

**PRESS RELEASE**

**In the presence of Marisol Touraine, Minister for Social Affairs and Health,  
and Thierry Mandon, Secretary of State for Higher Education  
and Research**

**MSDAVENIR and INSERM sign a strategic framework agreement  
to support French medical research**

Paris, April 11, 2016 – Cyril Schiever, Chairman of the Board of MSDAVENIR, Professor Yves Lévy, Chairman and CEO of Inserm and Pascale Augé, President of the Executive Board of Inserm Transfert, today signed a strategic framework agreement to support French medical research.

This event took place under the patronage and in the presence of Marisol Touraine, French Minister for Social Affairs and Health, and Thierry Mandon, Secretary of State for Higher Education and Research.

**The framework agreement between Inserm and MSDAVENIR: a public-private partnership approach to support health research**

It will help support research projects of excellence covering:

- oncology, personalized medicine and translational research
- Inserm's Major Transversal Programs (GPT): aging, microbiota, genomic variability in patients and its contribution to the natural history of human diseases

This framework agreement reflects the desire of MSDAVENIR to make a significant commitment to medical research in France. *"This agreement cements the founding ambition of MSDAVENIR: to invest differently in France to further scientific and medical knowledge. Through this collaborative approach with Inserm, MSDAVENIR forms part of a dynamic for 'open research and innovation', driven and supported by the French government. We are particularly honored today by the presence of the Minister for Health and the Secretary of State for Research, an indication of their support for this endeavor"* declared Cyril Schiever, Chairman of MSDAVENIR.

*"The agreement we are signing today with MSDAVENIR is fully in line with three of Inserm's major objectives: foster the medical and scientific attractiveness of France; develop public-private partnerships within a framework of open innovation; and focus efforts onto domains of excellence in fundamental and translational research serving new precision medicine"* added Yves Levy, Chairman and CEO of Inserm. *"It's a great honor for Inserm to witness today the culmination of this framework agreement in the presence of the Minister of Social Affairs and Health and the Secretary of State for Higher Education and Research."*

*"France is currently the leader in terms of innovation in health. Everywhere I look I see great enthusiasm, the dynamism of start-ups, and a shared ambition to innovate in order to improve patient wellbeing. Signing this framework agreement will help us further expand this movement"* declared Marisol Touraine, Minister of Social Affairs and Health.

*"We must strengthen partnerships between academia and the pharmaceutical world; this way, our research will progress and be more highly valued, therefore increasing our attractivity"* said Thierry Mandon, the Secretary of State for Higher Education and Research.

**About MSDAVENIR – [www.msdavenir.fr](http://www.msdavenir.fr)**

*MSDAVENIR is a research support fund in the life sciences that was set up in March 2015 and endowed with €75 million for a three-year period. Through the signing of partnerships, this fund aims to drive research in both scientific areas and societal fields related to research, education or health.*

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**About INSERM – [www.inserm.fr](http://www.inserm.fr)**

*Set up in 1964, the National Institute for Health and Medical Research (INSERM) is a Public Scientific and Technical Research Establishment supervised jointly by the Ministry for Higher Education and Research and the Ministry for Health. The vocation of its scientists is study all diseases, from the most common to the most rare, through their work in biological and medical research and population health.*

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**About Inserm Transfert – [www.inserm-transfert.fr](http://www.inserm-transfert.fr)**

*Inserm Transfert SA is a private subsidiary of Inserm founded in 2000 that is responsible for the institute's valorization mission. It manages the entire transfer of technologies and knowledge from Inserm's research laboratories towards health industries – from invention disclosure and the maturation of innovative projects to the signing of industrial partnerships.*

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