

FINAL RESUME ON THE RESEARCH UNIT:  
Genetic Stability and Oncogenesis

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE  
FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS AND  
RESEARCH BODIES:

Université Paris-Sud

Centre national de la recherche scientifique -  
CNRS

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**EVALUATION CAMPAIGN 2018-2019**  
GROUP E

Report published on February, 27 2019



In the name of Hcéres<sup>1</sup>:

Michel Cosnard, President

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

Etienne Schwob, Chairman of the  
committee

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

<sup>1</sup> The president of Hcéres "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 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

<b>Unit name:</b>	Genetic Stability and Oncogenesis
<b>Unit acronym:</b>	n/a
<b>Requested label:</b>	UMR
<b>Application type:</b>	Restructuration
<b>Current number:</b>	UMR8200
<b>Head of the unit (2018-2019):</b>	Ms Patricia KANNOUCHE
<b>Project leader (2020-2024):</b>	Ms Patricia KANNOUCHE
<b>Number of teams:</b>	4

## EXPERTS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

<b>Chair:</b>	Mr Etienne SCHWOB, CNRS Montpellier
<b>Experts:</b>	Ms Dana BRANZEI, IFOM, Milan, Italy
	Mr Julien CAU, CNRS Montpellier (supporting personnel)
	Mr Jean-Pierre DE VILLARTAY, Inserm Paris
	Mr Alexandre ESCARGUEIL, Sorbonne Université Paris (representative of CNU)
	Ms Giuseppina GIGLIA-MARI, Université de Lyon (representative of CoNRS)
	Mr J. Pablo RADICELLA, CEA Fontenay aux Roses

## HCÉRES REPRESENTATIVE

Ms Urszula HIBNER

## REPRESENTATIVES OF SUPERVISING INSTITUTIONS AND BODIES

Mr Etienne AUGE, Université Paris-Sud

Mr Yvan DE LAUNOIT, CNRS

## INTRODUCTION

### HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF THE UNIT

The unit "Genetic Stability and Oncogenesis" (UMR8200) was created in 2010 with five teams. New groups have joined the unit in 2012 and 2014. The unit was renewed in 2015 with significant internal restructuring, and currently consists of seven groups (including one ATIP-Avenir and one ERC StG). The unit UMR8200 has two supervising bodies, CNRS and University Paris-Sud, and is hosted in the research buildings of Institut Gustave Roussy (GR), the largest Comprehensive Cancer Centre in France, located in Villejuif, south of Paris. A global reorganization of all research at Gustave Roussy was discussed for the last two years. In preparation for this new scheme, UMR8200 underwent a major restructuring to increase the size of teams, to address broader scientific questions and to open towards translational research. Whether this repositioning is appropriate and well handled is one of the issues of this evaluation.

### MANAGEMENT TEAM

Ms Patricia Kannouche is the head of the unit since 2010.

### HCÉRES NOMENCLATURE

SVE2\_1; SVE2\_2.

### SCIENTIFIC DOMAIN

The UMR8200 covers a wide spectrum of methodological and conceptual approaches aimed at understanding fundamental aspects of the maintenance of genome integrity, ranging from model organisms to human diseases, with strong expertise in the fields of DNA replication, mitosis, oxidative stress, mutagenesis, DNA repair, recombination and genetic instability.

### UNIT WORKFORCE

	Unit workforce	
	Genetic Stability and Oncogenesis	
Active staff	Number 30/06/2018	Number 01/01/2020
Full professors and similar positions	2	2
Assistant professors and similar positions	4	8
Full time research directors (Directeurs de recherche) and similar positions	7	6
Full time research associates (Chargés de recherche) and similar positions	5	5
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)	7	10

<b>Permanent staff</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>31</b>
Non-permanent professors and associate professors, including emeritus	3	
Non-permanent full time scientists, including emeritus, post-docs	11	
<i>PhD Students</i>	16	
Non-permanent supporting personnel	22	
<b>Non-permanent staff</b>	<b>52</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>77</b>	

## GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF THE UNIT

The Genetic Stability and Oncogenesis unit (UMR8200) hosts 7 teams, including 1 ATIP-Avenir and 1 ERC StG, working on closely connected topics related to genetic instability with a rare concentration and assortment of expertise on mechanisms of DNA replication, repair, recombination and mutagenesis. These mechanisms are intimately linked to cancer predisposition, evolution, signalling and chemo-resistance. The UMR8200 is therefore ideally located within the Gustave Roussy Campus to bridge basic and translational research. Being internationally recognized for studying basic aspects of genetic instability linked to oncogenesis, the unit also brings a clear added value to this flagship Cancer Centre. The unit is also actively taking part in the DNA Repair axis of the SIRIC Socrate.

The scientific output has been very good and steady with some high-impact contributions. In the period under evaluation the unit was successful in securing considerable funding both from the European and national agencies. They have quite a remarkable involvement in student training.

A major strategic shift is taken for the next contract, with the merging of teams having different backgrounds, addressing broader scientific questions and adding translational projects to their scientific portfolio. While this move fits the agenda of research at GR and clearly consolidates most teams in terms of personnel, it also carries a threat of increasing the number of projects instead of focusing on a limited number of highly synergistic ones, which is the only way to keep an edge in the fierce competition existing in this area of research.

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