

## Call for applications MULTI-FLAM Cohort Search for partners

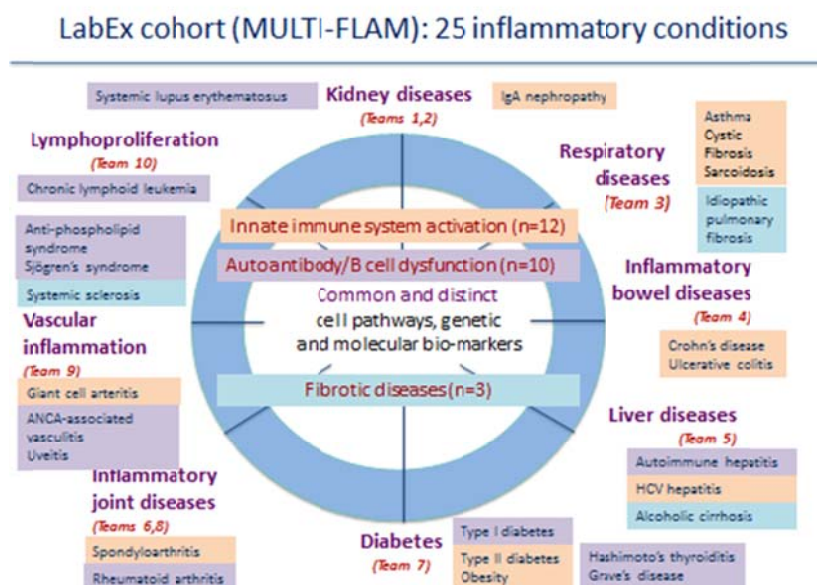
As part of its support for the Labex “Inflamex”, Medicen Paris Region would like to identify industrial or academic partners for a unique and original cohort that should contribute to the identification of new pathways/targets shared between inflammatory disorders and open new perspectives regarding targeted therapies and *in vitro* diagnostic/prognostic tools.

This collaborative project leveraging the INFLAMEX Labex (laboratory of Excellence) network seeks to refine the prognosis and the prediction to therapy response, on a wide range of inflammatory diseases sharing similar clinical pattern and/or pathophysiological mechanisms.

The actual translational project is based on a unique cohort, named “Multi-Flam”, composed of treatment naive patients, with 25 different and well defined inflammatory diseases\*, in which specific or shared biomarkers should be identified.

This cohort will be based on biological samples collected from those patients, coming from AP-HP (Assistance Publique - Hôpitaux de Paris) Excellence and Rare disease reference centers, mainly from three DHU (University Hospital Departments) partners with expertise both in immunology research and biostatistics (machine learning):

- 1) “Autoimmune and hormonal diseases” (AUTHORS)
- 2) “Fibrosis, Inflammation, REmodeling in cardiovascular, respiratory and renal diseases” (FIRE)
- and 3) “Addressing the Unmet Medical Needs through Innovation in Hepatology and Gastroenterology” (UNITY)



“Multi-Flam” cohort is divided into three main groups: i) diseases with predominant involvement of the innate immune system; ii) diseases with major involvement of adaptive immunity with dysfunctional B cells and autoantibodies and iii) fibrotic inflammatory diseases (see figure for detailed description).

More precisely, the Multi-flam cohort will include, over a period of two years, 50 untreated patients for each disease, with well-defined inclusion / exclusion criteria using validated international diagnostic criteria and disease activity parameters. For each patient, two blood samples will be collected in a standardized manner: one at inclusion and a second after 1 year.

A total of 2500 freshly collected blood samples will be available for the analysis of specific cellular subsets signature, specific cytokines production and state of activation for a panel of cytosolic signaling effectors already available in our expert laboratories. Plasma/serum, DNA and RNA will also be collected.

A specific focus will be given to biomarkers that proved a prognostic value in a specific disease and will gain accuracy in being tested in a larger number of other inflammatory disorders or being targeted by new compounds.

We believe that the Multi-Flam cohort should raise a major interest to industry R&D who have drug candidate (biologics or small molecules) either in research and/or in development, as well as those who develop new *in vitro* diagnostic/prognostic tools.

### **Who can answer?**

All partners having an interest in one of the constituent areas of the project are invited to respond to this call for applications

**We invite you to reply before the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November 2018**

**Thank you to register by following the link:**

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1xuvhBRBjI2IEYDYBmDjLhV2aRQvnDMow97j1jxJSks/edit?usp=sharig>

A restitution meeting presenting the project and the various applications is scheduled on **26<sup>th</sup> of November at 2.00 pm** (Medicen, 3-5 impasse Reille, 75014 Paris, Salle Strosberg).

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