

2020

**Launch of the HUB VPH
Lyon Veterinary Public Health Initiative.**

VETERINARY PUBLIC HEALTH

- **60%** of existing human infectious diseases originate from animals
- **+200** known diseases from animals pose a severe threat to human and animal health
- **20%** = loss of global animal production due to infectious diseases
- **+ \$ 200** (1995-2008): global economic impact of epizootics

The fight against animal epidemics is a major challenge for governments around the world. It is based on close collaboration between the different actors: governments, health authorities /international organizations, veterinarians, breeders, vaccine industry.

2001

Inauguration in Gerland of the **global cluster for surveillance and alert for infectious, emerging or epidemiological diseases (reporting to WHO, World Health Organization)**. Lyon coordinates European networks (ex VIRGIL network).



1983

Rhône-Poulenc merges its veterinary activities and creates Rhône-Mérieux.

1968

Rhône-Poulenc acquires 51% of the Institut Mérieux.

1963

Creation of BioMérieux.

1957

IFFA prepares the first polio vaccines using the Lépine technique (inactivated vaccine). Launch in 1958.

1952

Creation of the National Laboratory of Bovine Pathology (LNBP): **Lyon capital of cattle vaccine controls**. In a period marked by the last foot-and-mouth disease epizootic in France, with more than 350,000 declared cases, the National Laboratory of Bovine Pathology supports the activity of the Central Veterinary Research Laboratory (LCRV) of the Ministry of agriculture, located in Maisons-Alfort since 1905. Today ANSES.



1999

Inauguration of the **BSL-4 Laboratory in the presence of President Jacques Chirac**. The Laboratoire P4 "Jean Mérieux – INSERM", a research center for viruses unique in Europe, is created by Fondation Mérieux and Institut Pasteur. The name BSL-4 Lab (Class 4 pathogen) refers to **very dangerous pathogenic microorganisms** (Ebola, Lassa...) for humans, which incurs deadly risks to the personnel who handle them. Extension in 2015.



1997

Creation of Merial by Rhône-Poulenc and Merck/MSD.

1977

The Institut Mérieux exports 200 million doses of foot-and-mouth disease vaccine worldwide.



1967

Creation of the Mérieux Foundation, which pursues the Lyon tradition of clinical biology and fight against infectious diseases in developing countries.

1962

Institut Mérieux creates the French Institute of Virology and then the French Institute of Immunology. **Laboratories «without borders» between the two medicines.**



1953

Charles Mérieux and Jonas Salk invent the term **vaccinology**, industrialize modern virology, enable large-scale production of animal and human vaccines (polio, mumps, etc.) and develop the first vaccine against meningococcal meningitis.

1950

First production of foot-and-mouth virus according to the FRENKEL method on lingual epithelium. Rapidly a 500-liter culture allows the production of homologous virus for the treatment of 1,000 cattle.



1949

Inauguration of IFFA in the presence of the President and Mayor of Lyon, Edouard Hérisson.



1947

Charles Mérieux creates the IFFA (French Foot-and-Mouth Disease Institute). This is the **beginning of industrial virology with the large-scale human and animal vaccines production**.



1926

Marcel Mérieux is authorized to prepare **serum against foot-and-mouth disease** in Marcy-L'Étoile.



1906-1928

Construction of the Mouche slaughterhouses in the Gerland district by architect Tony Garnier.



1897

Marcel Mérieux, former student of Louis Pasteur, creates the Mérieux Institute (bacteriological institute of Lyon), **one of the first French biological institutes dedicated to the production of vaccines** (rabies, cholera...).



1761

Claude Bourgelat founds in Lyon the first veterinary school in the world.

