

FINAL RESUME ON THE RESEARCH UNIT:
Virologie et Immunologie Moléculaires (VIM)

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE
FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS AND
RESEARCH BODIES:

Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique -
INRA

Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche
Médicale - INSERM

EVALUATION CAMPAIGN 2018-2019
GROUP E



In the name of Hcéres¹:

Michel Cosnard, President

In the name of the experts committee²:

William Golde, 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:	Virologie et Immunologie Moléculaires
Unit acronym:	VIM
Requested label:	UR
Application type:	Renewal
Current number:	0892
Head of the unit (2018-2019):	Ms Sabine RIFFAULT
Project leader (2020-2024):	Ms Sabine RIFFAULT
Number of teams:	6

EXPERTS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair:	Mr William GOLDE, Moredun Research Institute, UK
Experts:	Mr Laurent ANDREOLETTI, CHU de Reims (representative of Inserm CSS)
	Mr Christophe CHAMOT, ENS de Lyon (supporting personnel)
	Ms Caroline DENESVRE, Centre de recherche Val de Loire (representative of Inra CSS)
	Mr Jean-Luc GUERIN, École Nationale Vétérinaire de Toulouse
	Mr Pascal LEBLANC, Institut NeuroMyoGene, Université Claude Bernard - Lyon
	Mr Renaud MAHIEUX, ENS de Lyon

HCÉRES REPRESENTATIVE

Mr Théophile OHLMANN

REPRESENTATIVES OF SUPERVISING INSTITUTIONS AND BODIES

Ms Guia CARRARA, Inserm
Mr Alexis CONSTANTIN, Université Versailles Saint-Quentin
Mr Frédéric LOFASO, Université Versailles Saint-Quentin
Mr Thierry PINEAU, Inra
Ms Muriel VAYSSIER-TAUSSAT, Inra

INTRODUCTION

HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF THE UNIT

VIM was created in 1988 to study the molecular biology of viral pathogens and the immune response to infection. The unit is located in the INRA Campus of Jouy-en-Josas and belongs to the INRA Animal Health Division (AHD). In 2001, teams studying prion diseases were added followed by a dedicated influenza team in 2006. A BSL-3 was established in 2010 for virus research, and for prions in 2014. In February 2015, University Paris-Saclay created the Paris-Saclay Institute for Animal Sciences (SAPS) with VIM as a founding member and VIM is part of the department of life science at University Paris-Saclay.

MANAGEMENT TEAM

The VIM unit comprises 6 research teams and is headed by Ms Sabine Riffault with Mr Pierre Boudinot as deputy director.

HCÉRES NOMENCLATURE

SVE3_2 Virologie

SCIENTIFIC DOMAIN

VIM scientists study pathogens of animals and humans with an emphasis on viral pathogens and prions. The general focus is on host pathogen interactions and the immune response to infection.

UNIT WORKFORCE

		Unit workforce	
		Virologie et Immunologie Moléculaires	
	Active staff	Number 30/06/2018	Number 01/01/2020
	Full professors and similar positions	0	3
	Assistant professors and similar positions	0	1
	Full time research directors (Directeurs de recherche) and similar positions	11	10
	Full time research associates (Chargés de recherche) and similar positions	14	13
	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)	31	27

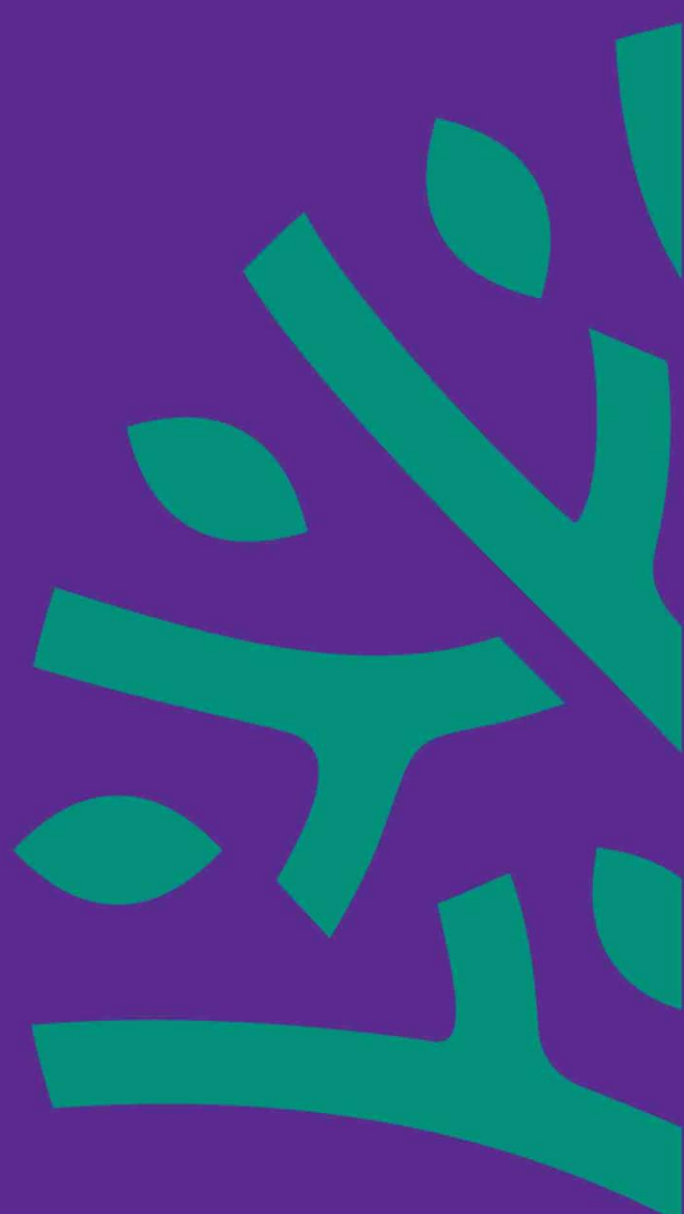
Permanent staff	56	54
Non-permanent professors and associate professors, including emeritus	0	
Non-permanent full time scientists, including emeritus, post-docs	5	
<i>PhD Students</i>	10	
Non-permanent supporting personnel	12	
Non-permanent staff	27	
Total	83	54

GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF THE UNIT

The “Virologie et Immunologie Moléculaires, VIM” research unit has an international reputation for cutting edge science, and this review of the past five years has provided clear evidence that these research scientists continue to hold to the high standards that garnered their excellent reputation. In the present challenging funding and staffing environment, the research unit was able to maintain critical expertise and training of students and continue to show excellent scientific output. As demonstrated by the number of grants already secured for the next contract. There are some significant problems facing the unit in terms of staffing, particularly at the support scientist level and gender balance in the senior levels of the unit. The new associations with universities and other research institutions will serve to create new opportunities for funding and recruiting young, talented researchers. This will serve to keep the unit functioning at it's traditional high level of science.

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