

Avian Metapneumoviruses: What we know and what we do not

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Paul has been working with Avian Metapneumoviruses (AMPV) and Avian Coronaviruses (AvCoVs) since 2003. Early in his career, he was at the University of Liverpool and fortunate enough to be part of the team that developed the first reverse genetics system for the genus metapneumoviruses. Later, research focused on generating precisely modified AMPVs to help better understand the molecular basis of virus pathogenicity and attenuation. In 2012 he joined the OIE reference lab for AMPVs at ANSES ploufragan France and now leads this group for research on AMPVs and AvCoVs. Currently his groups research is focused on evaluating the species barrier and the molecular basis of this for these viruses. He also has several ongoing projects on the genetic evolution of AMPVs and AvCoVs using novel bioinformatics tools that have been developed to facilitate the analysis of virus populations and variants from deep sequencing data.

Paul is a group leader of experts for the DISCONTTOOLS database which provides research and diagnostic gap analysis on avian and porcine coronaviruses and a study group member for the international committee on taxonomy of viruses (ICTV) concerning the family Pneumoviridae.