

Willem van Eden

Professor of Immunology, Utrecht University, the Netherlands.

Willem van Eden is the head of the immunology division of the department of Infectious Diseases and Immunology in Utrecht. The research of the immunology division is oriented towards fundamental and applied aspects of vaccines. The fundamental aspects are

targeted to antigen processing, epitope selection and T cell responses. Immuno-regulation is studied with respect to development of immuno-modulatory vaccines for chronic inflammatory diseases. NK cells are studied as part of innate immune responses. The applied aspects are including development of assays for measuring immunological safety of vaccines. Van Eden is member of Health Council of the Netherlands (Gezondheidsraad), which advises the minister with respect to the national vaccination programme and member of the ECDC Scientific Advisory Panel on Vaccines and Immunisation (EVAG, ECDC Stockholm). He is in the Scientific advisory board of Mucosis BV (mucosal vaccination) and the Biomedical Primate Centre (BPRC) in Rijswijk. He was coordinator of 4 EU research programs (FP4-6) in the area of vaccines, infectious diseases and chronic inflammation. He is founder and CSO of Trajectum Pharma BV (immunomodulatory vaccines autoimmune diseases).

He has received a Royal Society 'Bruno Mendel' Fellowship Award (London) and the Prix G. Zambon Benelux (Bruxelles) for outstanding research in the field of Immunology of infectious diseases. He is receiving Editor for Cell Stress & Chaperones: Stress and Immunity Section Editor (Int. Journal of Stress Biology and Medicine) and FEMS Pathogens and Disease (Wiley). He is advisor for Progress in Inflammation Research (Birkhauser Verlag). He is author of more than 200 scientific papers of which "Cloning of the mycobacterial epitope recognised by T lymphocytes in adjuvant arthritis", Nature 1988, 331: 171-73 was in 1989 and 1990 among the top-100 most cited papers worldwide in the Life Sciences. [Garfield, Current Contents 48 (1990), 5-19].

His key areas of interest are correlates of vaccine protection, immuno-regulation and safety of vaccination. He has pioneered the area of stress proteins (heat shock proteins) and their use for immuno-regulatory (peptide) vaccines.

Willem van Eden, MD, PhD, was trained in immunology at Leiden University (1978-1983) and at the Weizmann Institute in Israel (1983-1985). He received specialty training in medical microbiology at Utrecht University (1988-1992). Currently he is professor of Immunology at the faculty of Veterinary Medicine of Utrecht University which is incorporated in Utrecht Life Sciences.