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PROTECT - Neuroprotection of the developing brain

Rapport Hcéres

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REPORT ON THE RESEARCH UNIT:
Neurodevelopmental and Neurovascular
Disorders (NeuroDiderot)

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE
FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS AND
RESEARCH BODIES:

Université Paris Diderot

Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche
Médicale – INSERM

Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique -
CNRS

Commissariat à l'énergie atomique et aux
énergies alternatives – CEA

Université Paris 13

ÉVALUATION CAMPAIGN 2017-2018
GROUP D



In the name of Hcéres¹:

Michel Cosnard, President

In the name of the expert committee²:

Alfonso Represa, 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 expert 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).

This report is the sole result of the unit's 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 PRESENTATION

Unit name:	Neurodevelopmental and Neurovascular Disorders
Unit acronym:	NeuroDiderot
Requested label:	UMR
Application type:	Restructuration
Current number:	1141
Head of the unit (2017-2018):	Mr Pierre GRESENS
Project leader (2019-2023):	Mr Pierre GRESENS
Number of teams or themes:	5

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair:	Mr Alfonso REPRESA, Institut de neurobiologie de la méditerranée
Experts:	Mr Gilbert BAILLAT, Institut de Neurosciences de la Timone (supporting personnel) Mr Maxime GUYE, CRMBM, Aix Marseille Université Mr Massimo PANDOLFO, Hopital Erasmus, Bruxelles, Belgium Ms Florence PASQUIER, CHRU de Lille, (representative of INSERM CSS) Mr François RASSENDREN, Institut de Génomique Fonctionnelle, Montpellier (representative of CoNRS) Ms Annamaria VEZZANI, Istituto Mario Negri-Milano, Italy
HCERES scientific officer:	Mr Jacques NOËL
Representatives of supervising institutions and bodies:	Mr Étienne HIRSCH, Inserm Mr Vincent MOULY, Université Pierre and Marie Curie Mr Bernard POULAIN, CNRS

INTRODUCTION

HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF THE UNIT

NeuroDiderot proposes the fusion of three previously independent units: 1) UMR 1141 (Neuroprotection of the developing brain) directed by Mr Pierre Gressens and localized at Robert_Debré Hospital; 2) UMR 1161 (Genetics and pathophysiology of neurovascular disorders) directed by Ms Elisabeth Tournier-Lasserre, and localized on Diderot Medical school, Villemin campus); 3) UMR 1129 (Childhood epilepsies and cerebral plasticity); directed by Ms Catherine Chiron localized at Necker Hospital and NeuroSpin and the SHFJ of the CEA.

NeuroDiderot (Neurodevelopmental and neurovascular disorders) unit will be a neuroscience center affiliated to Université Paris 7 and INSERM. It will be located at Robert-Debré hospital in Paris (France). Part of the activities will be located at Neurospin (CEA, Saclay, Gif-sur-Yvette, France) and Necker Enfants malades hospital (Paris, France).

MANAGEMENT TEAM

NeuroDiderot will be directed by Mr Pierre Gressens.

HCERES NOMENCLATURE

SVE4_1 Neurologie.

SCIENTIFIC DOMAIN

NeuroDiderot scientific domains involve Neurosciences (mainly brain development) and neural disorders (neurodevelopmental and neurovascular disorders). Subdomains include neurobiology, neuropediatrics, neuroanatomy, neurophysiology, neuropharmacology, neuroimaging, cognitive neuroscience, neurogenetics.

UNIT WORKFORCE

Unit workforce	Number 30/06/2017	Number 01/01/2019
Permanent staff		
Full professors and similar positions	21	25
Assistant professors and similar positions	14	21
Full time research directors (Directeurs de recherche) and similar positions	6	9
Full time research associates (Chargés de recherche) and similar positions	13	13
Other scientists ("Conservateurs, cadres scientifiques des EPIC, fondations, industries, etc.")	0	10
High school teachers	0	0

Supporting personnel (ITAs, BIATSSs and others, notably of EPICs)	36	32
TOTAL permanent staff	92	110
Non-permanent staff		
Non-permanent professors and associate professors, including emeritus	0	
Non-permanent full time scientists, including emeritus, post-docs	7	
Non-permanent supporting personnel	4	
PhD Students	24	
TOTAL non-permanent staff	17	
TOTAL unit	109	

GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF THE UNIT

Output of teams involved in NeuroDiderot over the review period is highly impressive in terms of number of publications, impact of journals and number of citations. In addition, the valorization activity was completed through licenses securing and R&D contracts with industry and the creation of 2 start-ups. NeuroDiderot has an extraordinary translational potential to clinical practice facilitated by the location of the unit at Robert Debré Hospital, the presence of clinicians (PHs, MCU-PHs and PU-PHs) in the different teams and the multiple collaboration with clinical units. This exceptional feature is well reflected in the scientific projects of the unit, combining clinical and basic science research, and also in the publications and the contribution to databases and cohorts. It is important to highlight the participation of the unit to two DHUs (Départements Hospitalo-Universitaires; the director of the unit is coordinator of DHU PROTECT) and the coordination of a RHU (Recherche Hospitalo-Universitaire; Programme Investissement d'Avenir) by one of the PIs. The merging will strengthen the national and international visibility of the unit and will facilitate the development of new integrated projects that will benefit from the synergy of the three previous units, but the resulting unit will face the need for integrating the activities of new teams and improving internal collaborations.

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