



**pasteur**  
*vaccins*



1986

1987

1988

# RETROVIRUSES OF HUMAN A.I.D.S. AND RELATED ANIMAL DISEASES

“COLLOQUE DES CENT GARDES”

27-28-29 OCTOBRE 1988

MARNES-LA-COQUETTE / PARIS - FRANCE

# 3<sup>e</sup> COLLOQUE DES « CENT GARDES »

RÉTROVIRUSES  
OF HUMAN A.I.D.S.  
AND RELATED ANIMAL DISEASES

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27-28-29 OCTOBRE 1988  
MARNES-LA-COQUETTE / PARIS FRANCE

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EDITED BY  
MARC GIRARD, LOUIS VALETTE

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*This volume has been edited by*  
Odile Robert, a Medical Journalist

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# Opening

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*Mes Chers Amis,*

*Dans ce cadre historique des Cent Gardes, en ouvrant ce 3<sup>e</sup> Colloque sur les rétrovirus, je voudrais rappeler les activités parallèles de la Fondation Marcel Mérieux au bord du lac d'Annecy.*

*Après la rencontre « Hépatite-SIDA, même combat », nous avons organisé sous la présidence de Carlos Chagas et de Jonathan Mann un colloque original « Sida : Épidémies et sociétés ».*

*C'était sous le parrainage de la Fondation Universitaire des Sciences et Techniques du Vivant où nous bénéficions de la collaboration de Pierre Douzou et de François Jacob.*

*Notre confrère le Docteur Nicole Coudurier en a profité pour présenter la Sérothèque qui va bientôt être opérationnelle dans les locaux du Centre de Transfusion d'Annemasse. Commenant notre activité par la conservation de sérums SIDA positifs, nous sommes à la disposition de nos collègues pour apporter notre modeste contribution à l'Épidémiologie et à la Sérologie des rétroviroses.*

*Mais c'est chaque année un plaisir renouvelé que de recevoir ici, tous les meilleurs spécialistes du monde entier et de revivre ces conférences dans ce compte rendu que leur aimable coopération permet de publier.*

*Docteur Charles MÉRIEUX*

## “ We must work ”

*For the third consecutive year, here we are, gathered once again to discuss the same theme. Therefore, my first feeling this morning is one of great happiness to meet with you again and on this occasion I wish to welcome you to this conference room, which has become customary and also to thank you for your presence which is strongly encouraging for us.*

*However, a feeling, if not of disappointment, but more of worryness, assails us when we see the slow progression of our results of this past year. In fact, all of the findings, recently published, take the same direction and unfortunately confirm that the various approaches conducted in view of a vaccine do not give chimpanzee protection : the neutralizing antibodies are obtained at much too slow a rate and could be “ facilitating ” in vivo. Moreover, the cellular response, even if interesting in vitro, is not yet ready to block infection.*

*I have the feeling that we are settled into a war of the trenches “ The Verdun of AIDS ”, “ Le Verdun du SIDA ”, where patience and courage will be amongst the necessary qualities to finally fight this virus not yet conquered. And to continue with military language, the strategy of the military staff will have to involve an increase of men and money means, an engagement of all available weapons, a deployment of pluridisciplinary armies, and, finally, the mobilisation and reinforcement of enthusiastic young troupes.*

*The paradox is the following : although the AIDS virus was promptly isolated and identified, its gene quickly cloned and sequenced, a protective vaccine has not been achieved.*

*This case is strictly the opposite of the story of the rabies vaccine which contributed so much to the glory of Pasteur. In 1882, Louis Pasteur isolated the virus on a cow affected with rabies and he promptly obtained the first strain of fixed virus, “ The Louis Pasteur strain ”. Two years later, in 1884, the vaccine was achieved and then administered to the young J. Meister for the first time in 1885. But the virus itself was not visualized with an electronmicroscope until 1962. Finally, it was only in 1986, one century later, that a team of scientists from Pasteur Institute, published the first genomic sequence of one of the rabies viral strains.*

*If it is true that knowledge progresses faster today than it did during the century of Pasteur, the delay between discoveries and applications has not always been reduced despite present scientific revolutions.*

*What a lesson... ! Let us keep in mind the one Louis Pasteur repeatedly gave to his collaborators : “ we must work ”... “ il faut travailler ”. He had made it his motto. Some even thought to perceive some resignation in this message. But it was not the case. In fact, it was because Pasteur only believed in reason, logic and perseverance.*

*Therefore, I would not want to conclude by leaving you with a feeling of discouragement but on the contrary one of hope and faith in this work that you continue to accomplish with dedication. These three days will give us the opportunity to assess the results of your work and, because you are the heirs of a long humanist tradition, I know very well that you will apply wisdom, “ this wisdom ” about which Spinoza stated that it “ must never become a meditation about death but, above all, remain a meditation about life ”.*

*Jeanne-Marie Lecomte  
Président-Directeur Général  
de Pasteur Vaccins*

## Introduction

*No research has ever progressed as rapidly as that on AIDS. We are already as familiar with this virus, isolated only 5 years ago, as with the first viruses ever identified. For the first time, it has been possible to study a viral disease in a totally new manner, using molecular biology. That is why this new discipline plays such an important part in this third Conference, as in the preceding ones.*

*However much we may know about the virus, the disease has not yet been fully defined, nor jugulated. Cellular and humoral immune responses are therefore becoming more and more important as research subjects, and work is now being extended by studies on the importance of the role of macrophages in this infection.*

*However, immunotherapy and prevention are two areas in which progress has been much slower than expected. The chapter on "clinical trials" shows, alas, that the efficacy of none of the vaccines discussed during the first two conferences has yet been formally demonstrated.*

*One point is encouraging however : that is the lack of barriers evident in all fields of this battle against AIDS : between University and private laboratory researchers, between laboratories dedicated to animal research (animal models for AIDS), and those concerned with Public Health, and between researchers from different countries.*

*The third "Cent Gardes" Conference has been organized with the aim of encouraging such collaboration and exchanges of ideas.*

Marc GIRARD

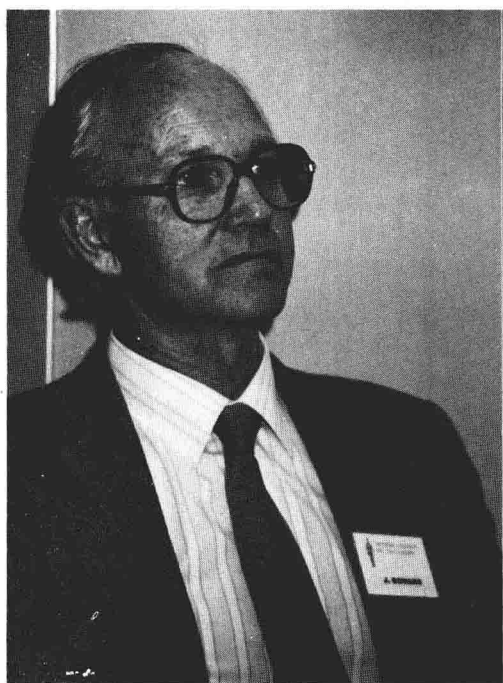
Louis VALETTE



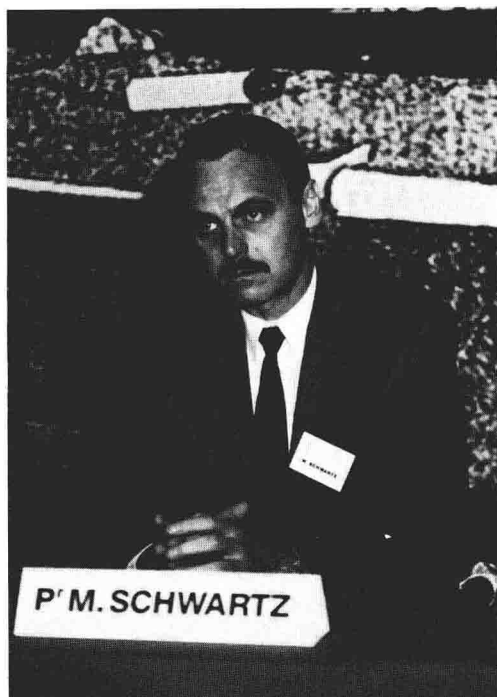
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# Visages

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James GOWANS



M. SCHWARTZ



Mme J.-M. Lecomte, M. Schwartz, C. Mérieux, M. Girard.



Zeda ROSENBERG



John M. LEONARD



Kent J. WEINHOLD



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Jane A. McKEATING



Beatrice H. HAHN



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B. Matija PETERLIN



Jean-Paul LEVY



Alain CHARBIT



Alexandra LEVINE

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