

Erik de Vries graduated in chemistry (cum laude) at the University of Leiden, the Netherlands in 1991 and obtained his PhD in natural sciences at the same university in 1995. After a short project as a chemist at the pharmaceutical company Gist-Brocades in Delft, the Netherlands, he moved to the University Medical Center Groningen in 1996, where he is still working as a full Professor of Translational Molecular Imaging at the department of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging. He is the chair of research of this department since 2007 and was also coordinator of the section Radiochemistry/Radiopharmacy. He is currently program coordinator of the Molecular Neuroscience and Ageing Research (MOLAR) program within the research institute BCN-BRAIN ('Research Institute for Neurosciences and Healthy Ageing'). Erik de Vries is a specialist in radiochemistry with a special interest in the development and application of radiopharmaceuticals for PET imaging of the brain, inflammation and tumor drug targets. His research involves the whole translational research pathway: tracer development, preclinical evaluation and application, and clinical studies. His current research lines include imaging of:

- Neuroinflammation and related processes in psychiatric and neurodegenerative disorders
- Infiltrating immune cells in chronic inflammation, tissue injury and tumors
- Hormone receptor expression in tumors and the brain.

From 2007 to 2013, Erik de Vries was guest lecturer in molecular and diagnostic imaging at the University Sapienza in Rome, Italy. He was also awarded a grant as Special visiting Scientist at the University of Sao Paulo, Brazil, for the period 2014-2016, with the aim to set up joint research projects on molecular imaging. In September 2014, he was appointed as "staff ambassador" for the University Medical Center Groningen with the task to facilitate the expansion of academic corporation with two partner universities in Brazil: the University of Sao Paulo (USP) and Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul (PUCRS, Porto Alegre). He was a member of the Task Group on "Inflammation and Infection Imaging" of the European Association of Nuclear Medicine (EANM) from 2007 to 2011. In this task group, he was involved in, amongst others, the development of guidelines for leukocyte labeling and white blood cell imaging.