

Bart Staels, PhD
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Bart Staels, PhD., is Full Professor, University of Lille, France. He is director of the Inserm Unit UMR 1011 with laboratories on the campus of the Institut Pasteur de Lille and the Research Pole of the University of Lille, Lille, France.

Pr. Staels earned his doctorate at the Institute for Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Leuven, Belgium. He completed postdoctoral work at the Metabolic Research Unit, University of California, San Francisco and was postdoctoral research fellow of the Reverse Cholesterol Transport/Atherosclerosis Project, BioAvenir, Vitry sur Seine, France.

Pr. Staels is a member of several learned societies such as the European Atherosclerosis Society, the International Atherosclerosis Society (Distinguished Fellow), the Nouvelle Société Française d'Athérosclérose, the Société Française de Diabète and European Association for the Study of Diabetes. He is past-president of the Nouvelle Société Française d'Athérosclérose (NSFA; 2009-2011).

Pr. Staels is also co-founder of the biopharmaceutical company Genfit SA, and president of its Scientific Advisory Board. He is co-founder and board member of the European Genomic Institute for Diabetes (EGID).

He was appointed European corresponding member of the National Academy of Pharmacy in June 2011; Senior Member of the Institut Universitaire de France (2011-16) and received the International Francqui Professor Chair in 2013.

Pr Staels has been awarded the Young Investigator Award of the European Atherosclerosis Society, the Bronze Medal of the CNRS, the Lifetime Achievement Award of the British Atherosclerosis Society, the pharmaceutical “Barré” 207 prize from the Faculté de Pharmacie of Montreal (2007), the French “JP Binet” prize from the Fondation pour la Recherche Médicale (2011), the “Distinguished Leader in Insulin Resistance” award from the International Committee for Insulin Resistance (ICIR; 2012) and the Laurens van Deenen lecture award at the International Conference on the Bioscience of Lipids (ICBL; 2017).

Pr. Staels' research focuses on molecular pharmacology of cardiovascular and metabolic diseases, including dyslipidemia and type 2 diabetes. He particularly studies the role of nuclear receptors (such as the PPARs, FXR, Rev-erba and RORα) in the control of inflammation and lipid and glucose homeostasis as well as the transcriptional mechanisms involved. Pr. Staels was among the first to identify a crucial role for the nuclear receptor PPARα in the control of lipid and glucose metabolism as well as cardiovascular function in humans. He elucidated the action mechanism of the fibrate class of drugs used in the treatment of lipid disorders and worked also on the action mechanism of the glitazones, a class of anti-diabetic drugs. His work has identified the PPAR transcription factors as potential drug targets for the treatment of diabetes, dyslipidemia, cardiovascular disease and NAFLD, which contributed to the development of several novel therapeutic compounds, two of which (elafibranor and pemafibrate) are currently in phase III of clinical development.

To date, Pr. Staels has published more than 890 papers, including 210 review articles, and several book chapters.

He received the ISI citations award (citation number of 53427; h-index factor of 119 and average citation of 60/article). Based on the French 2007 Necker Institute dossier, Pr.Staels was between 2000-2005 among the 35 french researchers with the highest publication volume.

Pr. Staels is also reviewer for numerous international journals and has been invited speaker at many prestigious international meetings, including the IAS, AHA, ADA and IDF. He contributed to the organization of congresses such as the “International Symposia on PPARs”, the NSFA annual congress and was chairman the 2007 and 2012 Keystone Symposia on “Metabolic Syndrome” and “Genetic and Molecular Basis of Obesity and Body Weight Regulation”.