

**Call for applications for a scientific committee
“Transversal Upper Limb Reduction Deficiency”,
Santé publique France and the Agence nationale de sécurité sanitaire de
l’alimentation, de l’environnement et du travail-French Agency for Food,
Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety**

Santé publique France (SpFrance) and the Agence nationale de sécurité sanitaire de l'alimentation, de l'environnement et du travail (ANSES-French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety)¹, is launching a call for applications in view of the setting up of an expert committee on Transversal Upper Limb Reduction Deficiency (TULRD).

Mandate of the scientific expert committee

This scientific expert committee is set up as part of referral to SpFrance and the ANSES by the French Ministries for Solidarity and Health, for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition and for Agriculture and Food, further to the identification of three TULRD clusters. Twelve to 15 scientific personalities shall make up the committee, covering all scientific disciplines useful to these investigations.

In addition, a steering and monitoring committee, including representatives of people affected and stakeholders concerned by this referral, will be set up at the same time by SpFrance and the ANSES.

The scientific expert committee has the following missions:

- to identify the issues that are relevant to investigate and the analyses to be conducted to enable SpFrance and the ANSES to respond, initially, to the expected results of the referral as to TULRD, on the basis of the work and expert appraisals conducted by SpFrance and the ANSES as part of their own missions. Secondly, it will also take into account wider expectations in the area of congenital malformations especially likely to originate from the work of the steering and monitoring committee;
- based on the results of this work, the literature review and additional investigations conducted by SpFrance, the ANSES and their partners (registries etc.), offer an interpretation of the epidemiological data and the results of the work conducted and the methodological approaches to be developed (detection procedures, especially environmental investigation procedures etc.);
- in the light of the elements collected, share with SpFrance and the ANSES the conclusions, opinions and recommendations they deem necessary.

¹ Santé publique France: <https://www.santepubliquefrance.fr/Sante-publique-France/Qui-sommes-nous/Missions-et-actions>. ANSES: <https://www.anses.fr/fr>

Principles of operation and work

Operation

The expert committee is set up for the time it takes to successfully complete its mission.

The committee chairman is appointed among its members by the general managers of the two agencies. The committee shall meet three times in 2019

The committee's work shall observe the legal and regulatory principles of health expertise, and especially follow the working methods set out by the expert charter approved by the Decree 2013-413 of 21 May 2013.

The general manager of Santé publique France and the general manager of the ANSES provide the committee with the necessary resources for it to run properly, especially the necessary epidemiological data and analyses, and relevant literature reviews etc.

The committee's scientific secretariat is run jointly by SpFrance and the ANSES. For practical reasons, it is agreed between SpFrance and the ANSES that the financial and administrative organisation ensuring efficient running of the committee and observance of ethical principles (by-laws, organisation, analysis of interests, declarations of confidentiality etc.) shall be managed by SpFrance.

The committee can lead hearings of any individuals or companies whose knowledge, information in their possession and experience are considered to be required for the expert appraisal, in particular concerning the feasibility and operational capability of the proposed recommendations.

In order to formulate the positions (issues, opinions, recommendations, etc.), for which it is missioned, the committee aims to rely on the work and expertise conducted, especially by SpFrance and the ANSES, in their respective areas of expertise.

It can in particular hear the competent agency services or any other body they deem legitimate, as much on the feasibility of the work to be conducted as on the results of that work.

Scientific expert committee members

The expert committee shall include 12 to 15 French or foreign scientists of international stature having answered to the call for applications, and appointed by the general managers of Santé publique France and the ANSES, for a maximum three-year period.

The experts will sit on their own name and cannot therefore be replaced. It is an *intuitu personae* method of appointment and not appointment as representatives of an institution.

The experts' interests, as for any health expert appraisal, shall be examined according to applicable legal and regulatory provisions. Agents or members of a governance body of either of the two agencies cannot participate in this scientific committee.

Expertise required

Scientific expertise

- Genetics (human and animal)
- Obstetrics
- Paediatric/perinatal
- Prenatal and genetic diagnostic/consultancy, management of congenital malformations and conditions;

- Human and animal embryology;
- Toxicology, in particular developmental biology of reproduction (human and animal), for the various risk factors (chemical substances, physical agents, ionising radiation, pathogenic agents);
- Pharmacology;
- Epidemiology (human and animal health);
- Infectious diseases/virology;
- Environmental and occupational exposure;
- Bio-statistics (especially temporo-spatial detection, data mining etc.);
- Human and social sciences;
- Ethics.

General expertise

- Knowledge of and interest in public health systems;
- Knowledge of tools for assessing uncertainty and scientific weights of evidence;
- Ability to work as a group and in a multidisciplinary context including in restrictive conditions (short deadlines, major uncertainties);
- Experience as an expert committee participant;
- Experience issuing operational recommendations for expert agencies and public authorities.

Payment, expenses

In keeping with what is explained above, the rules and procedures covering expenses shall be those applicable at SpFrance.

Travel and accommodation expenses are reimbursed according to the conditions provided for State civilian personnel.

Compensation for loss of earnings for independent professions and compensation for time spent at meetings and on research shall be paid according to the scale decided by the Santé publique France Board of Directors.

Application procedures

The application must be submitted before 1 January 2019, at the following address:
candidatures_comiteexpertsATMS@santepubliquefrance.fr.

The application must include:

- a cover letter which should feature the work and home address, an e-mail address and a mobile phone number²;
- a curriculum vitae;
- a list of works/publications from the last 5 years;
- a public declaration of interests to be filled in on the unique PDI sit accessible at:

<https://dpi-declaration.sante.gouv.fr/dpi-webapp/app/candidature/index>

International applicants can be assisted to fill in this public declaration. They should then contact Corinne Gaillard (corinne.gaillard@santepubliquefrance.fr) who will provide the necessary assistance.

Application selection procedures

² Compulsory for authentication on the unique public declaration of interests (PDI) site.

Only full applications will be examined.

Basic understanding of the French language would be an asset. Meetings will be held preferably in French but translation in English can be considered. Working and final documents will be written in French.

Applicants will be selected on the basis of the information provided in the cover letter, on the applicants' compatibility with the expertise required, on analysis of interests and the necessary multidisciplinary and plural nature of the group for working on the subject as a whole.

Applicants will be informed of the outcome of their application by e-mail.