

# VitamFero further strengthens its leadership team with the appointment of its new Research Director

*Her arrival will make it possible to accelerate the company's R&D programs aiming to reduce antibiotic use in livestock and tackle avian influenza*

ANGERS, FRANCE, February 16, 2017 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [VitamFero](http://VitamFero.com), a French veterinary biotechnology company specialized in creating and developing innovative prophylactic solutions, is announcing the arrival of Dr. Sophie Barreteau, PhD, as Research Director.

While the company is embarking on a new phase in its growth, this appointment is part of its drive to further strengthen its resources and organization. This year, it aims to continue building on and confirm a series of proofs of concept aligned with major needs that are not currently met, while continuing to move forward with the downstream development phases for VitamFero's products with a view to their registration from 2020. The R&D programs developed by VitamFero notably aim to reduce antibiotic use for livestock, through the production of neonatal immunostimulants, and to offer next-generation vaccines, including a promising vaccine for avian influenza.

Sophie Barreteau brings to VitamFero her experience gained in leading animal health laboratories, as well as her preclinical and clinical research management, quality management and R&D financing expertise. Her mission will be to develop and capitalize on VitamFero's technological platform, enabling new candidate products to emerge and helping drive their development.

With a doctorate in biology from Université François-Rabelais de Tours, Sophie Barreteau has nearly 20 years' experience in the veterinary pharmaceutical industry.

After starting off her career in 1998 in the Netherlands at Intervet International's Boxmeer site, she joined Merck Animal Health's French R&D center in Angers as Preclinical and Clinical Research Officer, following the successive mergers between Intervet, Schering-Plough Animal Health then Merck Animal Health. In 2007, she was appointed Head of Global R&D Projects. Alongside this, she also developed expertise in quality assurance as a Quality Auditor (internal and external audits). In 2013, she moved to Absiskey, an innovation financing consultancy, as a Senior Consultant.

Pascal Breton, VitamFero's President and Managing Director: "We are delighted to welcome Sophie on board and to be able to benefit from her extensive R&D experience in animal health, as well as her expertise in health innovation financing. She will unquestionably bring significant value-added to our business. With her, we will have a new key person to accelerate the upstream phases of our R&D



processes, as well as market releases for our products, optimizing the conditions for our business to grow”.

#### About VitamFero

Founded in 2005, VitamFero is capitalizing on a strongly-growing intellectual property portfolio, covering the prophylactic development and use of live attenuated strains with major technological and commercial potential, achieved through genetic engineering with a high entry barrier and derived from the apicomplexan parasites *Toxoplasma gondii* and *Neospora caninum*. Supported by CapDecisif Management and G1J Ile-de-France since 2011, and by GO Capital, Pradeyrol Développement and CAPAGRO since 2014, VitamFero is able to count on a sound, fully-validated technology that will enable it to offer its first vaccines and immunostimulants by 2020. Learn more at [www.vitamfero.com](http://www.vitamfero.com).

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