RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE
Liberté Égalité Fraternité

Inserm
La science pour la santé
From science to health

HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

CALL FOR APPLICATION

INSERM CHAIR Recruitment

Strategy for reducing the risks associated with chronic opioid use

The Inserm chair recruitments opened to Inserm are intended for researchers with strong potential to manage and lead research teams and participate in national, European or international projects.

This recruitment, based on research and teaching projects, is aimed at researchers with a doctorate or equivalent and a first post-doctoral experience. The position is offered on a fixed-term contract (CDD) with a view to tenure in the Inserm Research Directors personnel at the end of the contract.

How apply: https://pro.inserm.fr

Contact the host lab	Download and fill the scientific files and the application request on EVA	Create an account on Eva3: https://www.eva3.inserm.fr/create	Upload your application when your are ready (Before September 2, 2025)

Supporting institution:	Inserm : Institut national de la Santé et de la recherche médicale
Name of the head of the institution:	Pr. Didier Samuel
Academic region:	ILE-DE-FRANCE
Location/ Site concerned:	Inserm U1124 - Exposomique fonctionnelle https://t3s-1124.biomedicale.parisdescartes.fr/ Paris
Partner institutions:	Université Paris Cité
Research contact: **Administrative contact:**	Xavier COUMOUL: xavier.coumoul@u-paris.fr chaires-professeur-junior@inserm.fr
Research fields EURAXESS:	Health science (Medical sciences)
Keywords:	pharmacologie, comportement, addiction, signalisation, mécanismes

Job title to be filled:	Chaire - Strategy for reducing the risks associated with chronic opioid use
Body after tenure:	Research Director
Anticipated duration of the contract:	5 years
Scientific domains/fields:	Addiction
Corresponding specialized scientific commissions (CSS):	CSS 6 - Public Health, population health
Project name:	Strategy for reducing the risks associated with chronic opioid use

Remuneration package	3 500€ - 5 000€ according to research experience
Quota	Full Time

Strategy of the host institution:

The global objective of the host laboratory is to delineate the impacts of various environmental stressors on human health and therefore link exposures to health outcomes through biological pathways. The stressors we study are diverse, covering chemical (environmental pollutants, medical drugs, drugs of abuse), and psycho-social stressors (mental disorders, social stress, exercise) and they elicit a variety of actions on human health. Transdisciplinarity is a main characteristic the research activity of the host laboratory. This research is totally in line with the policy of Inserm, with focus on several pathologies, including cancer, neurodegenerative diseases, addictive behaviors or vulnerability. Most of these research areas include a clinical component.

Summary of the scientific project:

Research on addictions and their co-morbidities is a critical public health issue and a priority for harm reduction. While substitution treatments are available for certain addictions, such as opioids, their effectiveness is not always sufficient, and these treatments present risks. For other substances, such as crack and psychostimulants, no approved treatments currently exist. It is essential to explore new research avenues that could provide improved patient care while mitigating the risks of misuse. Another major challenge concerns the co-morbidities commonly associated with addiction. Many individuals struggling with addiction also experience concomitant psychiatric disorders, such as depression or post-traumatic stress disorder, which further complicate care pathways. It is imperative to model this complexity to better understand and address it. The findings obtained could transform the management of addictions and comorbid disorders, by proposing innovative solutions adapted to the complex challenges of these pathologies.

The candidate will be responsible for designing and developing a project aimed at advancing our understanding of the neurobiological mechanisms that could lead to new therapeutic strategies for addictions or associated comorbidities. The project will be based on preclinical approaches. Expertise in neuroscience is essential. Projects incorporating interdisciplinary approaches—such as artificial intelligence, immunology, neurodevelopment, behavior, cellular and molecular biology, or Omics technologies, among others—will be considered eligible.

Summary of the teaching project:

The teaching project will be integrated into the neuroscience and neurotoxicology teaching offered at bachelor's and master's level.
Within the Science Department of the Université de Paris Cité, there is in particular a master's program in neuroscience in which a significant part of the teaching can be delivered.
We also have a master in Toxicology and teaching on the opioid epidemy and its toxic mechanisms would be of great benefit to our students.
There is also a need to at least some introductory teaching on these issues at the bachelor level.
Furthermore, larger scale teaching to inform citizens will be undertaken for example through public conferences or open online citizen teaching as developed in our university

National Research Agency package: 200k€

Other package:

Co-funding: 50 k€

Scientific communication and dissemination, Science and society :

Open Science:
Inserm is developing a strong policy in favor of open science. Open science aims to make research results "as accessible as possible and as closed as necessary." In this regard, Inserm aims for 100% of the texts of publications resulting from its research units to be made accessible, primarily through deposition in HAL. The produced data should also be made available and reusable, unless there are specific restrictions. Furthermore, the guiding principles of individual evaluation are being revised in accordance with the DORA declaration, becoming more qualitative and taking into account all aspects of the researcher's profession.

Science and society:
The science-society relationship is now recognized as an integral dimension of scientific activity. The project will further develop this dimension in synergy with Inserm, Université de Paris Cité and clinical partners. The research work that will result from it will contribute to informing public decision-making. Participatory science initiatives may be initiated with actors from the socio-economic and cultural ecosystem of the project. These links can be established through actions such as Brain Awareness Week, and through links with patient associations.

Indicators: (teaching, research, knowledge transfer)

The activity will be evaluated, notably based on scientific outcomes, i.e. how much did we learn on the difference between the analgesic and addictive mechanisms allowing a more rational approach to drug development, scientific output (publications, software, patents, etc.), formalized institutional and private partnerships through contracts, international visibility, the dissemination of work to multidisciplinary scientific communities, innovation and its transfer to society, and the dissemination of scientific knowledge to non-specialist audiences.

Selection of candidates:

It is expected the recruited researcher to become rapidly a group leader in the GAD team. So the candidate should demonstrate ability to supervise Ph.D students, post-doctoral fellow and technical support staff. She/he should have the capacity to obtain competitive funding to manage her/his group.

Successful candidates are chosen by a selection commission composed of six to ten members, the majority of whom are specialists in the fields of research concerned.

The commission carries out an initial examination of the applications, focused in particular on candidate experience and skills relative to the research and teaching project presented above. A shortlist of candidates is then selected for interview.
Only candidates selected by the selection committee on the basis of their applications will be invited to interview.

The interviews are followed by a deliberation during which selection commission will discuss the quality, originality and, where appropriate, the interdisciplinarity of the research and teaching projects presented by the candidates, their motivation and their scientific and teaching supervision capacity.

The candidates selected at the end of the selection process will be offered a researcher contract, following approval from the President and CEO of Inserm.

Required profile:

Education Level: **Phd**

Researcher Profile: R3/R4

R3 Established researcher A stage in a researcher's career describing those who have developed a level of independence and can described as an established researcher
R4 Leading Research A stage in a researcher's career where they can be termed a 'leading researcher'. This would include the team leader of a research group or head of an industry R&D laboratory.

Your application will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Relevance and originality of the project related to the research field
- International exposure in research projects
- Your ability to raise funds
- Participation in editorial and reviewing activities
- Your teaching experience
- Your ability to lead a team…

Application instruction:

Applications can be submitted online at EVA.
Deadline application: **September 2, 2025**

Please complete the scientific file in English.

It is imperative to contact the laboratory corresponding to the Chair you have applied for in order to build the project with them.

Position also open to 'Bénéficiaires de l'Obligation d'Emploi' (disabled persons), as defined in article 27 of law no. 84-16 of January 11, 1984 on statutory provisions for the civil service.