



# VIRvOLT Newsletter

**VI**rology **O**perational



**L**aboratories for drug



**T**esting



December 2024#4

## VIRvOLT is growing !

### Welcome to Spain and Switzerland !

We are now 11 virology laboratories involved in this network, all operational for real-time monitoring of viral excretion (therapeutic efficacy) by measuring nasopharyngeal viral loads. The new standardisation approach proposed by bioMérieux makes it possible to compare results, even though they are produced on different molecular platforms.



« The VIRvOLT network has been instrumental in organizing the work of multiple laboratories working on viral pathogens across Europe, and this tremendous work has participated to the obtention of a EU grant for PROACT in EU-RESPONSE, whose goal is to expand and consolidate the work done in EU-RESPONSE. With the active participation of VIRvOLT, Proact will help to prepare Europe to efficiently respond to future pandemics and health threats. Long life to VIRvOLT ! »

Pr Karine Lacombe

Head of the infectious and tropical diseases Department, Saint Antoine Hospital, Paris  
Main investigator of PROACT EU-Response

## VIRvOLT

**Our network has now a logo !**

**New graphic identity to come in 2025 !**

### NEXT STEPS

- Kick-off meeting **PROACT EU-Response** 29, 30 January 2025
- Consortium meeting **EU-RESPONSE** May 2025
- **3<sup>rd</sup> EQA** in Spring

## PROACT EU-Response – New Year, New project !

In January 2025 will start the PROACT EU-Response project in which our network will have a role to play !

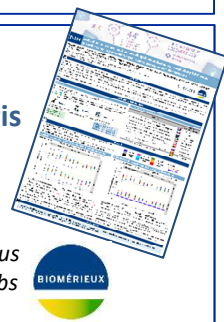
The overall aim of this project is to prepare Europe for future diseases with epidemic or pandemic potential by strengthening and exploiting existing networks of experts and civil society focusing on hospital-based clinical trials of therapeutic platforms across Europe. This network will enable rapid pivoting in the event of an epidemic to implement large-scale platform trials in several countries to study the efficacy of drugs and the performance of diagnostic tools. PROACT EU-Response relies on strong patient and public involvement. Civil society and the wider community are heavily involved in the planning of the trials, as well as in the design of specific activities to communicate and inform the public about health threats and how to avoid misinformation, particularly during an epidemic or pandemic. The integration of social science and implementation specialists further strengthens this ambition. This project is led by INSERM, Sorbonne University and ANRS-MIE, as part of a consortium of 20 European countries and 23 partners, among which the Hospices Civils de Lyon and bioMérieux. Both will continue their collaboration with the VIRvOLT laboratories within the HCL-led workstream entitled “Custom biological analyses : European lab network and biomarker identification”.

### POSTERS

#### RICAI – December 2024, Paris

VIRvOLT part of it thanks to bioMérieux !

*Evaluation of a new method enabling standardization of respiratory RNA virus quantification in nasopharyngeal swabs across molecular systems*



#### ESCMID – April 2025, Vienna

Abstract submitted by the CNR of Lyon  
*Establishing a European Virology Laboratory Network for Real-Time Monitoring of Antiviral Efficacy: Insights from the VIRvOLT Network*



<https://eu-response.eu/virology-network/>