HCERES

High Council for the Evaluation of Research and Higher Education

Department of Research Evaluation

report on research unit:

Antimicrobials: molecular supports of resistances and therapeutic innovations

RESINFIT

under the supervision of the following institutions and research bodies:

Université de Limoges

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

Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Limoges - CHU Limoges

Evaluation Campaign 2016-2017 (Group C)

HCERES

High Council for the Evaluation of Research and Higher Education

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In the name of HCERES,[1]

Michel Cosnard, president

In the name of the experts committee,[2]

Elizabeth Wellington, chairwoman 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:	Antimicrobials: molecular supports of resistances and therapeutic innovations
Unit acronym:	RESINFIT
Label requested:	Inserm
Current number:	UMR1092
Name of Director (2016-2017):	Ms Marie-Cécile PLOY
Name of Project Leader (2018-2022):	Ms Marie-Cécile PLOY

Expert committee members

Chair: Ms Elizabeth WELLINGTON, University of Warwick, UK

Experts:

Ms Gilliane CHADEUF (representative of supporting personnel)

Ms Françoise LUNEL-FABIANI, CHU Angers (representative of the CNU)

Mr Thierry NAAS, Université Paris-Sud

Mr Nicolas VEZIRIS (representative of the Inserm)

Scientific delegate representing the HCERES:

Ms Anne CAIGNARD

Representatives of supervising institutions and bodies:

Mr François-Jérôme AUBERT, CHU Limoges

Mr Alain CELERIER, Université de Limoges

Ms Karine GIONNET, Inserm

Ms Christelle GUEGAN, Inserm

Mr Jean-François LEFEVRE, CHU Limoges

Ms Véronique LOUSTAUD-RATTI

Ms Stéphanie POMMIER, Inserm

Mr Pierre Marie PREUX, Université de Limoges

Mr Denis VALLEIX, Université de Limoges

Heads of Doctoral Schools:

Ms Véronique BLANQUET, ED n° 524, Doctoral School "Bio-santé"

Mr Bertrand COURTIOUX, ED n° 524, Doctoral School "Bio-santé"

1 • Introduction

History and geographical location of the unit

The unit was created in 2000 by Mr François DENIS as a university unit, "Équipe d'Accueil" EA 3175. Since 2008 to 2011, Ms Marie-Cécile PLOY led the team and was awarded an Inserm Avenir contract 2007-2011. In 2012, the unit 1092 "Antimicrobials: molecular supports of resistances and therapeutic innovations" RESINFIT was created as an Inserm/University unit (UMR). The unit belongs also to the Limoges University (Unilim) and the hospital, UMR/ CHU/Inserm/Unilim 1092.

The unit 1092 belongs to the Federative Research Institute IFR 145 GEIST (Genetics, Environment, Immunology, Health, and Therapy) from the Limoges University. It has closed ties with the French Cytomegalovirus National Reference Center (CNR), which was created in January 2006 in Limoges and is headed by Ms Sophie ALAIN.

The unit UMR 1092 has benefited from an ambitious program of the Unilim with the creation of a new building where the unit is located since October 2014. This building (CBRS "Centre de Blologie et Recherche en Santé") gathers together the hospital laboratories and 4 university/Inserm or CNRS research units focused in biology and health. This provides direct access to all the existing technical resources (genomics, proteomics, confocal microscopy, FACS).

Management team

The team RESINFIT is headed by Ms Marie-Cécile PLOY with Ms Sophie ALAIN as the deputy head.

HCERES nomenclature

SVE3, SVE6

Scientific domains

The team's main research theme is the molecular basis of antimicrobial resistance and anti-infectives, subdivided into two main axes: resistance to antibiotics and cytomegalovirus.

Unit workforce

Unit workforce	Number on 30/06/2016	Number on 01/01/2018
N1: Permanent professors and similar positions	9	8
N2: Permanent researchers from Institutions and similar positions	1	1
N3: Other permanent staff (technicians and administrative personnel)	10	11
N4: Other researchers (Postdoctoral students, visitors, etc.)	1	
N5: Emeritus	1	
N6: Other contractual staff (technicians and administrative personnel)	1	
N7: PhD students	7	
TOTAL N1 to N7	**32**	
Qualified research supervisors (HDR) or similar positions	7	

Unit record	From 01/01/2011 to 30/06/2016
PhD theses defended	9
Postdoctoral scientists having spent at least 12 months in the unit	4
Number of Research Supervisor Qualifications (HDR) obtained during the period	1

2 • Assessment of the unit

Global assessment of the unit

The research work is uniquely focused on resistance to antibiotics and anti-infectives in bacteria and viruses, primarily cytomegalovirus, which has been a highly successful strategy as the group are now well known for this specialisation and can attract elite young scientists. The unit has built a reputation for innovation and landmark discoveries particularly in the area of integron research, which has now become highly topical due to the global antimicrobial resistance problem. This places the unit in a globally important position able to deliver expertise and provide important new research findings relating to the mobility of antibiotic resistance genes.

The international profile of researchers within the unit is significant and has impact both at the academic and clinical level. A number of important publications in peer-reviewed journals plus attendance and participation in a range of international meetings increased the impact and enhanced the profile of the unit. Over the period 2011-2016 funds were awarded both by competitive peer reviewed funding schemes and through annual national grants, and success were obtained in EU programs including Horizon 2020.

The strength of the unit is based on the particular high number of researchers and MDs working in both the hospital and university.

The unit develops two research themes, antibiotic and antiviral resistance, with specific scientific issues, but a common goal, i.e. decipher how microorganisms become resistant and how to prevent it.

A key strength of the unit is to have a global view of the antimicrobial resistance, from very fundamental aspects to bedside applications. For the next contract, the focus will continue to be on developing fundamental, translational and clinical approaches.