

REPORT ON THE RESEARCH UNIT:  
Institut Necker Enfants Malades – Centre de  
recherche (INEM)

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE  
FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS AND  
RESEARCH BODIES:

Université Paris Descartes  
Institut national de la santé et de la recherche  
médicale – Inserm  
Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique -  
CNRS

**ÉVALUATION CAMPAIGN 2017-2018**  
GROUP D



In the name of Hcéres<sup>1</sup> :

Michel Cosnard, President

In the name of the experts committees<sup>2</sup> :

Jacques Neefjes, Chairman of the  
committee

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

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

<sup>2</sup> The evaluation reports "are signed by the chairman of the expert 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.

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## UNIT PRESENTATION

<b>Unit name:</b>	Institut Necker Enfants Malades – Centre de recherche
<b>Unit acronym:</b>	INEM
<b>Requested label:</b>	
<b>Application type:</b>	Renewal
<b>Current number:</b>	
<b>Head of the unit (2017-2018):</b>	Mr Xavier NASSIF
<b>Project leader (2019-2023):</b>	Mr Xavier NASSIF
<b>Number of teams or themes:</b>	13

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

<b>Chair:</b>	Mr Jacques NEEFJES, Netherlands Cancer Institute, The Netherlands
<b>Experts:</b>	Ms Véronique BRAUD, Institut de Pharmacologie Moléculaire, Valbonne Ms Sarah-Maria FENDT, VIB-KU Leuven Center for Cancer Biology, Belgium Mr Christophe JAMIN, Université de Bretagne Occidentale Mr André LE BIVIC, Institut de Biologie du Développement de Marseille Mr Vincent LEGAGNEUX, Université de Rennes (representative of Inserm CSS) Mr Gérard LINA, Faculté de Médecine Lyon Est (representative of CNU) Mr Laurent MARSOLLIER, CHU d'Angers (representative of Inserm CSS) Mr Abdel SAOUDI, Centre de physiopathologie Toulouse Purpan, Toulouse Mr Andreas SCHEDL, Faculté des Sciences, Nice Ms Christine THUMANN, Université de Strasbourg (supporting personnel) Mr Abdelilah WAKKACH, Faculté de médecine, Nice (representative of CoNRS)
<b>Hcéres scientific officer:</b>	Ms Anne CAIGNARD

**Representatives of supervising institutions and bodies:**

Mr Gérard FRIEDLANDER, Faculté de Médecine, Université Paris Descartes

Ms Christine GUILLARD, Inserm

Ms Evelyne JOUVIN-MARCHE, Inserm

Mr Bruno LUCAS, CNRS

Ms Marie Pascale MARTEL, Inserm

Mr Stéfano MARULLO, Université Paris Descartes

Mr Yazdan YAZDANPANAHI, Inserm

## INTRODUCTION

### HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF THE UNIT

INEM was founded in 2014 through the assembly of a number of research units active in biomedical research at the Necker and the Broussais campus. The INEM is at present spread over different locations in Paris. In 2019, all the groups will assemble in a new building at the Necker campus in Paris. This building will be close to the Necker hospital and the Imagine institute and the various labs have tight interactions with the Necker clinic for translational research. They also strongly collaborate with the Imagine institute, with which they share various facilities.

### MANAGEMENT TEAM

INEM is directed by Mr Xavier Nassif and deputy directors are Ms Fabiola Terzi for the department of Cell Biology (BC) and Mr Peter Van Enderf for the Immunology Infection Hematology (I2H) department.

### HCERES NOMENCLATURE

SVE1-LS3, SVE1-LS4, SVE1-LS6.

### SCIENTIFIC DOMAIN

The teams from Immunology Infection and Hematology department focus on the immunological mechanisms involved in lymphoid differentiation and immunoregulation in normal and pathologic conditions, as well as on the mechanisms of antigen presentation. In the infectious domain, the teams develop programs on pathogenesis and genome plasticity of bacterial infections.

The teams from the Cell biology department focus on cell signalling and metabolism in different organ dysfunctions.

Basic research programs are completed by applied research for therapeutics in most of the teams.

### UNIT WORKFORCE

Unit workforce	Number 30/06/2017	Number 01/01/2019
<b>Permanent staff</b>		
Full professors and similar positions	19	25
Assistant professors and similar positions	20	17
Full time research directors (Directeurs de recherche) and similar positions	13	16
Full time research associates (Chargés de recherche) and similar positions	20	19
Other scientists ("Conservateurs, cadres scientifiques des EPIC, fondations, industries, etc.")	0	0
High school teachers	0	0

Supporting personnel (ITAs, BIATSSs and others, notably of EPICs)	41	39
<b>TOTAL permanent staff</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>116</b>
<b>Non-permanent staff</b>		
Non-permanent professors and associate professors, including emeritus	10	
Non-permanent full time scientists, including emeritus, post-docs	40	
Non-permanent supporting personnel	24	
PhD Students	36	
<b>TOTAL non-permanent staff</b>	<b>110</b>	
<b>TOTAL unit</b>		
	<b>223</b>	

## GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF THE UNIT

The unit will assemble 13 different units that vary in size from small teams run by a single PI to very large teams run by 2-3 PIs. The labs are organized in two departments ('Cell Biology: Growth and Signalling' and 'Immunology, Haematology & Infectiology') that are both scientifically excellent. The research is in general excellent according to international standards, which is best reflected by the many ERC grants obtained at the Institute and the various publications in *Nature* and similar top journals. In general, the INEM performs fundamental research with a close link to translation and, in many teams, actual clinical translation occurs. This could be at the level of (kidney) transplantation, new therapies for (juvenile) T-ALL, control of B cell responses and new immune cell types, detection of cancer, bacterial infection and sepsis, autophagy, CFTR mutant manipulation and human lysosomal storage diseases. The move and assembly in the new building at the Necker campus close to the hospital is expected to further the interactions with the clinic. Yet, translation requires an excellent basis of top fundamental scientific research and various teams within INEM are performing top innovative research.

When assembled, and given the excellent research of the teams that form INEM, INEM will have the potential to become one of the leading research centres in France and possibly in Europe. It is critical for INEM to communicate on this adequately. This is currently not the case, in part because the different research units are spread over multiple locations in Paris. At the new site, this should be possible and allow make INEM and the Necker campus visible and attractive to foreign PhD students and post-docs.

The training through research is excellent considering the numbers of defended Theses and the implication of members in M2 programs. The interactions with the non-academic world are outstanding and the unit communicates to public through different media.

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