1887 Institut Pasteur is founded.

1897 Profoundly influenced by the teachings of Louis Pasteur, Marcel Mérieux establishes the Institut Biologique Mérieux. Across the Atlantic, Richard Slee opens the Pocono Biological Laboratories, which today houses the U.S headquarters of sanofi pasteur.

1914 In Toronto, John Fitzgerald establishes a laboratory for the production of a diphtheria antitoxin. Formerly known as Connaught Laboratories, this is the headquarters of sanofi pasteur in Canada.

1937 Charles Mérieux succeeds his father, Marcel. He develops a foot and mouth vaccine, which during a severe epidemic in 1952, saves six million cattle. Industrial virology is born and applied to human medicine.

1967 Alain Mérieux succeeds his father, Charles, and Institut Mérieux becomes a worldwide player in the field of applied immunology.

1968 Rhône-Poulenc acquires a majority stake in Institut Mérieux.

1973 Pasteur Institute production site is created in Val de Reuil, France. The site will be acquired by Institut Mérieux in 1985.

1989 Institut Mérieux acquires Connaught Laboratories and becomes the world leader in vaccines.

1994 Pasteur Mérieux MSD is founded. Known today as sanofi pasteur MSD, it is a joint venture with Merck & Co., covering 19 countries in Europe.

1999 Rhône-Poulenc and Hoechst merge their life sciences activity – pharmaceuticals, animal health and crop science - to form a single company, Aventis.

1999 Pasteur Mérieux Connaught changes its name to Aventis Pasteur.

2004 Sanofi-Synthélabo and Aventis merge, becoming sanofi-aventis Group, one of the world’s largest pharmaceutical company, ranking number 1 in Europe.

2004 The vaccines division of the Group becomes sanofi pasteur.

2008 Sanofi Pasteur Holding acquires Acambis plc.

2009 Sanofi Pasteur acquires a majority stake in Shantha Biotechnics.

2010 Sanofi Pasteur acquires VaxDesign, a U.S. biotechnology company.