

FINAL RESUME ON THE RESEARCH UNIT:

Viral Infections and Comparative Pathology -
IVPC

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS AND RESEARCH BODIES:

Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1 - UCBL
École pratique des hautes études - EPHE
Institut national de la recherche agronomique
et environnement - INRAE

EVALUATION CAMPAIGN 2019-2020 GROUP A



In the name of Hcéres¹:

Nelly Dupin, acting
President

In the name of the experts committee²:

Matthias Schweizer, 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 experts committees and signed by their chairman." (Article 8, paragraph 5);

² The evaluation reports "are signed by the chairman of the experts committee". (Article 11, paragraph 2).

Tables in this document were filled with data submitted by the supervising body on behalf the unit.

UNIT PRESENTATION

Unit name: Viral Infections and Comparative Pathology

Unit acronym: IVPC

Current label and N°: 0754

ID RNSR: 199517675N

Application type: Renewal

Head of the unit (2019-2020): Ms Fabienne Archer

Project leader (2021-2025): Ms Fabienne Archer

Number of teams and/or themes: 3 teams

EXPERTS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair: Mr Matthias SCHWEIZER, University of Bern, Switzerland

Experts: Ms Claire ANDREJAK, CHU Amiens-Picardie (representative of CNU)

Mr Etienne DECROLY, CNRS Marseille

Ms Sophie DUCHEZ, CNRS Paris (supporting personnel)

HCÉRES REPRESENTATIVE

Ms Sophie EZINE

REPRESENTATIVES OF SUPERVISING BODIES

Mr François JOUEN, EPHE

Mr Fabrice VALLÉE, Université de Lyon1

Ms Muriel VAYSSIER-TAUSSAT, INRAE

INTRODUCTION

HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF THE UNIT

The UMR 0754 named "Viral Infections and comparative pathology" (IVPC) was created in 1997 by Professor Jean-François Mornex and is located on the Biodistrict of Lyon Gerland.

IVPC is supported by the Animal Health Division (AHD) of INRAE EPHE (École Pratique des Hautes Études, Paris) and is part of the department of Human Biology of University Lyon 1. In addition to its three managing bodies, IVPC is partner of VetAgro-Sup (the fusion of the veterinary school of Lyon with Clermond-Ferrand Agriculture Engineer School) and of the LabEx ECOFECT, a Laboratory of Excellence dedicated to the development of an innovative research in the field of infectious diseases. The unit is also associated to the Hospices Civils de Lyon (HCL) and is one of the contributors of the "SFR Bioscience" (UMS3444), a service unit that provides a shared pool of resources and technical core facilities.

Management team

The direction board comprises acting director Ms Fabienne ARCHER (since 2016) and Mr Frédérick ARNAUD, acting as deputy director of the unit.

HCÉRES NOMENCLATURE

SVE3_2: Virology, Animal, and human health

THEMATICS

The scientific policy of the IVPC is based in the "One Health" concept, concentrating on retroviruses, which is a well-established and recognized focus of the unit, and arboviruses, a topic that gained increasing importance worldwide in recent years. The general aim of the unit is to thoroughly investigate virus-host interactions in order to (i) understand in molecular details virus transmission and pathogenicity, (ii) appreciate virus-vector interrelationship, and (iii) develop efficient field diagnostics and possibly new therapeutic approaches.

UNIT WORKFORCE

Viral Infections and Comparative Pathology (IVPC)		
Active staff	Number 06/30/2019	Number 01/01/2021
Full professors and similar positions	4	3
Assistant professors and similar positions	1	2
Full time research directors (Directeurs de recherche) and similar positions	3	4
Full time research associates (Chargés de recherche) and similar positions	2	3
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)	10	9
Permanent staff	20	21
Non-permanent professors and associate professors, including emeritus	0	

Non-permanent full time scientists, including emeritus, post-docs (except PhD students)	0	
PhD Students	5	
Non-permanent supporting personnel	0	
Non-permanent staff	5	
Total	25	21

GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF THE UNIT

IVPC possess a state-of-the-art infrastructure and its location in the Lyon Biopole is a must. This represents a great national advantage and very competitive situation that must be profited from. In the last mandate, IVPC has developed tied links with Shanghai University (Laboratoire International Associé) and hosted some students from China. However, visibility is not optimal, whereas output, funding and training was evaluated as good, but is in need of a strong strategy to be improved.

For the next mandate, it will emerge as 3 teams, developing projects on the scientific niches where they are experts, such as on virus-induced cancers and arboviruses, including *Flaviviridae*, *Alphaviridae* and *Bunyaviridae*. Moreover, the new team leader hired will participate to the general stimulation. However, given the size of each team, the projects are too dispersed, the funding is still an issue and the number of post-docs and PhDs should be increased in order to gain more visibility and to foster data output by enhancing the number of papers being published. Overall, the unit was stated as good.

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