

Puteaux, 11 July 2023

PROFESSOR DIDIER PITTET IS APPOINTED CHAIRMAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL AND INTERDISCIPLINARY SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL OF ORPEA GROUP



Professor Didier Pittet, appointed Chairman of the International and Interdisciplinary Scientific Council, will notably fulfil the missions of implementing a consensus of experts relative to the Group's activities, academic partnerships, literary reviews, pilot studies and coordinating calls for projects. He will be backed by 18 experts* to adopt medical and care practices based on science and best practices. In this respect, Didier Pittet joins the Medical Department team of Professor Pierre Krolak-Salmon, Group Medical Director.

Laurent Guillot, Group CEO: *" The expertise of Professor Didier Pittet and his colleagues on the International, Interdisciplinary Scientific Council will contribute to the Group's Refounding drive by recommending continuous improvements in medical and care practices based on science and international best practice. The appointment of Professor Didier Pittet and the International, Interdisciplinary Scientific Council will enable the acceleration of the medical project to meet the care and assistance challenges of tomorrow. The project, at the heart of the ORPEA Refoundation plan, steered by Professor Pierre Krolak-Salmon, is based on three pillars:*

- *the Group's Medico-Care Commission, the keystone of the system,*
- *the Ethics Advisory Board by Emmanuel Hirsch,*
- *and the International and Interdisciplinary Scientific Council".*

Honorary professor at the Imperial College (London), at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University School of Health Science (Hong Kong) and at the First Medical School of the Fu, (Shanghai), Didier Pittet works closely with the World Health Organization (WHO) where he was formerly head of the hospital epidemiology department and director of the Collaborating Centre on Patient Safety of the University of Geneva Hospitals and Faculty of Medicine, Switzerland.

He is also main lead of the First Global Patient Safety Challenge, with its Clean Care is Safer Care programme active in hospitals of 189 of the 195 UN member states.

In June 2020, Professor Pittet was appointed by President Macron as chairman of an independent mission created to assess the management of the COVID-19 crisis and better address the risks posed by the pandemic, with the drawing up of a report published in May 2021.

Author and co-author of more than 500 publications in scientific journal and editor of the first textbook "Hand Hygiene - A Handbook for Medical Professionals" (Wiley-Blackwell, 2017), Professor Pittet is a consultant editor for *The Lancet* and a member of the editorial boards of numerous scientific reviews, including *The Lancet Infectious Diseases*, which he create in collaboration with John McConnell. Professor Pittet has been received many professional and civil distinctions, including the French Legion of Honour from President Emmanuel Macron and Honorary Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE)



from Her Royal Highness Elisabeth II. Professor Pittet has significant expertise in the care processes for patients and notably replaced hand washing and soap with the systematic use of alcohol-based handrubs.

***The 18 Members of the International Scientific and Interdisciplinary Council:**

- *Professor Joel Belmin, geriatrics, Paris, France > Training/Digital*
- *Dr Marco Calegari, rehabilitation, Italy, > Rehabilitation*
- *Doctor Anja De Kant, surgeon, Germany > Strategy*
- *Doctor Jean-Michel Dorey, psychiatrist, professor at the Universities of Lyon, France > Psychiatry of the elderly*
- *Professor Bertrand Fougère, geriatrics, Tours, France > Ageing strategy*
- *Doctor Pedro Gamito, Lisbon, Psychologist, Portugal, > Clinical Psychology*
- *Doctor Lise Haddouk, psychologist, France > Clinical Psychology*
- *Professor Kiyoka Kinugawa, geriatrics, Paris, France > Sleep and ageing, cognition*
- *Professor Franz Kolland, sociologist and gerontologist, Austria > Societal issues and ageing*
- *Professor Pierre Krolak-Salmon, neurologist and geriatrics, France > Neuro-cognitive disorders*
- *Professor Marion Leboyer, psychiatrist, Paris, France > Adult Psychiatry*
- *Doctor Hans Neustädter, head physician, Schweizerwiese Clinic, Germany > Psychosomatic Medicine*
- *Professor Pierre Parneix, doctor in public health and infectious disease prevention, Bordeaux, France, President of the Société Française d'Hygiène Hospitalière > Infectious diseases, prevention of infections*
- *Doctor Laure Peter-Derex, neurologist, Lyon, France > Adult sleep and ageing*
- *Doctor Thérèse Jonveaux, neurologist, Nancy, France > Environment, therapeutic gardens*
- *Professor Dina Zekry, geriatrics, Geneva, Switzerland > Neuro-vascular*
 - *Permanent Guest: Professor Emmanuel Hirsch, Chairman of the Ethics Advisory Board*

About ORPEA

ORPEA is a leading global player, expert in the care of all types of frailty. The Group operates in 21 countries and covers three core businesses: care for the elderly (nursing homes, assisted living facilities, homecare and services), post-acute and rehabilitation care and mental health care (specialized clinics). It has more than 76,000 employees and welcomes more than 267,000 patients and residents each year.

<https://www.orpea-group.com/en>

ORPEA is listed on Euronext Paris (ISIN: FR0000184798) and is a member of the SBF 120 and CAC Mid 60 indices.

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