

**Pieter Neels, MD**

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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 small branch of a pharmaceutical company, namely Byk Belga (Altana Pharma, taken over by Nycomed).

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, gastroenterology and diabetology.

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 has started a spearhead policy and defined 4 domains of excellence and one of these domains is vaccinology and Dr Neels was appointed co-ordinator for this spearhead domain.

Dr Neels is author or co-author of many none – published assessment reports both in the field of medicinal products and vaccines.

Since 2008, Dr Neels is representing the CHMP/EMA at the Strategic Advisory Group of Experts (SAGE) of WHO as an observer in Geneva.

EMA/CHMP has asked Dr Neels has be an observer at the SAGE/WHO meeting 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 with less experienced co-workers from WHO networks like DCVRN and AVAREF.

WHO has also asked Dr. Neels attendance on many meetings to give input on guidance on vaccine development like second generation pneumococcal vaccine, polio post eradication preparation, first and second generation HPV, ROTA virus vaccines, Malaria and Dengue vaccines, TBC and HIV vaccines, ...

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