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LNEC - Laboratoire de neurosciences expérimentales et cliniques

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:

Experimental and Clinical Neurosciences Laboratory

LNEC

under the supervision of
the following institutions
and research bodies:

Université de Poitiers

Institut National de la Santé Et de la Recherche

Médicale - INSERM

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

André Goffinet, chairman of the committee

Under the decree N°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:	Experimental and Clinical Neurosciences Laboratory
Unit acronym:	LNEC
Label requested:	UMR
Current number:	1084
Name of Director (2016-2017):	Mr Mohamed JABER
Name of Project Leader (2018-2022):	Mr Mohamed JABER

Expert committee members

Chair:	Mr André M. GOFFINET, Université de Louvain, Belgique
Experts:	Ms Colette DEHAY, Université Claude Bernard Lyon Ms Laurence DESRUES, Université de Rouen (representative of the supporting personnel) Ms Isabelle DUSART, Université Pierre et Marie Curie (representative of the CNU) Mr Stéphane HUNOT, Institut du Cerveau et de la Moelle Épineière (representative of the INSERM CSS)

Scientific delegate representing the HCERES:

Mr Jacques NOËL

Representatives of supervising institutions and bodies:

Mr Serge HUBERSON, Université de Poitiers
 Ms Marie-Louise KEMEL, INSERM

Head of Doctoral School:

Mr Gérard MAUCO, Doctoral School N° 524, “Bio-Santé”

1 • Introduction

History and geographical location of the unit

LNEC is a mixed research unit INSERM-University of Poitiers that was created in 2012. In the first 5-year period (2012-2017), three teams were integrated. The organisation will be unchanged for the next 5 year period (2018-2022).

LNEC is located in the building of the “Pôle Biologie-Santé” of the University of Poitiers. The building also hosts one CNRS unit working on ion channels, two university teams and two INSERM units working in kidney ischemia and in pharmacology. LNEC and those other research units share large equipment and facilities, especially a state of the art animal facility (Prebios) and an imaging platform (ImageUp), which are located in the same building.

Management team

Mr Mohamed JABER is the founding director of LNEC since 2013 and is proposed to remain director for the new contract period (2018-2022).

HCERES nomenclature

Principal: SVE4 Neurologie

Secondaires: SVE2 Biologie Cellulaire, Imagerie, Biologie Moléculaire, Biochimie, Génomique, Biologie Systémique, Développement, Biologie Structurale

SVE5 Physiologie, Physiopathologie, Cardiologie, Pharmacologie, Endocrinologie, Cancer, Technologies Médicales

Scientific domains

LNEC is following three axes of research to study neural repair through cellular therapy, mechanisms of drug addiction and brain circuitry in brain diseases especially in the locomotor system.

Unit workforce

Unit workforce	Number on 30/06/2016	Number on 01/01/2018
N1: Permanent professors and similar positions	11	13
N2: Permanent researchers from Institutions and similar positions	1	4
N3: Other permanent staff (technicians and administrative personnel)	5	5
N4: Other researchers (Postdoctoral students, visitors, etc.)	6	
N5: Emeritus	0	
N6: Other contractual staff (technicians and administrative personnel)	4	
N7: PhD students	10	
TOTAL N1 to N7	37	
Qualified research supervisors (HDR) or similar positions	11	

Unit record	From 01/01/2011 to 30/06/2016
PhD theses defended	8
Postdoctoral scientists having spent at least 12 months in the unit	7
Number of Research Supervisor Qualifications (HDR) obtained during the period	6

2 • Assessment of the unit

Global assessment of the unit

In addition to the scientific evaluation of the three teams, which rates the research output as excellent to outstanding, the unit was also evaluated globally and it was concluded that the management structure is very efficient, that the budget required for this management is very well balanced, and that the unit provides a very useful and favourable environment to the three participating teams. This concerns laboratory space and accommodation as well as the availability of technological platforms and collaboration with other biomedical and clinical teams in the same building or in close proximity. Funding of the unit proceeds mostly from French and regional sources more than international agencies and reveals very good fundraising ability (3 FEDER, 4 ANR, 4 FRM and 4 Fondation de France grants). The research of the teams is focused on neuroscience and includes: development of cellular therapy in brain repair, mechanisms of relapse in addiction, the physiopathology of Parkinson disease and dopa-induced secondary effects, the physiopathology of autism spectrum disorders with an original focus on the role of locomotor systems. Members of the unit are also involved in training students and junior researchers (10 PhD students, but also about 4 M2, 5 M1 and 9 bachelor students per year). These research themes are very important considering their societal impact, and the different research groups in the unit work in close coordination.