



Institute for Neurosciences of Montpellier

Call for teams

INM in few words

The Institute for Neurosciences of Montpellier (INM) is an Inserm Research Center located in the Saint-Eloi University Hospital campus, nearby clinical departments (www.inmfrance.com). The research conducted in this 4000-m² building is dedicated to pathophysiological studies and therapeutic innovation in Neurosciences, with a particular emphasis on diseases impairing sensory (audition, balance, nociception, proprioception, vision) and motor functions. A wide variety of equipment and scientific competences is available to develop a multidisciplinary approach.

INM core facilities

Sixty percent of the INM's laboratory space is reserved for top level core facilities freely opened to the INM staff and allowing frequent interactions between researchers from different teams. The neurogenetics facility specialized in mutation search performs routine sequencing and genotyping analysis (automated fluorescent sequencer, D-HPLC). The neuroimaging facility, which belongs to MRI (the Montpellier RIO Imaging network : www.mri.cnrs.fr) is equipped for single cell and tissue imaging, including video, confocal, two-photon and electron microscopy, and several stations for calcium imaging. Ion channels and transport are analyzed through eight patch-clamp stations. The center also has a histology core facility to perform sections of frozen, paraffin or plastic embedded tissues for immunohistochemistry, and slices are observed through automated digitalized high throughput system. High scale *in situ* hybridization is done in a dedicated room. The INM has a 350-m² in-house animal facility allowing virus-mediated gene therapy and *in-vivo* functional investigations with full equipment to record auditory, visual and somesthetic potentials and to analyze locomotion.

Teams

Each of the INM teams are housed in 65-m² modules comprising one large laboratory room, one conventional cell culture room and two desk rooms.

Team researchers can perform additional at-risk cultures (human, transformed cells, viruses) in appropriately secured rooms. In addition to academic teams, INM houses a start-up biotechnology company, Neureva, whose objective is to translate academic research in neuroprotection and regeneration into therapeutic strategies.

Translational research

Pre-clinical studies are highly encouraged at INM on a large variety of *in-vivo* models that we generate (knock-in, knock out, transgenic...). Physicians belonging to the INM's staff also work in the neurological hospital, in particular in the Reference Center for Rare Diseases specialized in hereditary sensory diseases (<http://maolya.chu-montpellier.fr>). DNA libraries have been generated on which genetic studies are ongoing and clinical studies on cohorts of patients with presbycusis and tinnitus are presently undergone.

Call for new teams

The INM has a very active recruitment strategy with 12 new researchers hired in the last 4 years. The Center has reserved 400-m² of laboratory space to accommodate new teams or individuals developing innovative research at the molecular, cellular and integrative levels. Investigators holding a temporary or a permanent position in a French institution (Inserm, CNRS) or foreign candidates are equally encouraged to apply. Selected candidates will be able to apply to all programs funded by the University, Inserm and CNRS such as AVENIR, ATIPE, Join Inserm, Junior Inserm programs. In the field of sensory organs and spinal cord, teams or candidates working on stem cells, gene therapy, mechanisms of cell death and genetics of multifactorial diseases will receive special attention. The quality of past work, the originality of the projects will be distinctive elements of the decision, and the potential for therapeutic applications will be regarded as a major positive point. All candidates should submit a letter of intent (5 pages maximum), curriculum vitae, names and addresses of three references.

Deadline for application is

16 June, 2008

Applicants will be informed of the selection process by e-mail. Application files should be sent to:

Christian Hamel, INSERM U. 583, INM, Hôpital Saint Eloi, BP 74103, 80 avenue Augustin Fliche, 34091 Montpellier cedex 05, France.
