Prof. Michel Baulac MD



Current Position

Professor of Neurology and Neuroanatomy at the University Pierre et Marie Curie (Paris VI), Chief of Neurology Department, Director of the Epileptology Unit at la Salpetriere Hospital (APHP), and Coordinator of Epilepsy Research at the Paris "Institut Hospitalo-Universitaire de Neurosciences Translationnelles".

Primary clinical activities:

A comprehensive epilepsy program was developed at la Pitie Salpetriere, including Video-EEG monitoring, presurgical investigations, stereotaxy, surgical treatment, Brain Imaging, Neuropsychology and psychiatry, genetics, and clinical pharmacology.

Specific actions for facilitating the continuity of care between childhood and adulthood are conducted through the French national program in favour of Rare Diseases, that permitted to create the national Centre for rare epileptic diseases (adult aspects)

Research activities, conducted in collaboration with the clinical and basic research teams at the ICM (Institute of Brain and Spinal Cord); the main domains are in:

- Genetics: we contributed to the discovery of major epilepsy genes SCN1A, GABRG2; our focus is now on the genetics of focal onset epilepsies, with identification of new genes

- Neurophysiology: We are interested in seizure emergence, pre-ictal changes and seizure prediction with a multilevel program, including in vivo recordings from micro-electrodes and in vitro studies on post-operative human epileptic tissues

- Structural and functional brain imaging, like the replacement of the Wada test by functional MRI testing, or the application of Ultrasensitive Doppler Imaging.

- Development of new antiepileptic drugs (drug trials, methodological and regulatory aspects).

He and his colleagues from La Pitié-Salpêtrière have extensively published in the field of epilepsy, including papers in the Lancet, Brain, Nature Genetics, Nature Medicine, Science, and recently in Nature Neurosciences, Nature Method and Lancet Neurology.

Michel Baulac has also served the International League Against Epilepsy as Chair of the Commission for European Affairs (2005-2009), and was elected in 2009 as Vice President of the ILAE Executive Committee (2009-2013); he is now in charge of the ILAE Budget Review Committee.