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## Genome and cell biology in diseases

Rapport Hcéres

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REPORT ON THE RESEARCH UNIT:  
Genomes and Cell Biology of Diseases  
(GenCellDi)

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE  
FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS AND  
RESEARCH BODIES:

Université Paris Diderot

Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique -  
CNRS

Institut national de la santé et de la recherche  
médicale – Inserm

**EVALUATION CAMPAIGN 2017-2018**  
GROUP D



In the name of Hcéres<sup>1</sup>:

Michel Cosnard, President

In the name of the expert committee<sup>2</sup>:

Naomi Taylor, Chairwoman of the  
committee

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

<sup>1</sup> The president of Hcéres "countersigns the evaluation reports set up by the expert committees and signed by their chairman." (Article 8, paragraph 5);

<sup>2</sup> 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

<b>Unit name:</b>	Genomes and Cell Biology of Diseases
<b>Unit acronym:</b>	GenCellDi
<b>Requested label:</b>	
<b>Application type:</b>	Restructuration
<b>Current number:</b>	U944
<b>Head of the unit (2017-2018):</b>	Mr Hugues DE THE
<b>Project leader (2019-2023):</b>	Mr Jean SOULIER
<b>Number of teams:</b>	4

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

<b>Chair:</b>	Ms Naomi TAYLOR, Institut de Génétique Moléculaire de Montpellier
<b>Experts:</b>	Mr Giovanni BLANDINO, Italian National Cancer Institute Regina Elena, Italy Mr Bruno CANARD, Marseille Luminy Mr Bruno FALINI, Institute of Hematology-CREO, Italy Ms Fathia MAMI-CHOUAIB, IGR, Villejuif (representative of Inserm CSS2) Ms Julie GAVARD, CRCNA, Nantes (representative of CoNRS) Mr Vincent GELI, CRCM, Marseille Mr Philippe Pasero, IGH, Montpellier Mr Aubin THOMAS, Institut de Génétique Humaine, Montpellier (supporting personnel)

**HCERES scientific officer:**

Ms Urszula HIBNER

**Representatives of supervising institutions and bodies:**

Mr Laurent DELVA, Inserm

Mr Hervé DOMBRET, IUH

Mr Alain EYCHENE, CNRS

Ms Laurence LOMME, Inserm

Mr Matthieu RESCHE-RIGON, Université Paris Diderot

## INTRODUCTION

### HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF THE UNIT

The unit "Genomes and Cell Biology of Diseases" was formed in 1995 by Hugues de Thé and Ali Saib as a CNRS unit in the Hopital Saint Louis in Paris. In 2013, the unit was recreated as a CNRS-Inserm multi-team unit with the inclusion of 3 new teams. An additional team joined the unit in 2014 and an ATIP-Avenir team was created in 2017.

### MANAGEMENT TEAM

The head of the unit for the next 5 year period will be Mr. Jean Soulier.

### HCERES NOMENCLATURE

SVE2-2; SVE2-3; SVE3-2; SVE5-4.

### SCIENTIFIC DOMAIN

The unit has a long history of bringing together fundamental research in the fields of genome structure, expression and stability, cell biology, chromatin organization, hematopoietic stem cell biology and leukemia pathogenesis with clinical/translational research in leukemia therapy, genome instability and viral infections.

### UNIT WORKFORCE

Unit workforce	Number 30/06/2017	Number 01/01/2019
<b>Permanent staff</b>		
Full professors and similar positions	4	6
Assistant professors and similar positions	3	5
Full time research directors (Directeurs de recherche) and similar positions	4	3
Full time research associates (Chargés de recherche) and similar positions	6	7
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)	11	10
<b>TOTAL permanent staff</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Non-permanent staff</b>		
Non-permanent professors and associate professors, including emeritus	0	
Non-permanent full time scientists, including emeritus, post-docs	11	

Non-permanent supporting personnel	9	
PhD Students	10	
<b>TOTAL non-permanent staff</b>	<b>30</b>	
<b>TOTAL unit</b>	<b>58</b>	

## GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF THE UNIT

The unit "Genomes and Cell Biology of Diseases" is a remarkable institute, bringing together fundamental and clinical research in hematology, virology, cancer and diseases associated with genetic instability. During the present evaluation period, unit members published in the most preeminent journals including *NEJM*, *Cell*, *Science*, *Cell Stem Cell*, *Cell Reports*, *Nature*, *Nature Medicine* and *Nature Communications*. Furthermore, the unit's research has been funded at the highest level of national and international funding including three European ERC investigator and one NIH grants. It is also important to note that the unit has been at the forefront of clinical advances and teaching in hematology and more recently in virology. Finally, the unit coordinates several French and international teaching/training programs for scientists/clinicians and has contributed significantly to promoting science at the junior high school/high school level through an outreach program called "L'Arbre des Connaissances" ("Tree of Knowledge"). Thus, this is an outstanding unit, bringing together fundamental and clinical research in a wide range of fields at the highest level.

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