

François Féron

Professor in neuroscience (EC) / Aix-Marseille University

French/Australian

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Current

- Leader of the team Nasal Olfactory Stemness and Epigenesis (INP, CNRS UMR 7051)
- Manager of clinical trials in brain cell therapy (LCTC, University hospital)
- Director of NeuroSchool, AMU Graduate school in neuroscience (until June 2020)
- CIVIS advisor for Aix-Marseille University

Previous

Researcher at the Queensland
Mental Health Research
(Australia)

1996

Hospital scientist at AP-HM,
Laboratory of Culture and Cell
Therapy , Marseille

1998

Group leader at the
Queensland Mental Health
Research (Australia)

2003

2005

Professor in neuroscience at
the faculty of medicine of
Aix-Marseille University

Main achievements

- Author of more than 100 publications in the areas of neurogenesis, neurodevelopment, stem cell metabolism, biomarker identification and cell therapy. H index : 47. Citations: over 9,000. (<https://scholar.google.fr/citations?hl=fr&user=GuKfeWIAAAAJ>)
- Principal investigator for the world first controlled trial to establish the therapeutic benefit of intraspinal transplantation of autologous olfactory ensheathing cells in human spinal cord injury
- Discovery and characterisation of human nasal olfactory stem cells and successful use in animal models of Parkinson's disease and amnesia.
- Identification of the misexpression of the enzyme MOCOS as a risk-candidate in Autism Spectrum Disorders.
- Demonstration that vitamin D plays a role in neurodevelopment and acts, in the brain, via PDIA3 and not the canonical vitamin D receptor (VDR).
- Co-founder and director of AMU PhD program in neuroscience (2013), International Master in neuroscience (2014) and Graduate School in neuroscience (2018).
- Co-author of a general audience book on false scientific evidence: *Iron in spinach and other urban myths* (Le Seuil).

Training

1978 – Agronomist engineer
Institut National Polytechnique
(Toulouse)

1995 – PhD in neuroscience
Claude Bernard University
(Lyon)

2003 – Authority to supervise
Research, AMU
(Marseille)