

Research evaluation

FINAL RESUME ON THE RESEARCH UNIT: Mondor Institute of Biomedical Research (IMRB)

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS AND RESEARCH BODIES:

Université Paris-Est Créteil Val de Marne – UPEC Institut national de la santé et de la recherche médicale - Inserm

EVALUATION CAMPAIGN 2018-2019GROUP E

Report published on May, 29 2019



In the name of Hcéres¹:

Michel Cosnard, President

In the name of the experts committee²:

Thomas Braun, 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:Mondor Institute of Biomedical Research

Unit acronym: IMRB

Requested label: UMR

Application type: Restructuration

Current number: UMR 955 Inserm

Head of the unit

(2018-2019): Mr Jorge Boczkowski

Project leader

(2020-2024): Mr Jorge Boczkowski

Number of teams: 15

EXPERTS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair: Mr Thomas Braun, Max Planck Institute, Germany

Experts: Mr Pascal Auquier, Université Aix-Marseille

Mr Luc Bertrand, Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgique

Mr Gilles Blancho, Université de Nantes (representative of CNU)

Ms Christine Bole-Feysot, Inserm, Institut Imagine (supporting personnel)

Ms Beatrice DE GELDER, Maastricht University, Netherlands

Mr Tomas Hanke, University of Oxford, United Kingdom

Ms Belinda Lennox, University of Oxford, United Kingdom

Ms Carole Planes, Inserm, Université Paris 13

Ms Palma Rocchi, Inserm, Université Aix-Marseille

Ms Sandrine ROULLAND, Inserm, Université Aix-Marseille

Mr Franceso Saverio Tedesco, University College London, United Kingdom

Ms Ellen van DER Schoot, Sanquin Institute, Netherlands

Mr Fabien Zoulim, Inserm, Université de Lyon



HCÉRES REPRESENTATIVE

Mr Jean-Edouard GAIRIN

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Mr Benoit Sevcik, Groupe Hospitalier Henri Mondor

Mr Renaud Tissier, École nationale vétérinaire d'Alfort

Mr Yazdan Yazadpanah, Inserm



INTRODUCTION

HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF THE UNIT

The "Institut Mondor de Recherche Biomédicale, IMRB" was formed in 2007 to create a competitive academic research center focusing on innovative clinical, translational and basic research. Another major aim of the IMRB is to train future leaders in basic biomedical and clinical research. Close ties exist to the Creteil academic hospitals, the school of veterinary medicine, and the French Blood Bank. The unit initially comprised 11 then 14 Inserm teams, which were located at the Creteil site covering several different research areas. The initial model of the IMRB was mainly motivated by the need to establish joint scientific core units and intensify exchange between teams. The aim for creation of a thriving academic environment and excellent scientific services had priority before a unified thematic research concept. The IMRB underwent further restructuring following the competitive call for creation of University/Hospital Department by the AP-HP resulting in the formation of three different departments.

MANAGEMENT TEAM

The IMRB is headed by Mr Jorge Boczkowski.

HCÉRES NOMENCLATURE

SVE5, SVE3, SVE4, SVE6

SCIENTIFIC DOMAIN

The IMRB performs basic and clinical research in different research areas including (i) Virus, Immunity, Cancer (5 teams); (ii) Aging, Thorax, Vessels, Blood (4 teams); and (iii) Personalized Neurology and Psychiatry (8 teams).

UNIT WORKFORCE

Unit workforce		
Mondor Institute of Biomedical Research		

Active staff	Number 30/06/2018	Number 01/01/2020
Full professors and similar positions	82	104
Assistant professors and similar positions	60	65
Full time research directors (Directeurs de recherche) and similar positions	8	10
Full time research associates (Chargés de recherche) and similar positions	13	26
Other scientists ("Conservateurs, cadres scientifiques des EPIC, fondations, industries, etc.")	29	39
High school teachers	0	0
Supporting personnel (ITAs, BIATSSs and others, notably of EPICs)	96	74
Permanent staff	288	318



Non-permanent professors and associate professors, including emeritus	9	
Non-permanent full time scientists, including emeritus, post-docs	56	
PhD Students	68	
Non-permanent supporting personnel	81	
Non-permanent staff	214	
Total	502	

GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF THE UNIT

The overall quality of the unit is excellent with a number of outstanding teams. All current 17 teams are headed by experts of high national or international reputation. The unit performs cutting edge basic and clinical research with a strong focus on translational medicine and is instrumental to train the next generation of scientists, who embrace multidisciplinary approaches and are committed to bring ground breaking basic research to clinical applications.

The overall outstanding success of the unit would have not been possible without the skilled leadership of the director, whose commitment and vision integrated the highly diversified individual teams and generated a common spirit that moved the IMRB ahead.

The research output of the unit is impressing, contributing substantially to the advancement of science and medicine. The diversity of research areas tackled by different teams makes organization of the unit as a whole a challenge but various measures were initiated to improve efficient governance. Regular meetings, retreats and other events facilitate communication between individual teams, but there seems room for further improvement.

Research at the IMRB is characterized by a very positive atmosphere and an impressive team spirit. Young researchers are all enthusiastic about their projects and the opportunity to work at the IMRB. Training and support of PhD students and post-docs is excellent and young researchers are well motivated to work together and collaborate.

The IMRB has devised a common transversal theme, featuring the impact of environmental facts for disease development and progression, which has the potential to tie teams' together working on different subjects and organ systems. Numerous scientific collaborations exist with pharmaceutical companies and biotech enterprises.

There are few subjects that require further attention. Administrative support needs improvement and international visibility has to be enhanced. Several principal investigators will retire during the next contract period, which requires additional efforts to identify and promote outstanding researchers from within and/or outside the IMRB. High profile researchers should be encouraged to join the IMRB by providing attractive start-up packages. Care needs to be taken to maintain the balance between top-level basic and clinical research, which is a guarantee for successful translational science.

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