

Ethical assessment of the two European projects led by Marie-Claude Potier:
« The locus coeruleus: at the crossroad of dementia syndromes »
« Neuropathological and Amyloid peptides differences between Down syndrome and familial Alzheimer's disease with duplications and missense mutations in APP gene »
»(<http://www.neurodegenerationresearch.eu/tag/coen/>)

The COMETH-ICM has been requested by Dr Marie-Claude Potier to provide an ethical assessment of « The locus coeruleus: at the crossroad of dementia syndromes » and « Neuropathological and Amyloid peptides differences between Down syndrome and familial Alzheimer's disease with duplications and missense mutations in APP gene » projects.

The objective of this assessment is to judge whether it is ethically justified to investigate brain specimens from 12 Parkinson patients without dementia and 5 Parkinson with dementia, 17 Alzheimer, 15 controls, 11 Down syndrome, 10 Down syndrome with dementia, 8 familial Alzheimer with APP microduplication, 7 familial Alzheimer with APP mutations, for these projects.

Brain tissue specimens are rare and precious, and originate from donations for research purpose.

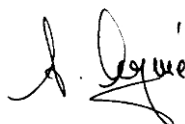
This brain tissues from patients will originate from several European Brain Banks: Pitié-Salpêtrière Hospital NeuroCEB (France), Institut Born-Bunge Brain Bank (Belgium), University of Antwerp Brain Bank (Belgium), University of Groningen Brain Bank (Netherlands), Institute of Psychiatry Kings College brain bank (UK), Cambridge Brain Bank (UK) and the Barcelona Biobanc (Spain)

The brain tissues from controls will originate from the IBB Biobank, the Netherlands Brain Bank, the Queen Square/UK Brain Bank and from the Biobanc Barcelona (Spain).

The donors have signed an informed consent for research into diseases of the nervous system.

The requested quantity is large, but seems reasonable and appropriate for the proposed protocol. The numbers and quantities are optimized taking into account possible overlaps between projects. The research team is well recognized in this field of research, publishes in top-ranked journals, and has a large experience in using brain tissues from animals and humans for research.

This project is likely to contribute to the advancement of knowledge in the investigated diseases. It does not raise any ethical issues.



Ségolène Aymé
Chair of the Ethics and Deontology Committee
segolene.ayme@icm-institute.org