

FINAL RESUME ON THE RESEARCH UNIT:
Parasitic Molecular Biology and Immunology
(BIPAR)

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE
FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS AND
RESEARCH BODIES:

École Nationale Vétérinaire d'Alfort - ENVA
Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique -
INRA
Agence nationale de sécurité sanitaire de
l'alimentation, de l'environnement et du travail -
ANSES

EVALUATION CAMPAIGN 2018-2019
GROUP E



In the name of Hcéres¹:

Michel Cosnard, President

In the name of the experts committee²:

Simone Mario Cacciò, 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:	Parasitic Molecular Biology and Immunology
Unit acronym:	BIPAR
Requested label:	UMR
Application type:	Renewal
Current number:	956
Head of the unit (2018-2019):	Ms Nadia HADDAD
Project leader (2020-2024):	Ms Nadia HADDAD
Number of teams and/or themes:	2

EXPERTS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair:	Mr Simone Mario CACCIÒ, Istituto Superiore di sanità, Italy
Experts:	Ms Cécile LANG, Université de Strasbourg (supporting personnel) Ms Isabelle OSWALD, INRA St-Martin-du-Touch Toulouse (representative of Inra CSS) Mr Joaquim RUIZ, Institute of Agrifood Research and Technology, Spain Mr Hein SPRONG, National Institute of Public Health and Environment, The Netherlands

HCÉRES REPRESENTATIVE

Mr Jean-Marc CAVAILLON

REPRESENTATIVES OF SUPERVISING INSTITUTIONS AND BODIES

Mr Pascal BOIREAU, Anses
Mr Nicolas CANIVET, Anses
Mr Christian DUCROT, Inra
Mr Renaud TISSIER, EnvA

INTRODUCTION

HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF THE UNIT

The BIPAR JRU (Molecular Biology and Parasitic Immunology Joint Research Unit), was created in 1999 as a result of the merge of four units and teams, namely an AFSSA (now ANSES) Parasitology Unit, the ENVA Bacteriology Team, the ENVA Parasitology Team, and an INRA Infectious Disease Unit.

In 2003, following the merger with the Creteil Faculty of Medicine Parasitology-mycology laboratory, the Val-de-Marne Paris University 12 (UPVM, which was renamed UPEC) became the JRU's fourth supervisory authority. Following a JRU AERES evaluation in 2009, the mycology team left the BIPAR Unit to join UPEC in the form of a new team, renamed DYNAMYC. In this process, a significant number of INRA staff also left BIPAR. The AERES Committee took note of this departure during the 2013 evaluation. At the same time INRA partially separated from the JRU, so that the JRU "vector" thematic now focused all the interest of the INRA supervisory authority in the form of a sub-contract unit (USC) divided into two teams, VAMP and VECTOTIQ.

In January 2015, the INRA formalized the BIPAR JRU requalification, then a part of the VECTOTIQ team created the ITA group, which later joined together with the VAMP group to form the new VAMPIR team.

Currently, the BIPAR is comprised of two teams, MiTick and PARALIM. The MiTick team has originated from the reorganization of the arthropod vectors and vector-borne pathogen teams into a single team that comprises three groups, namely ITA, VAMP, and VECTOTIQ. Likewise, the PARALIM team, which focuses on zoonotic food-borne parasites, has been restructured into three groups, namely TRICHINES, TOXO, and CRYPTO-GIARDIA. The PARALIM team carries out mandates from the National Reference Laboratory and the OIE (World Organisation for Animal Health) Collaborating Center for zoonotic food-borne parasites. The BIPAR Unit is located at the Laboratories of Animal Health of the ANSES on the site of Maisons-Alfort.

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Unit's Head: M^{me} Nadia Haddad;

Deputy Head: Mr Henri-Jean Boulouis, M^{me} Isabelle Vallee, M^{me} Sarah Bonnet

HCÉRES NOMENCLATURE

SVE3 Microbiologie, virologie, immunité ; SVE3_3 Parasitologie

SCIENTIFIC DOMAIN

The team operates under the One Health concept by addressing important infectious agents, most of which are zoonotic. The unit is focusing on both basic research (host-pathogen interactions, development of suitable models) and applied research (development of improved diagnostic, screening and surveillance, with an aim at integrated control).

UNIT WORKFORCE

	Unit workforce	
	Parasitic molecular biology and immunology	
Active staff	Number 30/06/2018	Number 01/01/2020
Full professors and similar positions	5	5
Assistant professors and similar positions	4	6
Full time research directors (Directeurs de recherche) and similar positions	4	5
Full time research associates (Chargés de recherche) and similar positions	5	4
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)	16	13
Permanent staff	34	33
Non-permanent professors and associate professors, including emeritus	0	
Non-permanent full time scientists, including emeritus, post-docs	2	
PhD Students	7	
Non-permanent supporting personnel	3	
Non-permanent staff	11	
Total	46	33

GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF THE UNIT

The BIPAR Unit is involved in a number of research activities aimed at improving scientific knowledge of pathogens that are relevant for both human and veterinary health, therefore perfectly aligned with the "One Health" approach. The availability of state-of-the-art technologies allows the unit to be at the frontline of research on these pathogens.

In terms of scientific outputs, the BIPAR Unit has an excellent record of publications, both in terms of number and quality. The official mandates of the unit to operate as National Reference Centre and as OIE (World Organisation for Animal Health) Collaborative Centre on Foodborne Parasites, witnesses of its scientific recognition. Moreover, these mandates allow the unit to diffuse the concept of quality assurance into research activities.

In terms of the capacity to attract competitive funds, the BIPAR unit has a good record with National grants, but less so with International grants, for which a lack of leadership is noticed.

The BIPAR Unit has strong interactions with productive sectors, and is involved into several projects focused in the development of final commercialized products. These interactions have resulted in patents. The BIPAR Unit shows an active participation into different and imaginative public outreach actions, including knowledge dissemination actions through participation in radio and TV programs, interviews and divulgative conferences. The interest of the unit towards participatory science is exemplified by the "tick" smartphone application destined for the public.

In terms of the involvement in training through research, the BIPAR Unit is actively engaged, with a satisfactory number of PhD students.

The unit has undergone a major reorganization in a transparent and successful way, avoiding potential negative impacts on their internal dynamics and maintaining high cohesion among students, researchers and the supporting team. Solidarity and fellowship characterizes the unit's work environment.

The scientific strategy should provide more opportunities for collaborations between the two teams.

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