PRESS RELEASE

ANRS MIE, Inserm and Bordeaux University Hospital are joining forces to develop the ANRS MIE biobank

Bordeaux, 3 November 2026

On 3 November 2026, at the Biological Resources Centre (CRB) of the Bordeaux University Hospital, the ANRS Emerging Infectious Diseases (ANRS MIE), Inserm and the Bordeaux University Hospital formalised the launch of a public-public partnership centred on the ANRS MIE biobank, thereby jointly committing to the development and long-term sustainability of this national infrastructure.

In 2002, ANRS MIE and Inserm, through its 'Clinical Trials and Infectious Diseases' service unit, established a collaboration to create a biobank. This collaboration was expanded in 2015 to draw on the expertise of the Centre for Biological Resources (CRB) at Bordeaux University Hospital and the significant involvement of Dr Isabelle Pellegrin, a virologist who has served as the CRB's medical coordinator since its inception. Dr Pellegrin's commitment to research into HIV, and subsequently into emerging infectious diseases, as well as her expertise in biobank management (*biobanking*), have indeed established the CRB at Bordeaux University Hospital as the ANRS MIE's national biobank for over 10 years.

Today, the partnership continues on this solid foundation.

The meeting, which took place on 3 November in Bordeaux, provided an opportunity to reaffirm the principles and guidelines that underpinned the establishment of the partnership, whilst also highlighting the shared commitment to making the Bordeaux University Hospital the leading centre for housing biological collections within the ANRS MIE's remit.



Launch of the public-public partnership centred on the ANRS MIE biobank in the presence of Alexis Thomas, Deputy Director-General of the Bordeaux University Hospital; Dr Agnès Georges-Walryck, Head of the Biology and Pathology Division at the University Hospital, Carles de Bideran, Director of Research and Innovation at the University Hospital, and Dr Hervé Raoul, Deputy Director of ANRS MIE.

To cope with the increase in activity and the need to preserve the ANRS MIE collections, the CRB at the Bordeaux University Hospital has been undertaking a major extension project since June 2026. This will provide an additional 80 m², including:

- The installation of new storage units at -80°C and -150°C, part of which is intended for the ANRS MIE biobank;
- The fitting out of two new technical rooms (a culture room and a room for hazardous chemicals), as well as the reorganisation of the sample preparation and reception rooms.

"This partnership recognises the expertise of our teams and the role of Bordeaux University Hospital in research into infectious diseases. We are proud that the ANRS MIE and Inserm have entrusted us with their collections, and we are fully committed to making this biobank an ever more effective resource for researchers." **Vincent-Nicolas Delpech, Director-General of Bordeaux University Hospital**

"Established in 2002, the ANRS MIE biobank is now one of the world's largest biological collections of samples from clinical research into HIV and hepatitis. It is committed to developing an innovative and efficient logistical framework within the Bordeaux University Hospital, with the aim of expanding to include a wider range of samples and emerging pathogens, and of integrating itself into the European and international landscape." **Hervé Raoul, Deputy Director for Infrastructure and European Affairs, ANRS MIE**

"The quality, traceability and long-term preservation of biological collections are essential for their scientific utilisation. Against a backdrop of increasing regulatory requirements, our role is ly to support

research teams by providing them with reliable logistical support tailored to these new challenges."
Aurélia Vessière, Head of the Inserm Therapeutic Trials and Infectious Diseases Service Unit

A number of projects are planned for the coming months. The partners have presented a joint roadmap, which centres in particular on several initiatives:

- A fee schedule, based on the biobank's full costs, aimed at academic or private research teams and setting out the services offered and their costs;
- The management of collections from studies not funded by the ANRS, with an appropriate contractual and pricing framework;
- The utilisation of existing and future collections to contribute to the generation of new knowledge, including the adoption of an access policy and the creation of a catalogue;
- Regular and dynamic assessment of the relevance of the collections for future research projects;
- The development of IT tools and the modernisation of practices to adapt the ANRS MIE biobank to current and future research needs;
- Integrating the ANRS MIE biobank into national and European initiatives, notably Open-ReMIE and the FrBioNet infrastructure, to enhance its visibility and establish its position within the infectious diseases research landscape.

About Bordeaux University Hospital
A leading player in the hospital, academic and scientific sectors, the Bordeaux University Hospital combines clinical care, training, teaching and research at the highest level. As the largest employer in Nouvelle-Aquitaine, with over 15,700 staff, including 1,600 doctors, it operates across four hospital sites: Pellegrin and Saint-André in Bordeaux, and Haut-Lévêque and Xavier-Arnozan in Pessac. Research is a key pillar of its institutional mission, with nearly 2,800 ongoing projects involving around 18,000 patients.

About ANRS MIE
ANRS Emerging Infectious Diseases (ANRS MIE), established in 2021, is an autonomous agency of Inserm that leads, evaluates, coordinates and funds research into HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis, sexually transmitted infections, tuberculosis and emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases. It prepares the response to the scientific challenges posed by emerging diseases and ensures its deployment in times of crisis.
For further information: https://www.anrs.fr

About Inserm

Established in 1964, Inserm is a public scientific and technological organisation under the joint supervision of the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Research. Dedicated to biological and medical research and human health, it operates across the entire spectrum from the research laboratory to the patient's bedside. On the international stage, it partners with the leading institutions engaged in the scientific challenges and advances in these fields.

For further information: https://www.inserm.fr/

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