

CALL FOR APPLICATION

INSERM CHAIR Recruitment

Functional plasticity of lymphoid leukemic cells in their stromal and immune environments

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>



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 U1349 - Signalisation microenvironnement et hémopathies lymphoïdes B - Bobigny
Partner institution:	Université Sorbonne Paris Nord
Research contact:	Nadine VARIN BLANK: nadine.varin@inserm.fr
Administrative contact:	chaires-professeur-junior@inserm.fr
Research fields EURAXESS:	Cancer research (Medical sciences)
Keywords:	Onco-hematology, tumor microenvironment, B lymphoid neoplasms, signaling mechanisms, tumor heterogeneity

Job title to be filled:	Chaire - Functional plasticity of lymphoid leukemic cells in their stromal and immune environments
Body after tenure:	Research Director
Anticipated duration of the contract:	4 years

Scientific domains/fields:	Life science, Cancer, Onco-hematology, Cell signaling, Microenvironment
Corresponding specialized scientific commissions (CSS):	CSS 2 - Oncology, genetic diseases
Project name:	Functional plasticity of lymphoid leukemic cells in their stromal and immune environments

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

Strategy of the host institution:

INSERM is one of the leading biomedical research institutions in Europe and worldwide. The Institute aims at strengthening the continuum of health research from molecules to clinical application, while fostering disruptive research approaches. The “Chaire INSERM” project at Sorbonne Paris Nord University will be in line with such a strategic plan, while it will be nourished by translational approaches from fundamental to clinically oriented research axes using state-of-the-art technologies and a strong enrolment in patient therapeutic care. The recruitment of a candidate who can exploit cutting-edge approaches to advance our understanding of chronic lymphoid neoplasms will contribute to these objectives. In addition, the junior Professor will play a role in training young scientists and medical doctors through the advanced programs at Sorbonne Paris Nord University. This will facilitate the development of novel skills in the future generation of researchers and medical professionals.

Strategy of the host laboratory:

Unit 1349 “Signaling, microenvironment and B cell malignancies” (SIMHEL) integrates fundamental onco-hematology and translational research to unravel the heterogeneous profile of two major B CD5+ lymphoid malignancies: chronic lymphocytic leukemia and mantle cell lymphoma. The unit benefits from a large enrolment of patients at the Avicenne Hospital (reference center for both pathologies) on the campus and from its integration in three national and international networks (Laboratory of Excellence LabEx, French Innovative Leukemia Organization, FILO and European Research Initiative on CLL, ERIC). The scientific program promotes this translational approach and the unit strategy is to strengthen its INSERM-related research capacity and anticipate the future research activities in the field. In this context, the SIMHEL projects aim at acquiring a better understanding of the altered molecular dialog between tumor and surrounding cells both in the circulation and in the protective lymphoid organs. Adding innovative line of research or systemic analyses to the existing axes will provide further development of both our fundamental knowledge on B cell differentiation and on pathophysiological aspects of the neoplasms. A deeper integration of these complementary expertise will improve the important challenge for considering tailored therapies against resistance and relapse.

Summary of the scientific project:

The project will be developed in the host laboratory (SIMHEL/U978) whose main pathophysiological models are two CD5⁺ chronic B cell neoplasms (chronic lymphocytic leukemia and mantle cell lymphoma).

The “Chaire INSERM” will get the opportunity to lead independently a research project which will complement ongoing SIMHEL research trajectory on 1) the mechanisms at the basis of the tumor cells plasticity between quiescent and proliferative stages, in which also, immunoregulatory functions are acquired, 2) the tolerogenic and metabolic mechanisms underlying the retention and the niching of a proliferative pool of leukemic cells in sanctuary lymphoid organs leading to transformation in high-grade lymphomas. 3) the elaboration of computational prediction tools of progression and new preclinical models to target the mechanistic alterations at the basis of resistance to current therapeutic options. The research program will favor translational approach and the experimental design will benefit from technological facilities available on site (OMICS, functional genomics, multiparameter flow cytometry, multiplex, 3D-cell cultures) as well as fully annotated blood samples and patient’s biopsies collected at the “Center for biological resources” and hematology department.

Summary of the teaching project:

The teaching project includes advanced programs of USPN and University Paris Cité:

- Bachelor (L3) level in Biochemistry
- Master levels: M1 and M2 T2V and international IMI, LabEx
- Specialized teaching at the Doctorate level (Formation at Ecole Doctorale Galilée)

The “Chaire INSERM” will also contribute to our training to medical and pharmacist researchers (medical faculty) and to the international attractiveness of our teaching program:

- Module of onco-hematology
- European network on hematology (ERIC and European School of Hematology)

Innovative teaching practices will be considered

National Research Agency package:

200k€

Other package:

40k€

Co-funding*: co-funding USPN+ new tenure position grant USPN+ Laboratory extra funding with the additional package detailed below

*source et montant

Co-funding, additional package with the position:

- Office and equipped lab space will be provided

- Expert technical assistance present at the laboratory will be shared
- Core facilities access and use is funded by the host laboratory
- Bachelor and Master student supervision with laboratory financial support is provided
- Further application to PhD grant will be available
- Independently of this initial package, candidate might be eligible for start-up programs such as ERC grant or equivalent.

Scientific dissemination/ Open Science:

Scientific communication and dissemination:

The recruited researcher is expected to aim at peer-reviewed publications with high impact, to disseminate results at a national and international level, and to actively collaborate within the scientific community. Activities may include conferences, active participation in a learned society and sharing information through public

Open Science:

The recruited researcher will implement Open Science standards in all his/her activities, in particular early open sharing of research and research outputs even beyond publications. This will include, but not be limited to, open access publishing and open data sharing. The University as well as INSERM adhere to the “Dora Charte” for open Science. Costs of Open Science are generally taken in charge by the laboratory.

Science and society:

The laboratory is involved in several societies and so, regularly gives lectures and provides information or guidelines to patients’ associations. SIMHEL launched a “participating” program in which the “Chaire INSERM” might be involved.

Indicators:

- Teaching:

Teaching will be carried out at the UFR SMBH (medicine and human biology faculty)

- Capacity to transfer knowledge through teaching
- Development of innovative teaching and pedagogical practices
- Capacity to interact effectively with teaching teams

The indicators will be assessed based on bi-annual reports and by student feedback on the teaching provided

- Research:

- Development of a successful and independent line of research
- High quality scientific production
- Capacity to obtain additional funding
- Capacity to transfer knowledge to the scientific community and to the general public

- Knowledge transfer:
 - Integration in infrastructure and coordination with SIMHEL research axes
 - Collaborative projects within USPN as well as at national and international levels
 - Capacity to transfer knowledge to the scientific community and to the general public

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 be 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.