

## BactiVac 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Network Meeting

### Wednesday 18 and Thursday 19 October 2023

#### Profiles: Speakers and Chairs



#### **Professor Richard A Adegbola, FAS**

**Consultant & Research Professor, Nigerian Institute of Medical Research, Nigeria**  
**BactiVac Network Advisory Board Chair**

Professor Richard Adegbola, FAS, is an Independent Consultant in Immunisation & Global Health at RAMBICON, Lagos, Nigeria. Additionally, he is in a contract position as Consultant & Research Professor, at the Nigerian Institute of Medical Research in Lagos from January 2020. He trained as a Microbiologist in Nigeria and in the UK and has worked in diagnostic microbiology, academia, philanthropy and the pharmaceutical industry, across three continents, gaining unique and varied experiences. The impact of his work at the MRC Unit in The Gambia, now part of LSHTM, on Hib and pneumococcal diseases and vaccines is a matter of public record and is well recognized within the field. He joined the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Seattle, USA, from the MRC Unit and worked as a Senior Program Officer and Lead for Pneumonia Clinical Studies. He also worked at GlaxoSmithKline Vaccines in Belgium as a Global Director for Scientific Affairs & Public Health with focus on external engagement on paediatric vaccines and, a portfolio covering countries in Africa and Asia. Richard Adegbola has achieved many recognitions of his work including an honorary Professorship at the University of Leicester, election to Fellowships of the UK's Royal College of Pathologists and Royal College of Physicians, the Nigerian Academy of Science, and African Academy of Sciences. He is passionate about his work and the role of vaccination in building healthy societies. Richard Adegbola was a member of the World Health Organization's Meningitis Vaccine Project Advisory Group and was Vice Chair of the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership Board. He is a member of the WHO Africa Regional Immunisation Technical Advisory Group (RITAG) and serves as a member or Chair of several international scientific advisory boards. He is a Trustee of the Expanded Civil Society Initiative on Immunisation in Nigeria and, a Trustee of the SABIN Vaccine Institute, Washington DC, USA. He has written six book chapters and co-authored 263 articles in peer-reviewed journals.



#### **Dr Ali Allouche, PhD**

**Vice President, Global Head Business Development, Alliance Management and External R&D, Hilleman Labs, UK**

Dr. Allouche heads Business Development, Alliance Management and External R&D NS joined Hilleman Laboratories in October 2020. Prior to joining Hilleman Laboratories, he worked at Takeda Vaccines, Switzerland where he spent 6.5 years as Head of Technology Strategy and Alliance Management, with global responsibility for external R&D, pipeline development and partnerships management with public and private stakeholders and national governments. At Novartis, GSK and AFFiRiS, he held many roles with increasing responsibilities in R&D, Business Development, Alliance Management and Portfolio Strategy and Management. During this time, he led and contributed to the development, licensure, and commercialisation of over fifteen vaccines. He spent 8 years in academic research in the UK and authored and co-authored publications in journals like The Lancet and Nature Medicine. His work contributed to the development and implementation of several malaria vaccines and drugs in Africa and Asia. This gave him a unique opportunity to learn and appreciate the importance of vaccines as an effective and equitable global access tool.



## Professor Peter Borriello, CB

Trustee, Safe Medicines for Animals- regulatory training (SMArt), UK  
*BactiVac Network Advisory Board Member*

Professor Peter Borriello CB was Chief Executive, Veterinary Laboratories Agency from 2008 until April 2011 when it merged with the Animal Health agency. He was appointed Chief Executive Officer, Veterinary Medicines Directorate in September 2011. He has received numerous awards and prizes for both human and animal health, the most prestigious of which was the Queen's Honours award of Companion of the Order of the Bath (CB) for contributions to international animal health and to antimicrobial resistance. He is currently a member of the UK Food Standards Agency Science Council, member of the BactiVac Network Advisory Board, and Chair of the Independent Scientific Advisory Group for RUMA (Responsible Use of Medicines in Agriculture). He also provides consultancy to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation on improving animal medicines regulation in low- and middle- income countries and is a short-term consultant to the World Bank. His previous roles include:

- Director, Health Protection Agency, Centre for Infections
- Director, Public Health Laboratory Service, Central Public Health Laboratory
- Founding Director, Institute of Infections and Immunity, University of Nottingham
- Head, Medical Research Council Hospital Infection Group and Microbial Pathogenicity Research Group



## Professor Adam Cunningham

*BactiVac Co-Director, UK*

**Professor, of Functional Immunity, University of Birmingham, UK**

Professor Adam Cunningham gained his PhD from Southampton University for studies on antibody responses to Chlamydia pneumoniae. After a short-term position in The Gambia, funded by the WHO, he had his first post-doctoral position in Birmingham studying the cell wall of Mycobacterium tuberculosis. From here, he started work in Prof. Ian MacLennan's group examining how antibody responses develop and are regulated. During this time, he incorporated the use of Salmonella and its component antigens into this work, leading to an independent position as a RCUK Roberts Academic Fellow, studying how immune responses develop to pathogens and vaccines. He was made Professor of Functional Immunity in August 2011 and his research is focused on how adaptive immunity to pathogens and their component antigens are induced, maintained and function. These studies help us understand why some responses are protective, whilst others are not or can even be harmful.



## Dr Carolyn Deal

**Branch Chief, Sexually Transmitted Diseases Branch, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, USA**

Carolyn D. Deal, Ph.D. is the Branch Chief of the Enteric and Sexually Transmitted Infections Branch, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIH, USA. She oversees the NIAID portfolio of grants and contracts in this area and includes product development of vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics. She works with a variety of organizations, including the World Health Organization, on a variety of public health concerns including the emergence of antimicrobial resistance. Prior to NIAID, she served as the Deputy Director for the Division of Bacterial Products, Office of Vaccines Research and Review, Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, US Food and Drug Administration and as a research Microbiologist at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research.



### **Professor Gordon Dougan**

**Director of the Infection Health Challenge area at Wellcome, UK**

F Med Sci FRS

Professor Dougan is an Emeritus Professor at Cambridge University and Director of the Infection Health Challenge area at Wellcome. He is an internationally recognised expert in vaccinology, global health and infections. He was Head of Pathogens at The Wellcome Sanger Institute (WTSI) for over a decade and worked in the pharmaceutical industry for part of his career. He is an expert on the molecular basis of infection with a strong emphasis on pathogenic mechanisms/immunity, genomics, disease tracking and antibiotic resistance.

Before moving to the WTSI he was the founding Director of the Centre for Molecular Microbiology and Infection at Imperial College London and a Professor of Biochemistry. He is a member of EMBO, a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences and a Fellow of the Royal Society. He has received awards nationally and internationally for his work, including the Albert B Sabin Gold Medal for his work on Affordable Vaccines. He received his B Sc and Ph.D. from the University of Sussex and conducted postdoctoral studies at the University of Washington (Seattle) in the laboratory of the Lasker Prize winner Stanley Falkow. During his work in industry developing novel vaccines at an internationally renowned multi-national company now part of GSK and is a founder of Microbiotica.



### **Dr Raches Ella**

**Chief Development Officer, Bharat Biotech, India**

Dr. Ella is the Chief Development Officer at Bharat Biotech. He leads Bharat's Global Product Development division focused on discovery and clinical development for vaccines and therapeutics. He also oversees medical, safety, and regulatory support for the entire pipeline, and external science and innovation. He is a physician by training, with an M.S in clinical research at Emory University. Following his post-doctoral fellowship at Johns Hopkins, he completed his MBA at Harvard Business School.



### **Mr Chinaza Ezirim**

**Clinical Project Manager, LimmaTech Biologics AG, Switzerland**

Chinaza Ezirim is the project lead for the Shigella program at LimmaTech Biologics, a biotechnology company based in Switzerland. Shigella is among the most common causes of severe diarrhoea and dysentery worldwide, especially among young children from lower resourced countries and travellers. Chinaza has been working in clinical trials for over 10 years and currently oversees the conduct of all the LimmaTech studies within the Shigella program.

**Dr Danilo Gomes Moriel****Senior Project Leader, GSK Vaccines Institute for Global Health, Italy**

Dr. Danilo Gomes Moriel is an inspirational and motivational leader driving multidisciplinary teams throughout innovative and breakthrough preventative solutions for most concerning antibiotic resistant threats, with more than 15 years of experience in designing vaccinology approaches based on proteomic, reverse and structural vaccinology and delivering key milestones for the development of broadly protective vaccines against several important human pathogens including Escherichia coli, non-typeable Haemophilus influenzae, Acinetobacter baumannii, Shigella flexneri, Shigella sonnei and, most recently, Strep A.

**Dr Cath Green****Head of Clinical Biomanufacturing Facility, Nuffield Department of Medicine, Oxford, UK**

Cath Green is an Associate Professor in the Wellcome Centre for Human Genetics at the University of Oxford where she also heads the Nuffield Department of Medicine's Clinical BioManufacturing Facility (CBF). The CBF is a GMP manufacturing site, producing sterile biological products under strict controls for use in early phase clinical trials within the university and for external clients. With a focus on vaccine manufacture the CBF has been instrumental in the delivery of more than 30 vaccines against diseases including influenza, zika, malaria, rabies, plague and ebola. In 2020 they manufactured the first batch of the Oxford AstraZeneca vaccine against COVID-19 for the UK trials and their mission remains to provide low cost, small scale manufacture of innovative medicinal products to support translation of researcher's ideas into clinical use.

**Professor Janet Hemingway****Founding Director, iiCON, UK****Professor of Tropical Medicine, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, UK**

CBE, FRS, DSc, PhD, BSc, NAS (Foreign Associate), FMedSci FRCP (Hon), FRES (Hon), FAAM

Janet Hemingway is Professor of Tropical Medicine at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM) and Founding Director of the Infection Innovation Consortium (iiCON). Responding to the growing challenge of infectious diseases, antimicrobial resistance, and emerging pandemics, iiCON brings together academic, industry, and clinical partners in a £170 million programme to transform the discovery and supply of much-needed anti-infectives and accelerate their journey to market.

Janet is a senior technical advisor on Neglected Tropical Diseases for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and has been PI on projects in excess of £370 million including the BMGF funded Innovative Vector Control Consortium, the ERDF funded Formulations programme and the BMGF funded Visceral Leishmaniasis Elimination programme. Professor Hemingway was appointed the Director of LSTM in 2001 and stepped down on 1st January 2019. She was awarded a CBE for services to the Control of Tropical Disease Vectors in 2012.



### **Dr Ibrahim Abdel-Messih Khalil**

**Faculty, Department of Global Health, University of Washington, USA**

Ibrahim had his medical training and training in Clinical Pediatrics at Cairo University. He has clinical experience at the Embaba Fever Hospital, the major infectious diseases hospital in Egypt where he was managing the Pediatric Infectious Diseases department. He started his medical research career after joining the staff of the U.S. Navy Medical Research Unit (NAMRU-3) in Cairo where, as a Clinical Epidemiologist, he participated in a number of enteric disease and enteric vaccine studies and co-directed the U.S. Military Tropical Medicine Course. During his twelve years at NAMRU-3, Ibrahim also served as a co-chair of the Institutional review Board (IRB). Ibrahim also participated in many Outbreak Investigations through the collaboration of US NAMRU-3 and the Egyptian Ministry of Health. In 2008, Ibrahim joined Novartis Vaccines and Diagnostics in Siena, Italy where he has been working on the development of Meningitis and Influenza Vaccines as a Senior Epidemiologist, before he joined the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in November 2012. Ibrahim also joined the faculty of the Global Health Department; University of Washington and he is focused on the Masters of Global Health program. Ibrahim is a member of many scientific societies and a reviewer in several medical journals. Ibrahim also serves as a consultant to the WHO Immunizations, Vaccines, and Biologicals Program.



### **Dr Deborah King**

**Vaccine Research Lead, Infectious disease prevention team, Wellcome Trust, UK**  
***BactiVac Management Oversight Board Member***

Deborah is the Vaccine Research Lead in the Infectious Disease Prevention team at Wellcome. She has a background in infectious diseases research having completed a PhD in Virology investigating HIV restriction factors Kings College London. In her postdoctoral research, she continued her work in HIV prevention characterizing primary viral replication models, immunogen design, and immunization strategies at Imperial College London. She moved to the IAVI Human immunology laboratory in 2015 where she managed a large program supporting early phase clinical trials of vaccine candidates for HIV, Ebola, and TB, and later directed a program of research focused on identifying signatures of viral control in an acute HIV infection cohort. Deborah joined the Wellcome Vaccines Priority Area in January 2020, and now leads Wellcome's vaccine research team, focusing on developing a new generation of affordable vaccines to reduce the threat of infectious diseases, and facilitate their implementation and impact in communities most affected. Her current work concentrates on improving feasibility of vaccine development, especially for products needed in LMIC's to combat infectious diseases and understanding protective immunity in target populations.



## Professor Cal MacLennan

***BactiVac Director, UK***

Senior Program Officer, Bacterial Vaccines, Global Health - Enteric & Diarrheal Diseases, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, USA

Senior Clinical Fellow and Group Leader, Jenner Institute, University of Oxford, UK

Professor of Vaccine Immunology, University of Birmingham, UK

Consultant Immunologist, Oxford University Hospitals, UK

Cal MacLennan, BactiVac Director, is Senior Program Officer for Bacterial Vaccines in the Enteric and Diarrheal Diseases (EDD) team at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The overall aims of the EDD team are to end diarrheal disease deaths in children under five years and to eliminate typhoid as a public health problem globally. His responsibilities focus on bacterial vaccine product development, specifically against Shigella, Typhoid and other Salmonellae. After qualifying in medicine from Oxford, he studied for a doctorate in neurosciences before developing an interest in infectious disease immunology. During his higher specialist training in clinical immunology, Prof MacLennan spent time at the Wellcome Trust Major Overseas Programmes in Kilifi, Kenya and then Blantyre, Malawi investigating immunity to invasive Salmonella disease, work which led to insights that could be translated into vaccine development. From 2010 to 2014, he was Head of the Exploratory Programme at the Novartis Vaccines Institute for Global Health, in Siena, Italy. There his programme developed new candidate vaccines against Salmonella, Shigella and meningococcus, and was involved in the development of the WHO-prequalified typhoid conjugate vaccine, TyphiBev.

Following a sabbatical at the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute, Prof MacLennan returned to Oxford in 2015 to the Jenner Institute, before moving to the Gates Foundation in 2017. His ongoing work at the Jenner Institute focuses on vaccine development against gonorrhoea. He is a consultant immunologist at Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and Professor of Vaccine Immunology at the University of Birmingham from where he directs the BactiVac Network. He sees bacterial vaccines as having huge potential for global health benefit and is excited about the opportunities that BactiVac has to advance this important area of vaccinology.



## Professor Alan McNally BSc PhD

**Professor in Microbial Evolutionary Genomics and Director of Institute of Microbiology and Infection, College of Medical and Dental Sciences, University of Birmingham, UK**

Alan McNally is a Professor in Microbial Genomics and works on the evolutionary genomics of pathogenesis and antimicrobial resistance in bacterial pathogens. Alan has also been funded by the European Union, Medical Research Council and Royal Society. Alan has a strong belief in the collaborative nature of genomics research with active collaborations in the UK, China, Germany, France, Vietnam, and the US.

During the COVID-19 outbreak, Alan was seconded to the Milton Keynes Lighthouse Lab as Infectious Disease lead at the Government's first flagship COVID-19 testing facility. Launched on 9 April 2020, the Milton Keynes Lighthouse Lab was the first of three Government 'mega-labs' to be set-up across the UK, vastly increasing testing capacity and allowing tens of thousands more patient samples to be processed each day.

**Dr Francesca Micoli**

Director of GVGH Innovation Academy & Senior Project Leader, GSK Vaccines Institute for Global Health, Italy

***BactiVac Management Oversight Board Member***

PhD in industrial organic chemistry awarded at the University of Florence, Italy, in 2006. From 2007 working in the field of vaccines, focusing her research on the development of effective and affordable vaccines for neglected diseases in impoverished communities. Involved in the development of vaccines against Salmonella Typhi, Salmonella Paratyphi A, non-typhoidal Salmonella, Shigella, Group A Streptococcus, klebsiella pneumoniae and Neisseria meningitidis.

She has been Technology Platform Head at GVGH, working on two main technology platforms, glycoconjugation and Generalised Modules for Membrane Antigens (GMMA). From April 2020, Senior Project Leader (at the moment leading the programs for vaccines development against Shigella and Klebsiella pneumoniae); from 2021 also Director of the Innovation Academy, focused on innovative technologies, e.g. nanoparticles, monoclonal antibodies, mRNA, adjuvants, alternative delivery systems. Author of more than 100 scientific publications and several patent applications, with many collaborations in place with academic and industrial partners. Board member of BactiVac.

**Dr Ankur Mutreja**

Global South Partnerships Lead, CEPI, UK

Honorary Senior Fellow, Department of Medicine, University of Cambridge, UK

Adjunct Professor, Kasturba Medical College, India

Adjunct Faculty, Christian Medical College, India

Adjunct Faculty, THSTI, India

***BactiVac Management Oversight Board Member***

Dr Ankur Mutreja is an experienced global health professional passionate about scientific innovation and strategic partnerships for making the world free of epidemics and pandemics. Dr Mutreja has worked in academic research (universities, research institutes), biotech industry (pharma, biotech) and public health (WHO and UN) in the area of vaccines, diagnostics and WASH for infectious disease, he brings extensive experience in identifying strategic partnerships and translating scientific research into tangible products or services for the best impact.

Currently leading CEPI's Global South Engagement portfolio, including country lead responsibility for India, he is responsible for designing and implementing a strategic roadmap to engage with LICs, LMICs and UMICs while integrating R&D, Manufacturing and Access plans of CEPI. Before CEPI, Dr Mutreja led a translational research team at the Department of Medicine, University of Cambridge and before Cambridge, as a Project Leader at the MSD-Wellcome Hilleman Laboratories (HL) and as an Advanced Marie Curie Fellow for bridging Academia and Industry at the Novartis Vaccines, Dr Mutreja made crucial input to the R&D and translation of several vaccines. With an excellent publication record, including in Nature and Science, Dr Mutreja is a Fellow of Royal Society of Biology and also serves in honorary and board positions at several reputed institutions and organizations around the world.

**Dr Matt O'Shea**

Consultant in Infectious Diseases and Clinical Microbiology & Senior Lecturer in Defence Pathology, University of Birmingham, UK

***BactiVac Management Oversight Board Member***

Dr Matt O'Shea is a military clinical academic at University of Birmingham, UK. He divides his time between providing clinical care and leading a programme of infection research. He is interested in a wide range of clinically important infections, their diagnosis, treatment, and prevention, and in particular the interaction between the human host and pathogens.

**Ms Rachel Park****Director, EuBiologics Co., Ltd, South Korea**

Ms. Rachel Park is a director in business development. Since she joined in EuBiologics in 2015, she led prequalification, commercialization, scale-up of its manufacturing facility and new product development in collaboration with Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, RIGHT Foundation and International Vaccine Institute. Under her supervision, EuBiologics has become the largest supplier of oral cholera vaccine to public markets shipping more than 110M doses worldwide. She is responsible for development of typhoid conjugate vaccine and multivalent meningococcal conjugate vaccine targeting public markets of low- and middle-income countries leveraging its platform technologies through public and private development partnership. She has a MSc in economics from London School of Economics and Political Science. She is currently a board member of Developing Countries Vaccine Manufacturers Network.

**Dr Chad Porter****Department Head, Translational and Clinical Research, Naval Medical Research Command, USA**

Chad Porter received his BS in Clinical Laboratory Science from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill in 1999, his MPH from George Washington University in 2004 and his PhD in epidemiology also from George Washington University in 2011. He is currently the Department Head of Translational and Clinical Research Department at the Naval Medical Research Command where he oversees the conduct of epidemiologic research studies and early phase clinical trials to evaluate primary and secondary prevention strategies for infectious diseases affecting deployed military populations. These studies include first-in-human trials of subunit, live-attenuated and conjugate vaccines and non-vaccine products to assess safety as well as expanded phase 1/2 trials to obtain expanded safety and immunogenicity data. As part of those product development efforts, he is actively involved in the use and assessment of controlled human infection models to improve understanding of host response to infection and to assess the efficacy of products targeting primary prevention. He is also involved in multiple field studies in travel populations that are designed to inform clinical practice guidelines on infectious disease treatment and management as well as to guide product acquisition strategies for the US military. Additionally, he is actively engaged in conducting studies on the epidemiology and acute/chronic morbidity associated with infectious diseases to inform primary prevention strategies.

**Dr Adrian Shields****Clinical Lecturer in Immunology, University of Birmingham, UK  
*BactiVac Management Oversight Board Member***

Dr Adrian Shields is a clinical immunologist interested in understanding the mechanisms that protect us from infections and how those systems fail in individuals with primary and secondary immunodeficiencies.



**Professor Andreas Sing**

**Specialist in Microbiology and Infection Epidemiology, Bavarian State Office for Health and Food Safety (LGL), Germany MD PhD MA DTM&H**

Professor Andreas Sing studied human medicine at Albert-Ludwigs-University in Freiburg/Germany and at UMass Medical School, Worcester, MA/USA as well as sociology and political sciences at Albert-Ludwigs-University in Freiburg/Germany. He finished his MD thesis in pathology (Freiburg) and his PhD thesis in sociology at the University of Augsburg/Germany.

After a post-doctoral fellowship (1993-1996) at the the Max Planck Institute of Immunobiology in the LPS –Innate Immunity group of Chris Galanos (Freiburg/Germany) he specialized in Medical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases Epidemiology at the Max von Pettenkofer Institute of the Ludwig-Maximilians-University in Munich/Germany where he had his own research group on LcrV-Yersinia innate immunity. After his habilitation in 2006 he worked at the Bavarian Health & Food Safety Authority in Oberschleissheim (near Munich).

Currently he is Head of the Bavarian Institute of Health II and of the Dept. of Public Health Microbiology (PHM) responsible for the PHM laboratories for the State of Bavaria. He is Head of the German Consiliary Laboratory on Diphtheria (since 2007) and Vice Head of the German National Reference Laboratory on Borrelia (since 2008). Since 2016 he is responsible for the EUPHEM and EPIET Training Sites (ECDC) at LGL. Since 2011 he is an associate professor at the Medical Faculty of the Ludwig-Maximilians-University in Munich. He has (co-)authored more than 300 articles, among them more than 210 in peer-reviewed journals. He is editor of the book “Zoonoses - Infections Affecting Humans and Animals. Focus on Public Health Aspects“, published in its second edition in 2023.

**Professor Andrew Steer**

**Royal Children’s Hospital, Melbourne, Australia  
Murdoch Children’s Research Institute, Australia  
Professorial Research Fellow, University of Melbourne, Australia**

Professor Andrew Steer is a paediatric infectious diseases physician at the Royal Children’s Hospital Melbourne; Director of the Infection and Immunity Theme, and Group Leader of the Tropical Diseases Research Group, at the Murdoch Children’s Research Institute; and

Professorial Research Fellow at the University of Melbourne. Andrew is also Co-Director of the Australian Strep A Vaccine Initiative, Co-Chair of the Strep A Vaccine Global Consortium and President of the Lancefield International Society for Streptococci and Streptococcal Diseases; as well as being a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences. Andrew’s research is focussed on tropical diseases, particularly scabies, Strep A and rheumatic heart disease.

**Dr Germie van den Dobbelsteen**

Senior Director of Immunology of Bacterial Vaccines, Janssen Vaccines and Prevention, The Netherlands

Germie van den Dobbelsteen, Ph.D. is a Senior Director Immunology of Bacterial Vaccines at Janssen Vaccines & Prevention B.V. in Leiden, the Netherlands. Her research focuses on vaccine development against bacterial infections to fight AMR. Currently she and her team are working on ExPEC and *S. aureus* vaccine candidates, developing humoral and cellular immunological assays and animal models, performing in vivo immunogenicity and challenge studies and measurement of samples from clinical studies. Before joining Janssen (2011), Germie worked at the Netherlands Vaccine Institute (NVI) and the Dutch National Public Health Institute and the Environment (RIVM), in Bilthoven, The Netherlands on the development of meningococcal, pneumococcal and pertussis vaccines (1996-2011). Dr Van den Dobbelsteen obtained her Ph.D. at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam on the mucosal immune response against pneumococcal polysaccharide in 1994 and followed up with a post-doc position for two years on an EU funded project.

**Professor Balaji Veeraraghavan**

Professor in Clinical Bacteriology, Christian Medical College, India  
*BactiVac Network Advisory Board Member*

Prof Balaji Veeraraghavan MD FRCP PhD is a Professor and the Hilda Lazarus Core Research Chair at Christian Medical College & Hospital, Fellow of global infectious disease at NIH, USA, Fellow of Tufts Medical Centre, Boston, United States. He is the advisor for emerging bacterial infectious disease and antimicrobial resistance surveillance for World Health Organization South-East Asia Region. He is a member of steering committee for AMS Hamied Foundation UK-India AMR Scientific group. His research includes molecular-resistance surveillance of clinically important multi-drug resistant pathogens, epidemiology of drug resistant pathogens, evaluation of in vitro activity of newer antibiotics against resistant pathogens, conducting experimental pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamics (PK/PD) studies, pathogen genomic surveillance and evolution, antimicrobial resistance in vaccine preventable disease, metagenomics to develop rapid diagnosis, and outbreak investigation and management. He has a track record of over 375 peer reviewed publications and a multidisciplinary team of more than postdoctoral researchers in translating laboratory findings to clinical implementation.