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Brief Back Ground Information:

Graduated in 1983 as doctor in Veterinary Medicine at the University of Ghent. He is Full professor, director of the Laboratory of Immunology and chairman of the department Virology, Parasitology, Immunology. He is also promotor of Provaxs, a consortium of university laboratoria aiming to valorise research on prophylaxis and vaccine development using as a base new insights in host-pathogen interaction.

The main research topic is the intestinal mucosal immune system of pigs and its activation. An oral F4 immunisation model is used to evaluate mucosal immune mechanisms, to analyse the effect of potential oral delivery systems and adjuvants and to develop new immunisation strategies. One of the potential oral adjuvants, extensively studied, are β glucans for which interaction with immune cells is studied and targeting of yeast ghost cells carrying antigen to the mucosal immune system is optimized. Other research topics are the immune response and vaccination against F18 verotoxigenic *E. coli*, *Toxoplasma gondii* and *Chlamydia trachomatis* in pigs and the host-pathogen interaction and immune response against enterohemorrhagic *E. coli* in sheep and calves. More recently the mechanism of food allergy in dogs is and desensitisation are studied.

Eric Cox is author or co-author of more than 215 A1 publications and 6 book chapters and has given more than 110 oral presentations on international and national meetings.