

Evelien M. Adriaenssens

Group Leader
Microbes & Food Safety
Food, Microbiome & Health
Quadram Institute Bioscience
Norwich, UK



<https://quadram.ac.uk/evelien-adriaenssens/>

BIOSKETCH

Evelien Adriaenssens is the Chair of the Bacterial Viruses Subcommittee of the ICTV and member of its Executive Committee (2020-2023).

She received her PhD in Bioscience Engineering from the KU Leuven (Belgium) in 2012, where she worked on the development of bacteriophages as biocontrol agents in agriculture. She did two Postdoctoral Fellowships at the University of Pretoria in South Africa on the ecology of viruses in desert ecosystems. In 2016, she was recruited to the University of Liverpool as a postdoctoral research associate to investigate the spread of wastewater-borne viruses in the environment.

She started her research group at the Quadram Institute Bioscience in Norwich in 2019 where she combines her expertise in viromics (viral metagenomics) with her passion for bacteriophages to elucidate the role bacteriophages play in the healthy human microbiome, and how we can use them to improve health across life. Her research group is currently composed of two postdoctoral research associates and four postgraduate students.

Evelien has been involved in phage taxonomy since 2012, when she joined the then Bacterial and Archaeal Viruses Subcommittee as a member. In 2014, she became the Vice Chair of the Subcommittee supporting Andrew Kropinski as Chair, serving as the *Caudovirales* Study Group Chair from 2016 to 2020. She was elected Chair of the Bacterial Viruses Subcommittee in 2020.

As part of her taxonomy work, she has coordinated the submission of more than 250 taxonomy proposals to the Subcommittee, has authored and co-authored over 300 proposals, and has co-authored more than 10 taxonomy-related scientific papers. Her guides on naming, classifying and annotating phages and phage genomes have had a large following in the field, with over 500 citations combined in the last five years. In her research career, she has authored more than 70 manuscripts, including four ICTV Virus Taxonomy Profiles.

She serves on the editorial boards of the journals *mSystems* (ASM) and *PHAGE* (Mary-Ann Liebert Inc.).