



Curriculum Vitae

Personal information Kari Airene

Work experience

August 2025-

Senior Researcher

Finnish Medicines Agency (FIMEA),
Kuopio, Finland.

Quality assessment of ATMPs.

January 2023-
April 2024

Lead Scientist

Kuopio Center for Gene and Cell therapy
(KCT), Kuopio, Finland.

*Viral vector design, production
(UPS/DS), analytics and pre-clinical testing.
Protein engineering, characterization and
production. Patenting, CMC and licensing.
Biosafety officer and leadership duties.*

January 2018-
December 2022

Head of Vector Development

KCT, Kuopio, Finland (a Ferring group
company)

*Leading and management of R&D
projects. Project planning, budgeting,
recruitment, reporting (SOPs, summaries,
CMC, publications), patenting, licensing and
leadership work. Biosafety officer duties.
Presentations in the major international
meetings.*

January 2017-
December 2017

Vector Development Project Manager

FinVector Vision Therapies Oy, Kuopio,
Finland

*Adenovirus, AAV and lentivirus biology
and methodology R&D. Design and
equipment of a molecular biology laboratory.
Recruitment.*

January 2016-
December 2016

Head of Scientific Projects

FinVector Vision Therapies Oy, Kuopio,
Finland

*Adenovirus, AAV, lentivirus vector
methodology advice. Protein engineering and
production.*

August 2005-
December 2015

Professor of Molecular Medicine
University of Eastern Finland, A.I.
Virtanen Institute for Molecular Sciences,
Faculty of Health Sciences, Kuopio, Finland
*Leading of R&D work focusing on
protein engineering and development of viral-
mediated gene delivery (AAV, adenovirus,
lentivirus, baculovirus). Vector biology,
engineering, production, purification and
analytics. Viral-mediated gene therapy
(cardiovascular diseases and cancer) and
pre-clinical studies. Administrative and faculty
duties, grant writing, national and
international co-operation, teaching,
reporting, publishing, organization of scientific
meetings, and presentations in national and
international congresses. Head of national
virus vector laboratory.*

May 2001-
July 2005

Research Director
Ark Therapeutics Oy, Kuopio, Finland
*Innovation, team lead, HR, planning and
management of the projects. Protein
engineering and production, development of
adeno-, lenti- and baculovirus vectors for
gene therapy of cancer. Pre-clinical studies.
Patenting and biosafety.*

Education and training

**Associate Professor
(Docent) in Biotechnology
and Molecular Medicine**

University of Eastern Finland, A.I.
Virtanen Institute for Molecular Sciences,
Faculty of Health Sciences, Kuopio, Finland.
March 2004.

Ph.D. (Cell and molecular biology)

University of Jyväskylä, Department of
Biological and Environmental Science,
Jyväskylä, Finland. August 1998.

Additional information

Publications

Many publications in peer reviewed journals, books and book chapters.
For a detailed listing see
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?term=airenne+K&sort=date>.

Projects

For a detailed listing of patents go to the

<https://patentscope.wipo.int/search/en/search.jsf> and enter search term, **FP:(Airenne, Kari)**. The patents cover innovations related to therapeutic protein engineering and production, drug targeting, virus engineering and vector production for gene therapy purposes.

Memberships

Speaker and organizer of national and international meetings, member of scientific societies, expert tasks, peer review, editorial and examiner roles.

Other Relevant Information

Education, supervision of MSc and PhD degrees.