

Toulouse, 2016, May the 2d

Dear Madam or Sir,

The Fédération Hospitalo-Universitaire dedicated to Cognitive, Psychic and Sensory Handicaps (FHU HoPeS) is totally supporting the Toulouse Mind and Brain Institute initiative (TMBI).

FHU HOPES is bridging together the Toulouse University Hospital (CHU de Toulouse), Inserm and CNRS research labs, Toulouse Universities (I, II, and III), patients associations in the field of Cognitive, Psychic and Sensory Handicaps. It aims at developing translational research, education and patients' care in this thematic. AVIESAN, Inserm and Toulouse III University labeled the FHU HOPES in 2016. Since, FHU HOPES is co-directed by Prof C. Arbus, psychiatrist, and Prof J. Pariente, neurologist. Madam D. Meline, Ph-D, is the project manager of this FHU.

Several projects have already been developed. Among them some are at the heart of our FHU:

1. the traumatic brain injury project that includes dedicated neuropsychological assessment and brain stimulation using tDCs,
2. developmental neuro-psychiatric cohorts for patients suffering of autism and attention deficit disorders,
3. new treatment with Oxytocin in patients with Prader-Willi Syndrome, from neonates to adulthood.

These projects involve clinicians, labs teams and patients associations.

FHU HOPES is imbedded in the TMBI since the very first day. Because of its specific place in the TMBI, FHU HOPES will play an important role in the project submitted by Simon Thorpe. More specifically, FHU HOPES whose direction is within the Toulouse Teaching Hospital, will facilitate medical research project and patients' recruitment in the studies developed in the TMBI.

The TMBI project seems to be the logical continuation of the process initiated by FHU HoPeS members to develop innovative and ambitious collaborative projects exploring the physiopathology and mechanisms of mind and brain in patients suffering from a number of disabilities. Since the quality of life is the first preoccupation of FHU HoPeS, it seems to be of major importance to further encourage scientific interactions among the local community in clinical and translational research in the field of mind and brain in Toulouse.

Yours sincerely,

D. Meline,

Prof C. Arbus,

Prof.J. Pariente

