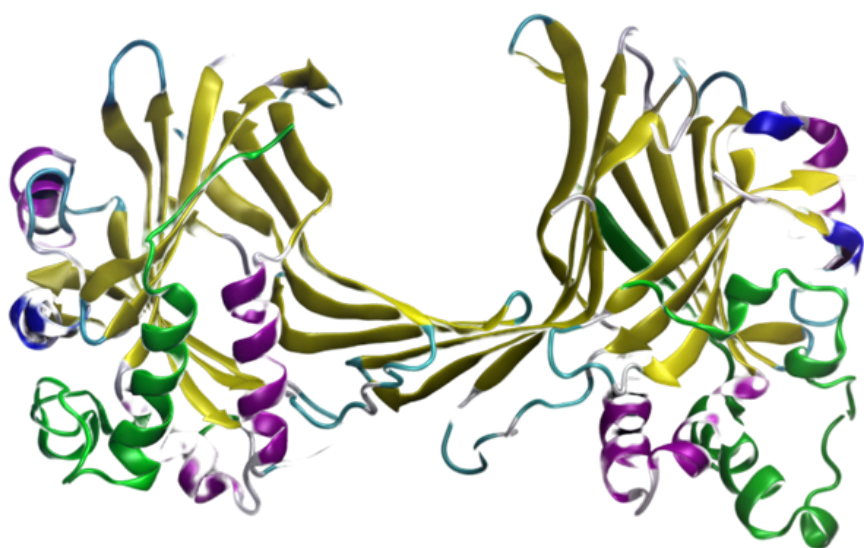


3rd RePo-SUDOE

CONFERENCE - PROGRAMME



Opportunities and challenges
for cancer drug development
and repurposing

MORE INFORMATION

DECEMBER, 17th

CONSEIL RÉGIONAL DE NOUVELLE-AQUITAINE
BORDEAUX, FRANCE



3rd RePo-SUDOE Conference Programme

December 17th, 2026

Conseil régional de Nouvelle-Aquitaine,
Bordeaux, France

08:30 h - 9:00 h **Arrival of participants and registration**

09:00 h - 9:30 h **Opening Ceremony**

Session: Computational and experimental biophysics for drug development

Chairs: Gayo Diallo (Univ. Bordeaux) & Sophie Lecomte (CBMN, CNRS)

09:30 h - 10:10 h **Miquel Pons** (University of Barcelona)

10:10 h - 10:50 h **Ana Luísa De Sousa-Coelho** (University of Algarve) &
Mónica Fernandes (Algarve Biomedical Center Research Institute)

10:50 h - 11:10 h **Coffee Break Networking**

11:10 h - 11:50 h **Jean-Philip Piquemal** (Qubit Pharmaceuticals - Univ. of Sorbonne)

11:50 h - 12:30 h **Xavier Salvatella** (IRB Barcelona)

12:30 h - 14:00 h **Lunch break and VRE demo**

Session: Challenging cancer drug development

Chairs: Thomas Daubon (IBGC, CNRS) & Philippe Pourquier (IRCM, INSERM)

14:00 h - 14:40 h **Ling Peng** (University of Aix-Marseille)

14:40 h - 15:20 h **Gilles Guichard** (CBMN, IECB, CNRS)

15:20 h - 16:00 h **Christophe Grosset** (BRIC, CNRS)

16:00 h - 16:40 h **Sébastien Papot** (University of Poitiers)



3rd RePo-SUDOE Conference Programme

📍 December 17th, 2026

📍 Conseil régional de Nouvelle-Aquitaine,
Bordeaux, France

16:40 h - 17:00 h

Coffee Break Networking

Round table - Drug repurposing

Chairs: João José Joaquim (ESTeC) & Carmelo Di Primo (ARNA, INSERM)

17:00 h - 18:30 h

- **Jean-Philippe Borges** (Canceropole Grand Sud-Ouest)
- **Harald Schmidt** (RePo4EU)
- **Guillaume Vaquer** (ANSM)
- **Sofia Oliveira-Martins** (SIMPATRIC Consortium)

19:00 h - 21:00 h

Evening Cocktail

Meet our speakers!

Miquel Pons - Professor, University of Barcelona, Spain



He studied chemistry and biology at the University of Barcelona and did his PhD in the Biophysical Chemistry Department of Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine in the University of London under the supervision of Prof. Denis Chapman. At the University of Barcelona, NMR has been at the center of his research interests, initially focusing on supramolecular organic chemistry and then on protein NMR, with special emphasis on intrinsically disordered proteins. He has authored more than 200 articles. He was the founding president of GERMN (Grupo Especializado de RMN) and has been member of the councils of ISMAR, EUROMAR, Ampère, and the Sociedad Española de Biofísica.

He is the scientific director of the Instalación Científica y Tecnológica Singular (ICTS) of the University of Barcelona and was the first coordinator of the R-LRB, the distributed ICTS network formed by the highest field NMR instruments in Spain, including the first 1 GHz 4K instrument in Europe, installed in Barcelona in 2022. He has also promoted the expansion of the Spanish node of Instruct.Eric that was completed in 2025.



Ana Luísa De Sousa-Coelho - Adjunct Professor, University of Algarve, Portugal

Ana Luísa De Sousa-Coelho is an Adjunct Professor at the School of Health of the University of Algarve and a Principal Investigator at the Algarve Biomedical Center Research Institute (ABC-Ri), Portugal. Her research spans metabolism, cancer biology, and translational biomedical sciences. She investigates the molecular mechanisms underlying metabolic diseases and cancer, with particular emphasis on glioblastoma, melanoma, and obesity. Through her research she seeks to advance precision medicine and improve therapeutic outcomes for patients.



Mónica Teotónio Fernandes - Professor, University of Algarve, Portugal

Mónica Teotónio Fernandes is an Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, University of Algarve, and a researcher at the Algarve Biomedical Center Research Institute (ABC-Ri), Portugal. Her research focuses on identifying novel molecular targets and exploring drug-repurposing strategies for glioblastoma, one of the most aggressive and treatment-resistant brain tumours. To investigate tumour biology and therapeutic response in physiologically relevant settings, she uses advanced three-dimensional preclinical models, including tumour spheroids and cerebral organoid-based fusion models. Her work aims to bridge fundamental cancer biology and translational research, contributing to the development of more effective therapeutic approaches for glioblastoma.

Meet our speakers!



Jean-Philip Piquemal - Professor of Theoretical Chemistry, University of Sorbonne, France

Jean-Philip Piquemal is distinguished Professor of Theoretical Chemistry at Sorbonne Université (SU) and Director of the Laboratoire de Chimie Théorique (SU/CNRS). He is also CSO and co-founder of Qubit Pharmaceuticals. His computational chemistry research is performed in strong interdisciplinary interaction with applied mathematics, Quantum Computing and high performance computing, with a strong interest in drug discovery.



Sébastien Papot - Full Professor, University of Poitiers, France

Sébastien Papot is a Full Professor at the University of Poitiers, where he teaches organic chemistry and chemical biology. He co-heads the Organic Synthesis team at IC2MP (UMR 7285) and leads the “Programmed Molecular Systems” group, which brings together organic chemists and biologists. He also coordinates a research team accredited by La Ligue Contre le Cancer (équipe labellisée, 2022–2026). As an organic chemist and chemical biologist, S. Papot specializes in developing stimuli-responsive molecular devices to understand, manipulate, and mimic living systems.

In 2014, he received the Pierre Fabre Award for Therapeutic Innovation. He served as President of the French Society of Medicinal Chemistry from 2019 to 2020 (and Vice-President in 2018). S. Papot is also the co-founder and Chief Scientific Officer (CSO) of Seekyo, a privately owned biotech company dedicated to developing targeted cancer therapies that minimize the side effects of conventional chemotherapy.



Ling Peng - Research Director CINA, CNRS, France

Ling Peng is currently a research director in the Interdisciplinary Center on Nanoscience in Marseille (CINA) at the French National Scientific Research Center (CNRS) in France. She has been working actively at the interface of chemistry and biology, and in particular, she has inaugurated the concept of self-assembling supramolecular dendrimers for delivering various pharmaceutical agents including anticancer drugs, nucleic acid therapeutics and imaging agents. Since 2016, her research team has been labelled by La Ligue contre Le Cancer, the largest private foundation in cancer research in France.

Dr. Ling PENG is the Distinguished Member of French Chemical Society, and has been awarded with the Prize of Dr & Mme Henri Labbé of the French Academy of Sciences in 2017, the Grand Prize of the French Chemical Society SUD PACA and the Prize of André Collet in Supramolecular Chemistry of the French Chemical Society in 2024.

Meet our speakers!

Gilles Guichard - Research Director CBMN, CNRS, France



Gilles Guichard received his PhD from the University of Strasbourg (1996) in the field of peptide science and in 1997 moved to ETH in Zürich as a post-doctoral researcher working with Prof. Dieter Seebach on the chemistry of β -peptide foldamers. In 1998, he joined the Institut de Biologie Moléculaire et Cellulaire (IBMC) in Strasbourg as a CNRS Chargé de Recherche and was appointed CNRS Directeur de Recherches in 2006. In 2009, he moved to the Univ. Bordeaux and joined the Institut Européen de Chimie et Biologie (IECB) as group leader.

He is also affiliated to the Laboratory of Chemistry and Biology of Membranes and Nano-objects. In 2019, he received the Grammaticakis-Neuman award from the French Académie des Sciences for his work on foldamers and the DCO-SCF Prize in 2021. He is also a member of the advisory board of the journal Peptide Science (Wiley). His research focuses on biomimetic chemistry of peptides and foldamer chemistry. In recent years, his group has gained interest in protein mimicry and in the structure-guided design of modulators of protein-protein interactions.

Christophe Grosset - INSERM Research Director, BRIC, France



Christophe Grosset is an Inserm Research Director and head of the MIRCADE team at the Bordeaux Institute of Oncology. After completing his PhD in 1998 and postdoctoral work in Texas and Bordeaux on post-transcriptional gene regulation, he joined Inserm in 2001. There, he has studied how microRNAs regulate key oncogenes in liver cancer, both in adult hepatocellular carcinoma and pediatric hepatoblastoma, developing original methods such as FunREG to identify these interactions.

More recently, he showed that EZH2 is a prognostic biomarker and therapeutic target in hepatoblastoma, and that combining EZH2 inhibitors with statins has a synergistic antitumor effect. His current research focuses on the epigenetic mechanisms of childhood cancer, aiming to find new treatments for children with relapsed or treatment-resistant tumors.

Harald Schmidt - Coordinator of REPO4EU, Germany



Harald H.H.W. Schmidt, MD, PhD, PharmD, is Professor Emeritus at Maastricht University and Coordinator of the Horizon Europe project REPO4EU. Trained in medicine and pharmacy, his research focuses on network medicine, precision medicine, and drug repurposing. He leads international efforts to develop mechanism-based approaches for identifying and translating repurposed therapies into clinical practice. He is the author of *The End of Medicine as We Know It* and has held numerous academic and leadership positions in cardiovascular and translational medicine.

Meet our speakers!



Guillaume Vaquer - Head of the Innovation and Guidance Office (GIO) at the French National Agency for Medicines and Health Products Safety

He is a pharmacist and Head of the Innovation and Guidance Office (GIO) at the French National Agency for Medicines and Health Products Safety (ANSM), a position he has held for five years. Following hospital pharmacy training in Montpellier, Nîmes and Paris (AP-HP), he now supports researchers, start-ups, SMEs and pharmaceutical companies through tailored dialogue throughout health product development. Within the EMA/HMA network, he contributes to horizon scanning through the European Innovation Network (EU-IN) and to strengthening European innovation support through the European Commission-funded IncreaseNET Joint Action.

