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EDITORIAL

Meet our new editor



Professor Bart CJM Fauser MD PhD completed his medical training at Nijmegen University in the Netherlands in 1979, defended his PhD on male reproductive function in 1985, and completed his residency training in Obstetrics and Gynaecology in 1986, both also in Nijmegen. He subsequently started as assistant professor at the Dijkzigt University Hospital in Rotterdam,

but was allowed to leave to take up a Fullbright post-doctoral fellowship at the University of California at San Diego, USA, under the guidance of Professor Aaron JW Hsueh in 1987–1988. There his long-standing fascination with the biology of reproduction began, especially with translational studies concerning the (patho)-physiology of human ovarian function. Upon his return to Rotterdam he was appointed associate professor. He could not resist, however, the temptation of working again under the inspiring leadership of Professor Hsueh, who had moved to Stanford University Medical School, California, as a visiting professor in 1993–1994. After his return to Rotterdam, Bart was also appointed visiting professor at the Free University Brussels, Belgium, where he started yet another long-standing friendship and collaboration with Professors André van Steirteghem and Paul Devroey. Bart was appointed full professor, division director and head of the Center of Reproductive Medicine at the Erasmus University in Rotterdam in 1997. In 2004 he accepted the position of Chair of the Division of Woman & Baby (including the departments of Reproductive Medicine & Gynaecology, Obstetrics, Neonatology and Immunology laboratories) at the University Medical Center, Utrecht, The Netherlands.

His research interests over almost three decades have covered areas including residual ovarian activity during steroid contraception, ovarian dysfunction, polycystic ovary syndrome and its implications for fertility and general health, premature ovarian failure and its female health implications, ovarian stimulation using exogenous FSH, and developing mild approaches in IVF. He has published close to 400 peer-reviewed papers (in journals including *The Lancet*, the *New England Journal of Medicine*, *Nature Genetics*, *Endocrine*

Reviews and many others) and he is currently one of the most cited authors in reproductive medicine. Bart is also a visiting professor in Southampton (UK), Siena (Italy), and Adelaide (Australia). Later this year he will be appointed as fellow *ad eundem* of the Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (UK).

Bart is active both nationally and internationally and has acted as chair of the special interest group reproductive endocrinology of ESHRE and chair of the special interest group in reproductive medicine of the Dutch Society of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (NVOG), appointed to both during the 1990s. Currently he acts as chair of the World Health Organisation (WHO) steering committee responsible for the development of infertility guidelines and as member of the board of the Dutch Counsel for Medical Research (ZonMW).

Bart has been a member of the editorial board of *Fertility & Sterility*, the *Journal of Clinical Embryology and Metabolism*, *Reproductive Sciences*, and most importantly acted as Editor-in-Chief of *Human Reproduction Update* from 2000–2006. He involved many of his international peers and friends in the journal as associate editors and during those years the journal realized a remarkable rise in impact factor, to become the number one journal in the research field of obstetrics and gynaecology. Bart certainly felt the excitement then of taking over this position from the founding editor Bob Edwards and he always felt Bob's friendly eye looking over his shoulder. Bart is thrilled to be yet again following in Bob's footsteps. In his own words: "*RBMONline* has developed into a lively journal that has established for itself a solid position in a very competitive global field. The journal has a special flavour, focusing more on innovation and moving the field of reproductive medicine forward rather than predominantly emphasizing the evidence-based evaluation of existing treatments. This is the balance I like, and I am looking forward to helping to shape the future of reproductive medicine and to serve as your Editor for the upcoming years. I would welcome comments or suggestions from the readership to b.c.fauser@umcutrecht.nl."

Bart CJM Fauser

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