

Jean-Christophe AUDONNET

Senior Director, Regional R&D Asia & EU Innovation Partnerships, Merial R&D.



Jean-Christophe AUDONNET obtained his DVM degree at the Veterinary School in Alfort, Paris, France in 1980. After 2 years of practice, mainly in the large animal production field, he went back to the University for a Ph.D. in Molecular Bacteriology. Dr. Audonnet has also a degree in Molecular Virology from Institut Pasteur Paris, France., and Masters certificates in Molecular Biology, Genetics, and an Immunology.

After 3 years spent at Virogenetics, Albany, New York, USA as a member of the research team who did the pioneering work on the modified vaccinia (NYVAC) and canarypox (ALVAC) vaccine vectors, Dr. Audonnet came back to Lyon, France where he held a number of positions as Head of research labs and Head of Discovery Research for Rhône-Mérieux and then Merial between 1992 and 2008. During these years, Dr. Audonnet has been in charge of various veterinary vaccine research projects which led to the development of successful commercial products, Vaxxitek being a key one. He was then, as Head of Research Strategy and Key Alliances for Bio R&D, in charge of scouting and assessing new technologies in the fields of vaccinology and immunogens expression platforms.

Since 2013 as Head of EU & Asia External Innovation & Research Strategy, Merial R&D, Dr. Audonnet is in charge of assessing new opportunities, establishing new collaborative R&D projects, and setting up innovative partnerships. He is also in charge of the Merial China R&D program team and is supervising the Merial PDC site in Singapore.

Coordinator of the IMI ZAPI 5-year project (20 partners) since March 2015. www.imi.eu



Dr. Audonnet is also active in different professional and scientific networks aiming at increasing private-public research collaborative projects:

- Member of the "Technical Committee" of the **LyonBioPole** "Pôle de Compétitivité, Lyon, France (January 2005 – December 2012).
- Member the "Technical Advisory Committee" for the Global Alliance for Livestock Vaccines (**GALVmed**) Edinburgh, Scotland, UK (January 2006-April 2007).
- Member of the "Technical Committee" of the ETPGAH (European Technical Platform for Global Animal Health) (since September 2005).
- Chairman of the "Research Group" of the **SIMV** (Syndicat des Industries du Médicament Vétérinaire) (June 2007 – September 2011).
- Member of the French "Groupe Miroir" (**RFSA**) Steering Committee (since October 2007).
- Member of the "Scientific Committee" of the **Bioaster Technology Research Institute**, Lyon, France (September 2011 – December 2013).
- Member of the review committee of the BBSRC Animal Health Research Club (ARC)(since January 2013).
- Board Member of ARIIS (Association pour la Recherche et l'Innovation des Industries de la Santé) (from September 2013 to December 2014).

- Member of Merial IACUC since July 1992. Chairman of Merial IACUC since 1995. Member of Lyon Veterinary School IACUC (1998-2002).

Dr. Audonnet is also the author or co-author of more than 45 publications and is a listed inventor on more than 50 patents.