



Call for proposals

NEW TEAM

In the European Union, a rare disease is defined as one affecting fewer than 5 out of 10,000 members of the general population. To date, about seven thousand rare diseases have been discovered, approximately 80% of those diseases are of genetic origin and their majority are chronic and life-threatening. Recognized as a public health priority by the French government since 2005, rare diseases affect about 3 million individuals in France and 30 million in Europe. However, despite recent successes in diagnosis, care or therapeutic development, 50% of patients are still without any molecular diagnosis and effective treatment exists for only 5% of cases. The objective of the MARMARA institute is to gather research laboratories, medical teams, educational teams and industrial partners around cross-cutting actions to develop cutting-edge research for the benefit of patients. By federating new stakeholders, the MARMARA institute aims at promoting, at the local, national and international levels, multidisciplinary research and training in connection with the socio-economic and cultural environment in the field of rare diseases.

To extend the field of competence of teams that are already part of the Institute and to promote interdisciplinary approaches and the emergence of innovative research projects, **MarMaRa Institute offers the opportunity to new teams of the Aix-Marseille University to join the Institute.**

Evaluation:

The team's affiliation to MarMaRa takes place in three stages:

- (1) evaluation by the steering and the scientific committees;
- (2) the team leader gives a seminar to the whole community;
- (3) the Institute Council officially validates the affiliation (yearly meetings: January – June - November).

Documents required:

- a CV including the list of the 10 most important achievements since 2015 (publications, grants, awards and patents);
- the description of the [team composition](#);
- a 3 pages document describing their scientific achievements and research program. This latter part should explain [how the research program is linked to the rare disease field, including potential collaborations with MarMaRa's teams](#), and highlight the added value the team would provide to the Institute.

Application must be submitted as a [single PDF file](#)

(“MarMaRa_AO_NewTeam_[Name]_[Laboratory – team]_2026”) in this [AMUBOX folder](#).

Terms of engagement:

All scientific publications and communications which have benefited of the financial support of MarMaRa must mention the following sentence:

*This work received support from the French government under the France 2030 investment plan, as part of the Initiative d'Excellence d'Aix-Marseille Université - A*MIDEX (AMX-19-IET-007) through the Marseille Maladies Rares Institute (MarMaRa)*

Publications must be deposited in the A*Midex HAL AMU collection, the University's open archive.

No deadline – this call is open throughout the year