

Dr. Lindomar Pena is a Principal Investigator at the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (Fiocruz)-Brazil, which is the largest biomedical research institution in Latin America. He has a DVM degree and holds a PhD from the University of Maryland, USA. He has worked as a Postgraduate Researcher at the USDA-Plum Island Animal Disease Center and as a Visiting Researcher at the USDA-National Animal Disease Center, USA.

He is a highly motivated scientist with a strong background in virology, with specific training and expertise in reverse genetics, viral epidemiology, animal models, pathogenesis studies and development of diagnostic kits, vaccines, and antivirals. His laboratory has carried out the first Zika virus detection and isolation in Pernambuco state, which was at the epicenter of the Zika virus epidemics in Brazil, and contributed to establish the etiological link between the Zika and microcephaly. His laboratory studies viruses that impact human and animal health, including zoonotic viruses. Areas of research include antiviral discovery, development of diagnostic tests and vaccines, clinical and epidemiological studies in humans and animals, viral genomics and identification of host genetic markers associated with virulence and transmissibility.