



Claude Remacle, Ph.D., is Professor of general biology and cellular biology at the Faculties of Science and of Agronomy. He is group leader at the Institute of Life Sciences of the Catholic Université catholique de Louvain (UCL, Belgium). Master Degree (1968) and PhD (1974). He worked at UCL, at the Institute of Natural History (Brussels), and at the Laboratoire Arago (France). He was associated to the National Fund for Scientific Research of Belgium up to 1979, as Senior Research Assistant, and then enrolled at UCL as Professor. C. Remacle has carried out extensive studies of the consequences of maternal protein restriction on the foetal development, in particular the endocrine pancreas and organ vascularisation. The preventative activity of the amino-acid taurine on the mis-programming of the endocrine pancreas due to protein restriction has been found out. More recently, additional animal models of maternal food manipulation : calorie restriction and high calorie diet have been established. Other research interests are the development and ageing of the endocrine pancreas, the mechanisms of differentiation of fat cell precursors studied both in vitro and in vivo in mice, rat and pig, as well as the mechanisms of early atherogenesis, analyzed by means of complex co-culture systems as models of the arterial wall reacting with blood cells. 233 peer-reviewed publications, 25 chapters and reviews. The Laboratory has been recognised for 10 years as WHO Collaborating Centre for the study of the developmental biology of the endocrine pancreas. C. Remacle coordinated the NUTRIX programme (QLK1-2000-00083 “Early malnutrition and programming of adult degenerative diseases: experimental, epidemiological and preventive studies.”) and participates in the EARNEST programme (FOOD-CT-2005-007036 “Early Nutrition Programming”).