



**ELIAS K. HADDAD, PH.D.**  
Associate Member / Principal Investigator

Elias K. Haddad, Ph.D., is an associate member and principal investigator of VGTI Florida. He's an expert in viral disease development, and studies the immediate and long-term human immune response to chronic and emerging infectious diseases. His work has resulted in more than 20 articles published in major scientific journals.

Dr. Haddad's work has led to discoveries regarding how the immune response to infectious diseases is regulated and how the immune system combats foreign invaders, including work on identifying a protein that shields the body's immune system from HIV infection. He's recognized as a pioneer in the systems biology field, which focuses on the complex interactions in biological systems using an inter-disciplinary approach. This tactic led to identifying unique features, or a signature, of the protective immune response provoked by the yellow fever vaccine – one of the most potent vaccines ever made. Scientists now use this finding as a benchmark to design and monitor the development of other vaccines across many diseases.

His work has been recognized by a number of prestigious fellowships, including the Fogarty Fellowship awarded by the National Institutes of Health, and a research fellowship awarded by the National Cancer Institute. Prior to joining VGTI Florida, Dr. Haddad was a senior research scientist at the University of Montreal.

Dr. Haddad earned his bachelor's degree in biological sciences and master's degree in immunology from American University of Beirut. He earned his doctorate in immunology at McGill University, and conducted post-doctoral work at the National Cancer Institute and National Institutes of Health.