



Désiré COLLEN

Curriculum vitae, October 2025

Personal Data

Gender: male
Place and date of birth: Sint-Truiden, Belgium, June 21, 1943
Married to: Reniers Louisa, July 14, 1966
Children: An (°1968), Peter (°1971), Christine (°1972)
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Education

1968: Doctor in Medicine (MD), KULeuven, Belgium
1974: PhD in Chemistry, KULeuven, Belgium

Residencies and Research Fellowships

1968-1971: Resident Internal Medicine, University Hospitals KULeuven, Belgium
1971-1972: Associate Research Scientist, New York University Medical Center, NY, USA
1972-1973: NATO Research Fellow, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden

Appointments within the University of Leuven

1973-1976: Aangesteld Navorsers NFWO, KULeuven, Belgium
1976-1981: Docent, Faculty of Medicine, KULeuven, Belgium
1981-1998: Professor ("Gewoon hoogleraar"), Faculty of Medicine, KULeuven, Belgium
1990-2008: Director of the Center for Molecular and Vascular Biology
Faculty of Medicine, KULeuven, Belgium
1998-2002: Extraordinary Professor ("Buitengewoon hoogleraar"),
Faculty of Medicine, KULeuven, Belgium (*)
2002-2008: Professor ("Gewoon hoogleraar"), Faculty of Medicine, KULeuven, Belgium

Appointments outside the University of Leuven

1984-2005: Professor of Biochemistry and Medicine,
University of Vermont College of Medicine, Burlington, VT, USA
1987-1994: Visiting Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA
1994-2008: Director of the Center for Transgene Technology and Gene Therapy
(renamed Vesalius Research Center)
Vlaams Interuniversitair Instituut voor Biotechnologie (VIB), Leuven, Belgium

Appointments in University Hospitals

1976-1998: Adjunct Head of Clinic, University Hospitals, KULeuven, Belgium
1987-2005: Consultant in Medicine, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA, USA
1999-2002: Visiting Professor, Division of Surgery and Anaesthesia,
Guy's, King's and St. Thomas' School of Medicine, London, UK

(*) Resigned temporarily from the KULeuven staff to develop ThromboGenics, Inc and ThromboGenics, NV

Other Appointments

- 1976-2001: Division Head, Protein Research Division,
Leuven Research and Development, VZW, KULeuven, Belgium
1988-2007: Statutory Chairman of the D. Collen Research Foundation, VZW
1991-2007: Chairman of the Board of Thromb-X, NV
1998-2006: CEO and Chairman, ThromboGenics, Ltd. Ireland
2006-2008: CEO and Chairman, ThromboGenics, NV, Belgium
2007-2019 : Statutory Chairman of Life Sciences Research Partners, VZW
(previously D. Collen Research Foundation, VZW)
2008-2013: Chairman of the Board of ThromboGenics, NV
2013-2019 : Founder and Chairman of CoBioRes NV
2015-2018: Founder and Chairman of Fund⁺ (www.fundplus.be)
2018- : Honorary Chairman of Fund⁺

Awards and Honors

- 1984: Francqui Prize, Belgium
1986: Prix Louis Jeantet de Médecine (Fondation L. Jeantet), Geneva, Switzerland
1994: Bristol-Myers-Squibb Award for Cardiovascular Research, New York, NY, USA
(jointly with M. Verstraete)
2005: Health Prize of the Interbrew-Baillet Latour Fund, Belgium
(jointly with P. Carmeliet)
2007: Harvard Leadership Prize by the Harvard Club of Belgium
2009: Insead Innovator Prize
2011: Robert P. Grant Medal (International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis)
2012: Hereditary nobility status (personal title of Baron) awarded by his majesty King
Albert II of Belgium
2013: Ereburger (Honorary Citizen) of Sint-Truiden, Belgium
2013: Lifetime Achievement Award Belcham, New York, NY, USA
2013: Lifetime Achievement Award Scrip, London, UK
2014: Alumnus of the Year 2014, Alfagen KULeuven
2022: Lifetime Achievement Presentation Belgian Society Cell and Development Biology

Honorary Doctorates

- 1988: Erasmus University, Rotterdam, the Netherlands
1994: Free University of Brussels (VUB), Brussels, Belgium
1995: University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN, USA
1999: Université de la Méditerranée, Marseille, France

Research Areas

Molecular biology and pathophysiology of haemostasis and thrombosis
Development of new thrombolytic and antithrombotic agents
Translational research on drug development

Research Output

The scientific output of D. Collen between 1968 and 2008 consists of approximately 650 peer-reviewed research papers (in international journals), 170 survey articles and 28 issued US patents. These publications have been cited over 80,000 times, resulting in a H-index of 146.