

FINAL RESUME ON THE RESEARCH UNIT: Cardiovascular, Metabolism, Diabetes and Nutrition Laboratory – CarMeN

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS AND RESEARCH BODIES:

Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1 –
UCBL

Institut national de recherche pour
l'agriculture, l'alimentation et
l'environnement - INRAE

Institut national de la santé et de la
recherche médicale – Inserm

EVALUATION CAMPAIGN 2019-2020 GROUP A

Report published on July, 15 2020



In the name of Hcéres¹:

Nelly Dupin, Acting
President

In the name of the experts committee²:

Jaakko Tuomilehto, Chairman of the
committee

Under the decree No.2014-1365 dated 14 November 2014,

¹ The president of Hcéres "countersigns the evaluation reports set up by the experts committees and signed by their chairman." (Article 8, paragraph 5);

² The evaluation reports "are signed by the chairman of the experts committee". (Article 11, paragraph 2).

This report is the sole result of the unit's evaluation by the expert committee, the composition of which is specified below. The assessments contained herein are the expression of an independent and collegial reviewing by the committee.

Tables in this report were filled with data submitted by the supervising body on behalf the unit.

UNIT PRESENTATION

Unit name: Cardiovascular, Metabolism, Diabetes and Nutrition Laboratory

Unit acronym: CarMeN

Current label and N°: UMRs-1060

ID RNSR: 201119381Y

Application type: Restructuring

Head of the unit (2019-2020): Mr Hubert Vidal

Project leader (2021-2025): Mr Hubert Vidal

Number of teams: 5 current teams / 3 project teams

EXPERTS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair:

Mr Jaakko Tuomilehto, University of Helsinki, Finland

Experts:

Mr Luc Bertrand, Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgique
 Ms Amandine Everard, Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgique
 Mr Jean-Charles Martin, Inra Marseille (representative of INRA CSS)
 Ms Émilie Pallesi, Inserm Marseille (supporting personnel)
 Ms Sophie Vaultont, Inserm Paris
 Mr Olivier Ziegler, CHRU Nancy – Université de Lorraine, Vandœuvre-lès-Nancy (representative of CNU)

HCÉRES REPRESENTATIVE

Mr Jean-Paul Lallès

REPRESENTATIVES OF SUPERVISING BODIES

Mr Raymond Bazin, Inserm
 Mr Pascal Boitard, INRAE
 Ms Véronique Coxam, INRAE
 Mr Bruno Lina, Claude Bernard Lyon 1 University

INTRODUCTION

HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF THE UNIT

CarMeN laboratory was created in January 2011 and renewed with the same organization in January 2016, as a joint research unit under the authority of Claude Bernard Lyon 1 University, INSA de Lyon, INSERM (UMR 1060) and INRA (UMR 1397). CarMeN laboratory gathered initially about 140 members, coming mostly from the INSERM/INRA Research Unit 870/1235 (headed by Mr Hubert Vidal) and the INSERM Unit U886 (headed by Mr Michel Ovize), joint by a number of researchers and clinicians from several laboratories (U855, U863, ERI22, UMR CNRS 5220, FRE CNRS 3075, EA 4171) who decided to contribute to this new dynamic in Lyon.

During the ongoing contract (2016-2020), approximately 180 persons worked in CarMeN each year, organised in 5 research teams and located in 3 different sites in Lyon: : the Lyon-Sud Medical School located in Oullins (South of the city), the Rockefeller Medical School (East of the city) and INSA de Lyon in Villeurbanne (North of the city).

In 2016, one team (Team 5, becoming Team 3 in the new contract) moved in the vicinity of the main cardiologic clinical departments, the Clinical Investigation Centre (CIC) and the animal and human imaging facilities (CERMEP). The "Plan Campus" allowed the construction of a new research center (1800 m²) dedicated to human nutrition research (CENS, *Centre Européen pour la Nutrition et la Santé*) and located in Lyon-Sud hospital. In May 2019, the CarMeN teams working in metabolism and nutrition (new Team 1 and Team 2) moved in this new laboratory (1200 m²), in the same building as the clinical investigation platform of CRNH-RA and in the vicinity of the main clinical departments of nutrition, diabetology, obesity and also nephrology, gastroenterology and geriatric.

MANAGEMENT TEAM

The CarMeN unit is headed by Mr Hubert Vidal.

HCÉRES NOMENCLATURE

SVE5: Physiologie, Physiopathologie, Cardiologie, Pharmacologie, Endocrinologie, Cancer, Technologies Médicales.

THEMATICS

CarMeN laboratory is a biomedical research laboratory aiming at understanding the mechanisms and the causes of metabolic, nutritional and cardiovascular diseases, and at developing novel preventive and therapeutic solutions.

UNIT WORKFORCE

Cardiovascular, Metabolism, Diabetes and Nutrition Laboratory (CarMeN)		
Active staff	Number 06/30/2019	Number 01/01/2021
Full professors and similar positions	32	28
Assistant professors and similar positions	21	17
Full time research directors (Directeurs de recherche) and similar positions	10	6
Full time research associates (Chargés de recherche) and similar positions	12	9
Other scientists ("Conservateurs, cadres scientifiques des EPIC, fondations, industries, etc.")	9	18
High school teachers		
Supporting personnel (ITAs, BIATSSs and others, notably of EPICs)	27	22

Permanent staff	111	100
Non-permanent professors and associate professors, including emeritus	3	
Non-permanent full time scientists, including emeritus, post-docs (except PhD students)	8	
PhD Students	34	
Non-permanent supporting personnel	7	
Non-permanent staff	52	
Total	163	100

GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF THE UNIT

The unit has an excellent tracking record of publications, with some outstanding papers. Although only about one-third of the publications have been prepared under the leadership of the unit, the fact that researchers of the unit have been invited/participated in collaborative publications can be taken as a positive sign for their reputation. The reputation is also excellent as exemplified by the numerous invited conferences and plenary lectures. The unit succeeded to obtain major funding to the investment for future program (Programme d'Investissement d'Avenir, PIA) which allowed it to invest in new building and equipment. This is an outstanding asset allowing to locate 2 new teams (out of 3) in the same building in the frame of the new unit project. The mean budget over the period allowed to provide substantial amounts of money per scientist per year, which is outstanding. The transfer of basic research to clinics seems very successful, with some major highlights (a few examples being for instance polar lipids of milk fat globules and CVD, FGF19 in the regulation of muscle mass, MAM and T2D, cyclosporin failure to show cardioprotection, inovagraft system, gastric mini-bypass technique, etc.). Valorisation of research is outstanding, e.g., bariatric surgery guidelines, polar lipids utilization in CVD and establishing a start-up company (Lipther). The unit has an excellent reputation in its fields of research as assessed by the numerous invitations for lectures and conferences including both national and international meetings. The unit also organised international meetings. The scientific strategy for the next 5 years is realistic and excellent. The projects that are now ongoing and planned are excellent both for science and feasibility. While the research lines have been sharpened along the reduction in the number of the teams and researchers, there is a need to make new adjustments once the situation will indicate so. Training of researchers is at an adequate level.

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