

MARIA ELENA BOTTAZZI, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, SABIN VACCINE INSTITUTE PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

Maria Elena Bottazzi, PhD is the Associate Dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine and Professor of Pediatrics and Molecular Virology & Microbiology at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas. She is also the Distinguished Professor in the Department of Biology at Baylor University in Waco, Texas. Dr. Bottazzi directs the Research and Administration of the Section of Pediatric Tropical Medicine and is the Deputy Director for the Sabin Vaccine Institute and Texas Children's Hospital Center for Vaccine Development, which is Sabin Vaccine Institute's Product Development Partnership (PDP).



Dr. Bottazzi is an internationally-recognized scientist with more than 15 years of experience in translational research and vaccine development for neglected tropical diseases. In addition, her major interest is in the role of vaccines as control tools integrated into international public health programs and initiatives.

Dr. Bottazzi is the Editor in Chief of Current Tropical Medicine Reports, Springer, US and an Associate Editor for Public Library of Science (PLoS) Neglected Tropical Disease Journal. She is the author or co-author of more than 80 scientific and technical papers in molecular, cellular biology, immunoparasitology, and vaccine development and is the recipient of multiple extramural awards. Dr. Bottazzi is a member of the International Advisory Committee of the Carlos Slim Foundation in Mexico, a member of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Product Development (CMC) Working Group and one of the Executive Co-directors advancing the efforts of the Global Chagas Disease Coalition. Dr. Bottazzi is a Fellow of the Hedwig van Ameringen Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine (ELAM) Program and a member of Class XXXIX of the American Leadership Forum, Houston/Gulf Coast Chapter. In 2015 she received the highest Honor from the Government of Honduras, the "Jose Cecilio del Valle" National Science Award.

She is a native of Tegucigalpa, Honduras where she obtained her degree in Microbiology and Clinical Chemistry in 1989, followed by her PhD in Molecular Immunology and Experimental Pathology at the University of Florida in Gainesville, FL in 1995. Her post-doctoral training in Cellular Biology was completed during 1995-2001 at University of Miami and University of Pennsylvania. Her academic tenure initiated in 2001 at the George Washington University in Washington DC where she served for 11 years ultimately becoming an Associate Professor and Vice-Chair for Administration in the Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Tropical Medicine.