



Luc Montagnier

Luc Montagnier has spent most of his scientific career in the study of viruses associated with chronic diseases. Among his achievements are the isolation, with his French team, of the viruses known as HIV 1 and HIV2, the first description of the apoptotic state of lymphocytes from patients with AIDS and seminal observations on the role of infectious cofactors in the disease. Besides his involvement in the design of new types of protective and therapeutic AIDS vaccines, his current studies are aimed at the diagnosis and treatment of microbial and viral factors associated with cancers, neuro-degenerative and auto-immune diseases. As a strong advocate of preventive medicine, he is especially concerned with prolonging the active life of aging people. Beyond his scientific interest in his deep involvement with helping developing countries acquire knowledge of and access to modern medicine and preventive medicine. As President of the World Foundation for Aids Research and Prevention, he has co-founded two centers for the prevention, treatment, research and diagnosis of AIDS patients in the Ivory Coast and Cameroon. In 2008, he has been awarded the Nobel Prize for Physiology and Medicine.