



Stef Heylen, MD

Director

Member of the Board since April 2025

Member of the Scientific Committee since July 2025

Year of birth: 1958

Nationality: Belgian

Gender: Male

End of term: 2029

Introduction & Professional experience

Stef Heylen, MD, is Chairman of the Board of the General Hospital AZ Turnhout, and Board Member of the University Hospital UZA, Antwerp, and the General Hospital AZ Herentals. He represents the Belgian Federal Investment Company SFPIIM on the Board of two biotech companies, ExeVir Bio and reMYND. He is also Board Member of Alzheimer Liga Vlaanderen.

Stef retired in 2020 from Johnson & Johnson as CEO of Janssen Pharmaceutica NV, Belgium and as COO for Janssen R&D Worldwide.

In these positions he was a member of the Johnson & Johnson Pharmaceuticals Group Operating Committee and Chairman of the Management Board of Janssen Pharmaceutica NV.

Stef has 35+ years of successful drug development and executive management experience. His expertise extends over a wide range of areas: the development of small molecules, monoclonal antibodies, vaccines; clinical research in neuroscience and infectious diseases; regulatory affairs, drug safety, medical affairs, drug development operations, and pharmaceutical project and portfolio management.

Stef has a passion for sustainable development and global public health. He is also a mentor for “Duo for a Job”, an inter-generational mentoring program for young people with a recent migration background.

Education

Stef Heylen holds a M.D. from KU Leuven and a post-graduate in Tropical Medicine from the Institute for Tropical Medicine, Antwerp



Main external appointments

- Chairman of the Board of AZ Turnout
- Board member of UZA
- Board member of AZ Herentals
- Board member of ExeVir (representing SFPIM)
- Observer to the Board of reMYND (representing SFPIM)
- Board member of Alzheimer Liga Vlaanderen

