distinguished European expert boards, namely the Viral Hepatitis Prevention Board and the Adult Immunization Board.

As a cornerstone of the European Hub of the Vaccine Confidence Project, Greet has been at the forefront of bolstering public trust in vaccination. Her recent endeavor as the team lead for the CONFIVAX team underscores her commitment to consolidating multidisciplinary research and expertise on vaccination attitudes.

Prof. dr. Emilie Karafillakis



Dr Emilie Karafillakis, is an Assistant Professor and the European Director of the Vaccine Confidence Project at the Vaccine Confidence Project™, at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and the University of Antwerp. She is a senior social scientist with more than 10 years of experience in international research and teaching in academia.

With a background in public health, infectious disease control, and health systems and policies research, her work focuses on understanding individual and group beliefs, attitudes and confidence in health interventions and assess how these can influence public health control measures and health promotion strategies, including vaccination. She has extensive experience on issues of vaccine confidence in Europe, including among parents, adolescents, pregnant women and healthcare professionals.

Dr. Bart Cuypers



Dr. Bart Cuypers is Senior Data Scientist in the GSK Vaccine Immune Informatics team. With a focus on leveraging high-throughput B- and T-cell repertoire data, he specializes in enhancing understanding vaccine-induced immune responses. His work is central to the team's mission of advancing vaccine projects by exploring the complex relationship between antigen exposure and immune response. Dr. Cuypers studied Cell & Systems Biology at the University of Antwerp.

He obtained a PhD and conducted post-doctoral research at the University of Antwerp Adrem Data Lab & the Institute of Tropical Medicine, building expertise in multi-omics, bioinformatics, reverse vaccinology, and infectious diseases.

Prof. dr. Alvaro Baeza Garcia



Alvaro Baeza Garcia is an Assistant Professor in the Parasitology group of the LMPH at the University of Antwerp. He carried out his PhD thesis at the Institute Pasteur of Lille on the vector immune responses against Schistosoma, leading to the first functional characterization of a cytokine in the invertebrate immune responses against parasite infection. He was a postdoctoral fellow at Yale University in Prof Bucala's laboratory, where he led the first study using RNA vaccines against Malaria.

After a second postdoc at Inserm in France on T-cell responses against cancer, he recently joined the University of Antwerp. Here his research focuses on the role of pro-inflammatory factors expressed by parasites and hosts in regulating T and B cell immune responses against parasitic infections to design better therapeutic interventions. He is currently exploring the use of new vaccine platforms to target parasitic diseases such as Malaria and Leishmaniasis.

Dr. Stephanie Longet



Dr. Stephanie Longet is an Assistant Professor of Immunology at the University of Saint-Etienne in France. During her PhD project at the University of Lausanne and her 5-year postdoctoral experience at Trinity College Dublin, her work focused on passive and prophylactic oral vaccine strategies to induce protective immune response at intestinal level using in vitro and preclinical models.

During her 4-year postdoctoral experience at Public Health England and at the University of Oxford, she was strongly involved in the characterisation of systemic and mucosal adaptive immune responses in preclinical models and humans following SARS-CoV-2 infection and/or COVID-19 vaccination. In March 2023, she joined the University of Saint-Etienne as an Assistant Professor. Her current research interests are the development of nasal vaccine strategies against viral infections and the characterisation of mucosal memory immune responses including tissue-resident memory responses in the respiratory tract.


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