



agence d'évaluation de la recherche
et de l'enseignement supérieur

Section des Unités de recherche

AERES report on the research unit

Allergologie Moléculaire et cellulaire

From the

INSERM

Pasteur Institute

Mai 2010



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Le Président
de l'AERES

Jean-François Dhainaut

Section des unités
de recherche

Le Directeur

Pierre Glorieux

Mal 2010



Research Unit

Name of the research unit: Unité d'Allergologie Moléculaire et cellulaire

Requested label: UMR_S INSERM

N° in the case of renewal: 760

Name of the director: Mr. Marc DAÉRON

Members of the review committee

Chairperson:

Adrian HAYDAY, London, UK

Other committee members

Robert SCHREIBER, Saint Louis, USA

Lewis LANIER, San Francisco, USA

Ricardo GAZZINELLI, Belo Horizonte, Brazil

Hans-Reiner RODEWALD, Ulm, Germany

Georgio TRINCHERI, Frederick, USA

David LEVY, New-York, USA

Michel NUSSENZWEIG, New-York, USA

Per BRANDTZAEG, Oslo, Norway

Committee members nominated by staff evaluation committees (CNU, CoNRS, INSERM and INRA CSS....)

Daniela VALMORI, Nantes, INSERM CSS member

Observers

AERES scientific advisor

Ms. Claude-Agnes REYNAUD

Research Organization representatives

Ms. Christine TUFFEREAU and Armelle REGNAULT, INSERM



1 • Introduction

- Date and execution of the visit

This visit, which took place on the 30th of November and the 1st of December 2009, represents the first attempt, for AERES and Pasteur Institute, to merge their own evaluation procedures in order to avoid unnecessary duplication of site visits. In this still provisional setting, each Pasteur group was evaluated independently, without consideration for their being embedded within a larger INSERM or CNRS structure. Accordingly, a general report commenting on the activity of the Immunology Department is provided, but not on the INSERM or CNRS unit entities.

- Staff members (on the basis of the application file submitted to the AERES)

	Past	Future
N1: Number of researchers with teaching duties (Form 2.1 of the application file)	0	0
N2: Number of full time researchers from research organizations (Form 2.3 of the application file)	3	4
N3: Number of other researchers including postdoctoral fellows (Form 2.2 and 2.4 of the application file)	2	2
N4: Number of engineers, technicians and administrative staff with a tenured position (Form 2.5 of the application file)	3	3
N5: Number of other engineers, technicians and administrative staff (Form 2.6 of the application file)	0	0
N6: Number of Ph.D. students (Form 2.7 of the application file)	3	4
N7: Number of staff members with a HDR or a similar grade	1	2



2 • Overall appreciation on the research unit

- Data on the work produced :

A1: Number of permanent researchers with or without teaching duties (recorded in N1 and N2) who are active in research	3
A2: Number of other researchers (recorded in N3, N4 and N5) who are active in research	0
A3: Ratio of members who are active in research among permanent researchers $[(A1)/(N1 + N2)]$	3/3
A4: Number of HDR granted during the past 4 years	1
A5: Number of PhD granted during the past 4 years	3

3 • Specific comments on the research unit

- Appreciation on the results

Since moving to the Pasteur Institute in 2003, the group has assembled an outstanding research team. This team have made significant progress towards our understanding of the biological relevance of Fc receptors, which are important in host defense to pathogens, allergy, and autoimmune diseases. This group has a noteworthy track record of publication in excellent peer-reviewed journals, and they have developed new mouse models in which the endogenous mouse Fc receptors have been replaced by human Fc receptors. Generating these mice, which in some cases required disruption of four mouse Fc receptors, and their replacement has taken considerable skill and effort, and provides the foundation for many future studies, as detailed in the experimental plan. The team has also devised a novel in vitro culture system for serosal mast cells, which is a significant advance in mast cell biology.

- Appreciation on the impact, the attractiveness of the research unit and of the quality of its links with international, national and local partners

The head of the group is an internationally recognized pioneer and leader in the field of Fc receptor biology. This is documented by his frequent invitations to participate in international conferences and workshops and invitations to write the definitive reviews on this subject.

- Appreciation on the strategy, governance and life of the research unit

The group has assembled an outstanding group of scientists, fellows, and students. Of particular note is the recent recruitment of an outstanding young scientist with considerable potential to become an independent leader in the field of Fc receptor biology.

- Appreciation on the project

The group has outlined an outstanding research plan to determine the function of Fc receptors in allergy, asthma, host defense, and autoimmune diseases. The review committee was very enthusiastic about the proposed development of new mouse models to study human Fc receptors in vivo - and also their parallel studies initiated with clinical labs to study Fc receptor function in human patients to validate the mouse systems. They should be encouraged to work together with the Institut Pasteur Center for Human Immunology to achieve these worthy goals.



Note de l'unité	Qualité scientifique et production	Rayonnement et attractivité, intégration dans l'environnement	Stratégie, gouvernance et vie du laboratoire	Appréciation du projet
A+	A+	A+	A+	A+