

FINAL RESUME ON THE RESEARCH UNIT:
Center for Infection & Immunity of Lille (CIIL)

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE
FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS AND
RESEARCH BODIES:

Université de Lille

Institut national de la santé et de la recherche
médicale - INSERM

Centre national de la recherche scientifique -
CNRS

Institut Pasteur Lille

Centre hospitalier régional et universitaire de
Lille - CHRU Lille

EVALUATION CAMPAIGN 2018-2019
GROUP E



In the name of Hcéres¹:

Michel Cosnard, President

In the name of the experts committee²:

Jean-François Collet, 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).

Tables in this document were filled with data provided by laboratories and supervising bodies in the unit's application and in the Excel files "Données du contrat en cours" and "Données du prochain contrat".

UNIT PRESENTATION

Unit name:	Center for Infection & Immunity of Lille
Unit acronym:	CIIL
Requested label:	UMR
Application type:	Renewal
Current number:	CNRS UMR8204 & Inserm U1019
Head of the unit (2018-2019):	Mr Camille LOCHT
Project leader (2020-2024):	Mr Jean DUBUISSON
Number of teams and/or themes:	13

EXPERTS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair:	Mr Jean-François COLLET, Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium
Experts:	Mr Ali AMARA, Institut Jean Bernard, Paris (representative of Inserm CSS)
	Mr Luiz Pedro CARVALHO, The Francis Crick Institute, UK
	Mr Lhousseine TOUQUI, Institut Pasteur, Paris
	Ms Christine DELPRAT, Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1 (representative of CNU)
	Mr Jean-Claude DUJARDIN, Institute of Tropical Medicine, Antwerp, Belgium
	Ms Sarah GABRIEL, Ghent University, Belgium
	Mr Hugues LELOUARD, Centre d'Immunologie de Marseille-Luminy (representative of CoNRS)
	Mr John MCLAUCHLAN, University of Glasgow, UK
	Ms Chantal MEDINA, Neurocentre Magendie, Bordeaux (supporting personnel)
	Mr René-Marc MEGE, Université Paris Diderot
	Mr Gilles SUBRA, Institut des Biomolécules Max Mousseron, Montpellier
	Ms Andreas WACK, The Francis Crick Institute, UK

HCÉRES REPRESENTATIVE

Mr Jean-Marc CAVAILLON

REPRESENTATIVES OF SUPERVISING INSTITUTIONS AND BODIES

Mr Benoît DEPEZ, Institut Pasteur de Lille

Ms Evelyne JOUVIN-MARCHE, Inserm

Mr David LAUNAY, CHRU de Lille

Mr Samir OULD ALI, Inserm

Ms Françoise PAILLOUS, CNRS

Mr Patrick VERMEERSCH, Université de Lille

INTRODUCTION

HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF THE UNIT

The Center for Infection and Immunity (CIIL) is located in the Pasteur Institute of Lille, a place of great tradition in microbiology. It is indeed at the Pasteur Institute of Lille that the BCG vaccine against tuberculosis was developed by Calmette and Guérin at the beginning of the last century.

The CIIL was created in 2010 as a result of the desire to bring together the various teams from the Pasteur Institute of Lille working in the field of infection and immunity. The goal of creating the center, which has become the largest of the 6 research units of the Institut Pasteur de Lille, was to foster collaborations among the CIIL teams, strengthen their research and increase the visibility of the work carried out in Lille in infection and immunity.

The CIIL was created as a mixed research unit, which is currently supported by the University of Lille, Inserm, CNRS, the Institut Pasteur de Lille and the University Hospital of Lille. The center was renewed in 2015 and was then composed of 13 teams.

The 227 members of the CIIL are dispatched in two different buildings of the Pasteur campus, close to the center of Lille. The first building (l'Institut de Biologie de Lille) is a CNRS building, while the second (the "Emile Roux" building) is a Pasteur building.

MANAGEMENT TEAM

In the previous term, the director was Mr Camille Locht and the deputy director Mr Francois Trottein. Mr Jean Dubuisson was elected as director for the next term.

HCÉRES NOMENCLATURE

SVE3

SCIENTIFIC DOMAIN

The research projects of the Center aim at a better understanding of the molecular and cellular mechanisms of infectious and chronic inflammatory diseases. In particular, teams of the Center study bacterial (tuberculosis, pneumococcal pneumonia, whooping cough, plague), viral (hepatitis C and E, influenza, MERS) and parasitic (malaria, schistosomiasis, toxoplasmosis, cryptosporidiosis and blastocystosis) diseases as well as the immune reaction against these infections. Immune dysfunctions of non-infectious diseases (such as asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) are also under focus. In the next term, a new group, studying how to better control opportunistic infection during cystic fibrosis, will join the Center.

UNIT WORKFORCE

		Unit workforce	
		Centre d'Infection et d'Immunité de Lille	
	Active staff	Number 30/06/2018	Number 01/01/2020
	Full professors and similar positions	7	13
	Assistant professors and similar positions	18	19

Full time research directors (Directeurs de recherche) and similar positions	24	23
Full time research associates (Chargés de recherche) and similar positions	24	23
Other scientists ("Conservateurs, cadres scientifiques des EPIC, fondations, industries, etc.")	15	16
High school teachers	0	0
Supporting personnel (ITAs, BIATSSs and others, notably of EPICs)	68	68
Permanent staff	156	162
Non-permanent professors and associate professors, including emeritus	2	
Non-permanent full time scientists, including emeritus, post-docs	22	
PhD Students	37	
Non-permanent supporting personnel	10	
Non-permanent staff	71	
Total	227	162

GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF THE UNIT

The main objectives of the center are to improve the basic understanding of key biological mechanisms in infectious diseases and immunology, to train a new generation of scientists to work in this field and to take advantage of the discoveries and expertise to develop novel therapeutic strategies to the benefit of public health. In general, the research carried out in the Center for Infection and Immunity of Lille is excellent. Scientists in the CIIIL carry out high quality research both on poorly studied bacteria, viruses and parasites of high relevance for human health and on inflammatory diseases. Over the years, CIIIL members have developed a well-recognized, top-notch expertise, making of the center a unique place in France and in Europe. During the last term, CIIIL scientists have been very active, publishing hundreds of articles, including some in the best journals, and attracting money both from national and international sources. In general, the ratio of articles with CIIIL scientists in key positions could, however, be improved. Remarkably, most CIIIL teams are extremely well connected with the non-academic world and biopharmaceutical companies, which led to several patents, to the creation of two spin-off companies and to the development of molecules in clinical trials. The center provides an excellent training environment for PhD students and young post-doctoral scientists; in the center, they will not only be exposed to a fundamental research of high quality but will also learn how to work hand in hand with the non-academic world for the development of molecules and tools of therapeutical and biotechnological relevance. The scientists of the center will also benefit from the rich scientific life of the CIIIL, which is supported by weekly seminars that are often given by external speakers.

The future projects of the CIIIL are in the continuity of the research that has been carried out in the center since its creation in 2010. Overall, these projects are very good to excellent, solid, competitive and of high quality. They should lead to important discoveries and further interaction with industrial partners, allowing the CIIIL to remain a stronghold of research on infection and immunity. However, many of the CIIIL teams remain in their comfort zone and fail to propose novel, challenging and ambitious projects. A clear and ambitious strategy should be put into place to attract and train future leaders in order to maintain the high quality standards of the CIIIL in the long-term, while building a stronger identity.

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2 rue Albert Einstein
75013 Paris, France
T. 33 (0)1 55 55 60 10

hceres.com

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