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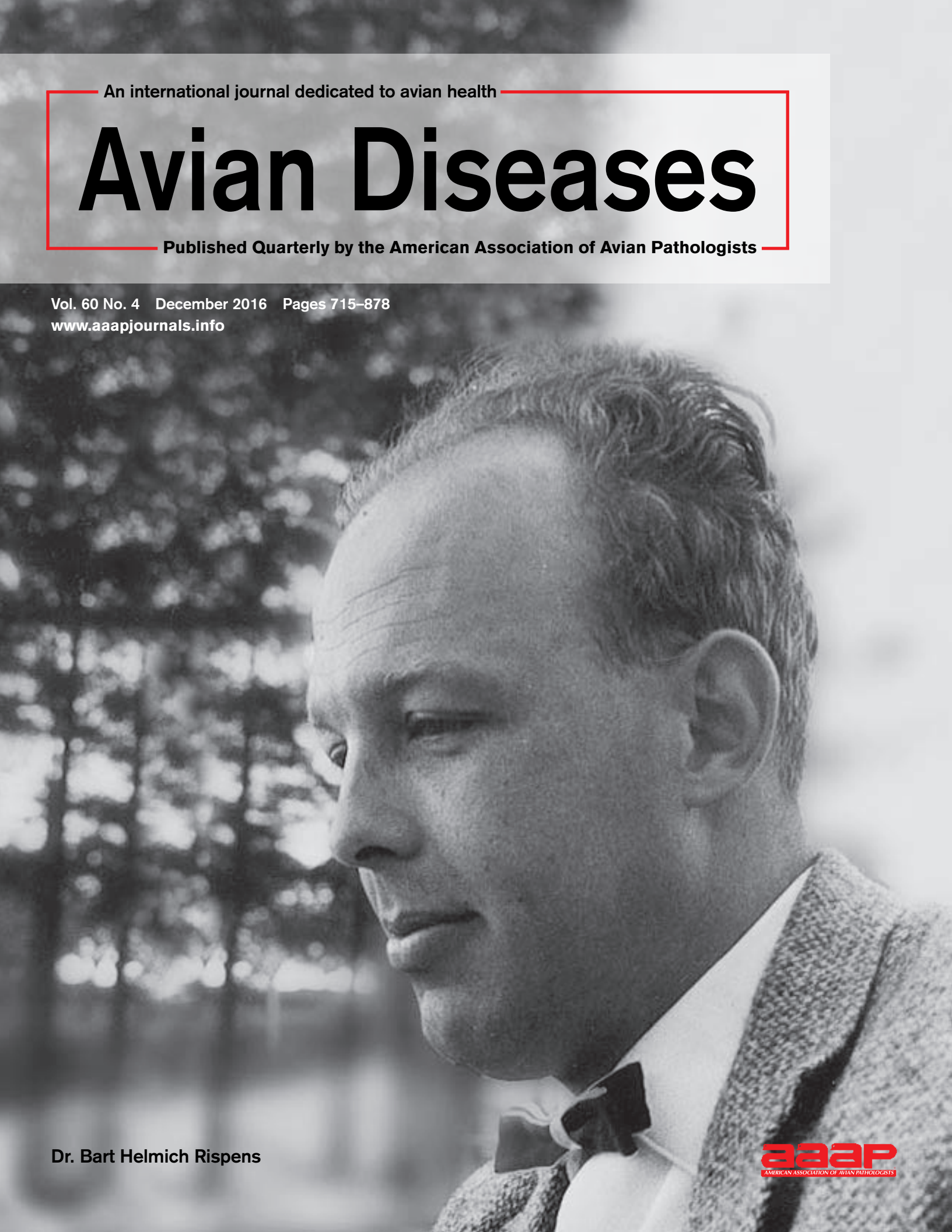
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Dr. Bart Helmich Rispens

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About the cover

Dr. Bart Helmich Rispens 1929–1973

Bart Rispens was born in Deventer, The Netherlands, in 1929. After Bart received his veterinary degree from the University of Utrecht in 1956, he joined the Central Veterinary Institute (CVI) in Rotterdam. While working at the CVI, Bart completed in 1966 his PhD research on the control of viral hepatitis in one-day-old ducklings. Shortly afterwards, he spent a one-year sabbatical leave at the USDA-ARS Avian Disease and Oncology Laboratory working on the development of the non-producer test for the detection of avian leukosis virus using duck embryo fibroblasts (DEF). Upon his return to the CVI he initiated his work on the isolation and characterization of MDV viruses from healthy, MDV antibody positive chickens. Peripheral blood lymphocytes from hen 988 were positive for MDV and this isolate was subsequently shown to protect against challenge with virulent MDV. The CVI-988 vaccine, which is also known as the Rispens vaccine, is currently the gold standard for the protection against Marek's disease.