

Timo Vesikari
Tampere University
Vaccine Research Center

SHORT BIOGRAPHY

Professor Timo Vesikari, MD, PhD, is the Director of Vaccine Research Center at the Tampere University. His previous positions with the University include Professor of Pediatrics (1981–1987) and Professor of Virology (1991–2012).

Professor Vesikari is a specialist in pediatric infectious diseases with particular research interest in virology and viral vaccines. His research work has significantly contributed to the introduction of rotavirus vaccine into childhood vaccination programs worldwide. Timo Vesikari has worked with World Health Organization in 1988–1990 and been a member of many WHO committees over the years. He has published over 350 peer reviewed articles and co-edited a textbook on Pediatric Vaccines and Vaccinations (published 2017).

The Vaccine Research Center of the Tampere University, founded by Professor Vesikari, has conducted many pivotal vaccine trials leading to the licensure and implementation of several vaccines in addition to rotavirus vaccines. These include single and combined varicella vaccines, live attenuated influenza vaccine, adjuvanted non-live influenza vaccine, pneumococcal conjugate vaccines, new hexavalent infant vaccines, meningococcal ACWY and B vaccines, and herpes zoster vaccines. Professor Vesikari's current research interest is development of norovirus vaccines.