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IRMAIC - Immuno-régulation et remodelage tissulaire dans le cancer et dans les maladies auto-immunes et inflammatoires

Rapport Hcéres

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HCERES

High Council for the Evaluation of Research
and Higher Education

Department of Research Evaluation

report on research unit:

Immune dysregulation and tissue modelling in cancer,
autoimmune and inflammatory diseases

IRMAIC

under the supervision of
the following institutions
and research bodies:

Université de Reims Champagne-Ardenne

Evaluation Campaign 2016-2017 (Group C)

HCERES

High Council for the Evaluation of Research
and Higher Education

Department of Research Evaluation

In the name of HCERES,¹

Michel Cosnard, president

In the name of the experts committee,²

Ralf Ludwig, chairman of the committee

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

¹ The president of HCERES "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 expert committee". (Article 11, paragraph 2)

Evaluation report

This report is the sole result of evaluation by the expert committee, the composition of which is specified below.

The assessments contained herein are the expression of an independent and collegial reviewing by the committee.

Unit name:	Immune dysregulation and tissue remodeling in cancer, autoimmune and inflammatory diseases
Unit acronym:	IRMAIC
Label requested:	EA (merge of two research units EA 7319 and EA 4683)
Current number:	EA 7319
Name of Director (2016-2017):	Mr Frank ANTONICELLI
Name of Project Leader (2018-2022):	Mr Frank ANTONICELLI

Expert committee members

Chair:	Mr Ralf LUDWIG, University of Lübeck, Germany
Experts:	Ms MURIEL ANDRIEU, Institut Cochin, Paris, (representative of supporting personnel) Mr SELIM ARACTINGUI, Hospital Cochin, Paris Ms Pascale COHEN, Université de Lyon 1 (representative of the CNU)

Scientific delegate representing the HCERES:

Ms Anne CAIGNARD

Representatives of supervising institutions and bodies:

Mr Gaëtan GELLE, Université de Reims Champagne-Ardennes

Mr Damien JOUET, Université de Reims Champagne-Ardennes

Heads of Doctoral School:

M^{me} Nathalie LE BARCH, Doctoral School n° 547, « Science-Technologie-Santé STS »

Mr Jean Claude MONBOISSE, Doctoral School n° 547, « Science-Technologie-Santé STS »

1 • Introduction

History and geographical location of the unit

With the contractualization procedure framework of the units of research for the next contract 2018-22, the 2 research units EA 7319 “Immunodermatologie, cytokines and cancer”, created in 2014, and EA 4683 “IMAB” decided to merge around a common scientific project. The new unit *Immune dysregulation and tissue remodelling in cancer, autoimmune and inflammatory diseases* (IRMAIC) will be located at the “Université de Reims Champagne-Ardenne” (URCA).

Management team

The designated director of the unit is Mr Frank ANTONICELLI.

HCERES nomenclature

SVE1LS6, SVE1LS7, SVE1LS4.

Scientific domains

All groups have a strong translational focus and aim at identifying biomarkers of autoimmune, inflammatory diseases and cancer. The ultimate aim of biomarker identification is the development of innovative therapeutic approaches.

Unit workforce

Unit workforce	Number on 30/06/2016	Number on 01/01/2018
N1: Permanent professors and similar positions	7	14
N2: Permanent researchers from Institutions and similar positions	1	1
N3: Other permanent staff (technicians and administrative personnel)	6	3
N4: Other researchers (Postdoctoral students, visitors, etc.)	1	
N5: Emeritus	0	
N6: Other contractual staff (technicians and administrative personnel)	3	
N7: PhD students	6	
TOTAL N1 to N7	24	
Qualified research supervisors (HDR) or similar positions	5	

Unit record	From 01/01/2011 to 30/06/2016
PhD theses defended	7
Postdoctoral scientists having spent at least 12 months in the unit	
Number of Research Supervisor Qualifications (HDR) obtained during the period	0

2 • Assessment of the unit

Global assessment of the unit

The unit “Immuno-Regulation dans les Maladies Autoimmunes, Inflammatoires et dans le Cancer” aims to unravel biomarkers of inflammatory diseases and cancer to translate these insights into pathogenesis in innovative treatment approaches. To achieve this goal, the unit is composed of 3 groups: the “Immuno-régulation cutanée” group, the “Immuno-régulation pulmonaire” group and “Immuno-régulation et cancer” group.

In the last years, the number of publications increased, and the scientific quality and output of the last period was excellent.

The unit vividly interacted with the social, economic and cultural environment. This is reflected by patents, strong interactions with hospitals, and with several start-up companies, aiming at translating research findings into clinical use.

Given its size the unit also performed excellent regarding the training through research.

The strategy for the next 5 years is clearly stated. The excellence in skin autoimmunity, where the unit is one of the leading institutes worldwide, will support the dynamic in the field of lung inflammatory diseases, especially Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), where the unit has already an excellent expertise.

Collectively, the unit was successful during the last period, has re-focused its scientific program and now is expected to have a significant impact in the fields of autoimmunity, chronic inflammation and cancer. The highly interdisciplinary and translational nature of the unit will ensure translation into clinical application.