

Steve Edwards graduated as a veterinarian at the University of Cambridge, England, in 1972. After a period in farm practice in Wales, he took a Masters in Tropical Veterinary Science at the University of Edinburgh and subsequently worked in Central and South America before returning to the UK as a research officer at the Weybridge laboratory. He worked on bovine respiratory diseases, completing a doctoral thesis on Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis, before switching to pestiviruses where he became well known for his work on classical swine fever and bovine viral diarrhoea viruses. In 1992 he became Head of Virology at Weybridge, moving to senior management in 1998 and taking over as Chief Executive of the Veterinary Laboratories Agency in 2000. He is a visiting Professor at the Royal Veterinary College, London, and at the Faculty of Veterinary Science, Liverpool. He worked with the Standards Commission (now known as the Biological Standards Commission) of the OIE from 1991 onwards, and was elected President of the Commission in 2003.