

Dr. Kiril Dimitrov, DVM, PhD

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Kiril Dimitrov, DVM, PhD is Section Head of Virology and Molecular Diagnostics at the Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory's. Kiril earned his master and doctoral degrees from Trakia University in Stara Zagora, Bulgaria. After graduation, he trained at various agencies specializing in food safety, avian disease diagnostics, and molecular diagnostics of livestock diseases. In 2013, he earned a PhD from the National Diagnostic and Research Veterinary Medicine Institute in Sofia, Bulgaria. His research focused on etiological and molecular-epidemiological studies of Newcastle disease in poultry and wild birds. Most recently, Kiril has served as a visiting scientist at the Southeast Poultry Research Laboratory of the U.S. National Poultry Research Center (U.S. Department of Agriculture) in Athens, Georgia, USA, between 2014 and 2019. During his stay at USDA, he worked on development of rapid diagnostics methods that reflect the constant and continuous changes of the genetic makeup of virulent avian viruses and characterization of their pathogenicity. He also researched viral molecular epidemiology and evolution and has been extensively working on third- and fourth-generation sequencing methodologies and related bioinformatics. Among his past research interest is development of efficient live, inactivated, and recombinant vaccines to control avian viral diseases. Prior to his tenure at USDA, Kiril served as an assistant professor and laboratory head at the Regional Research and Diagnostic Laboratory for Newcastle Disease and Avian Influenza in Aksakovo, Bulgaria. In addition to academic experience, Kiril has served in various veterinary capacities.