

| The Academy of Sciences from the Institute of France in Paris and the Philippe & Maria Halphen Foundation awarded the 2015 Halphen Prize to Professor Luc Mallet.

On 24 November 2015, the Philippe and Maria Halphen Foundation and the Academy of Sciences chose to reward Professor Luc Mallet for his outstanding work developed in the field of neuroscience research linked to Obsessive Compulsive Disorders (OCD).

For its second edition, the 2015 Halphen Prize, in the amount of €15,000, aimed to reward world-class research in the field of pathophysiology of depression and anxiety disorders including an experimental approach pre-clinic or clinical and in preference translational.

Professor of Psychiatry at University Hospital Henri Mondor in Créteil and Hospital Albert Chenevier, Associate Professor at the University of Geneva, Luc Mallet has lead a research team since 2008 at the Brain and Spine Institute (ICM Inserm U1127) to the Pitié-Salpêtrière Hospital in Paris. This team coordinates a range of translational research projects aimed at characterizing the pathophysiology of pathological repetitive behaviors in humans with obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD).

Professor Luc Mallet's work seeks to identify the process of information in the basal ganglia in relation to psychopathology and to develop innovative therapies for severe and resistant disorders to medical treatment. With this expertise, the results obtained enables a better understanding of how symptoms of OCD occur (using a combination of approaches in experimental psychology, imaging, biology in humans and animals). His works also demonstrate, through a translational approach, clinical and experimental ways to better treat the disease through exploration of existing treatments and optimization mechanisms.

Finally, to complete the therapeutic devices, the awarded research program suggests that the disability of OCD could be better fought by developing an approach at the intersection between neuroscience and anthro-po-sociology, using the new tools provided by modern technology to optimize treatments, personalized care and avoid isolation of the patient.

This is the second year that the Philippe and Maria Halphen Foundation has awarded the Halphen Prize. In 2016, the prize money will amount to €20,000 to honour a new French researcher to encourage their team to perservere and to find new treatments for mental health research.