

Marion Leboyer, M.D., Ph.D. is currently appointed as Professor of Psychiatry at the faculty of the University of Paris Est (UPEC) in France. Head of the department of Psychiatry (Mondor University hospital, Hôpitaux de Paris), she also runs a laboratory working on “psychiatry genetics” belonging to INSERM (Paris). Since 2007, she is the executive director of the FondaMental Foundation (www.fondation-fondamental.org) created by the French Ministry of Research to promote research in Psychiatry, but also to implement national networks of expert centres, enabling to follow-up large cohorts of patients with bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, resistant depression or autism.

Along with her team and her collaborators, Marion Leboyer’s has authored or co-authored more than 300 peer-reviewed international publications (H-factor:59). She contributed to the identification of the first mutations of genes implicated in synaptogenesis in autism in 2003, then to the identification of genes implicated in early onset bipolar disorder. Recently, her team has been working on the hypothesis that impaired innate immune response may underlie the inter-individual genetic susceptibility to aberrant encounters, such as stress or infections during the pre or perinatal period which may alter the future immuno-inflammatory responses to environmental triggers. Targeting dysimmune pathways may allow the development of innovative treatments as immune deregulation seems to parallel the progression and the development of metabolic and autoimmune comorbidities in major psychiatric disorders.