



Centre Pasteur of Cameroon

“Biological Excellence accessible to everyone”

Professeur Dominique BAUDON, General Manager
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Centre Pasteur of Cameroon - National Public Health Reference Laboratory

- P. O. BOX 1274 - Tel : (237) 22 23 10 15 / 22 23 18 03 - fax : (237) 22 23 15 64 - cpc@pasteur-yaounde.org

Centre Pasteur of Cameroon is an Administrative Public Utility with a financial autonomy. This institution was created in 1959 in Yaounde. Since 1985, it has a Branch in Garoua and a satellite office in Douala. The staff is made up of 137 persons, with 19 in Garoua and 2 in Douala, the senior scientific staff is made up of 23 members, among whom are 19 Cameroonians. Centre Pasteur of Cameroon is under the double tutelage of the Ministries of Public Health and Finance.

Centre Pasteur of Cameroon is a member of the International Network of Pasteur's Institutes and shares in her principal mission **the fight against infectious diseases.**

Towards this objective, it assures four principal missions:

Service activities Public Health interventions Research Training.

Each of these missions aims at providing better answers to scientific expertises and interventions to requests from the Ministry of Public Health in accordance with the Sectorial Health and the Poverty Reduction Strategy and also integrating the UN's millennium Development Objectives.

Service activities are exercised to the benefit of the population.

Around 400 persons are received in Centre Pasteur of Cameroon daily for biomedical analyses; we carry out roughly 300.000 biological analyses per year. These analyses are done in our (Haematology, Parasitology, Bacteriology and Mycobacterology-Immunology, Serology, Virology-Biochemistry, Anatomic and Cytopathology) laboratories. We also have a Hygiene and Environment laboratory which carries out microbiology and Physio-chemical analyses of water and food, toxicological expertises, for bacteriological control of water, since the past two years, we now identify contaminations with legionella. All these laboratories have a technical platform unique in Cameroon, carrying out quality biological analyses to the benefit of the population and Public Health.

As for vaccination, Centre Pasteur of Cameroon has an anti rabies vaccination centre, and a centre for International vaccinations where we administer Yellow Fever shots. Every day, Centre Pasteur of Cameroon also provides standard recommended vaccinations in Cameroon.

Centre Pasteur of Cameroon is also a Research Centre.

The various research themes are focused on Public Health priorities in Cameroon and the Central African Sub Region. Presently, Centre Pasteur of Cameroon is working on 30 programs on the following topics: HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, Poliomyelitis and other Enteroviruses-Arbovirus and viral hemorrhagic-fever, human flu, bird flu, Tuberculosis, Buruli Ulcer, and Resistance to anti-infectious agents.

- Programs on Environment bacteriology (cholera, salmonella, legionella)
- Anatomy-Pathology: histo-prognosis of certain carcinomas in Cameroon.

All these programs are carried out in collaboration with structures of National and International Organizations and are financed by different funding bodies (International network of Pasteur's Institutes, French Cooperations, ANRS, European Union, FAO, WHO, Foundations and private laboratories like Total and SANOFI Pasteur).

Our laboratories are furnished with modern technological equipments, capable of carrying out real time PCRs for example; Our Research Team is made up of very qualified staff. That is what sustains the quality of Research programs conducted at Centre Pasteur of Cameroon.

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Public Health activities.

Centre Pasteur of Cameroon assures missions for Cameroon as well as for the Sub-Region: participating in the epidemiological survey of sicknesses in particular those with epidemic risks, participate in epidemic investigations, external quality control of laboratories, participation in important national and international WHO programs such as Tuberculosis, Buruli Ulcer, Cholera; Measles; rabies, poliomyelitis, human flu, avian flu and of course HIV/AIDS. This survey is done in collaboration with laboratories carrying out isolation and/or molecular identification of viruses like HIV, poliomyelitis; Yellow Fever, and also Chikungunya virus and bird flu.

Training is also an important activity.

- We have a training school for Medical Health laboratory Technicians which trains young Cameroonians in bio-medical analytical techniques.

- We are a host laboratory for university students both nationally and internationally: preparing for BSc, Masters and Doctorate degrees. We also host Doctors on specialisation and laboratory technicians for refresher courses.

- We hold international courses e.g.: Global Salmonella Survey, course on mycobacterium responsible for Buruli Ulcer, seminars on epidemiological survey and diagnostic on human and bird flu. These courses are held in collaboration with WHO, the International network of Pasteur’s Institutes, CDC Atlanta.

The quality of courses delivered is linked to research activities, Public Health and Services that we carry out in parallel since our lecturers are also field actors in their various domains.

Centre Pasteur of Cameroon is a recognized Centre for its expertise at the national and international level. It is:

- The National Reference Laboratory for Public Health.
- The Reference Laboratory for the National Program for the Fight against Tuberculosis.
- The National Reference Laboratory for the Fight against Buruli Ulcer.
- Member of the WHO global network for flu surveillance and WHO National Center for Human Flu
- WHO Reference National Laboratory for Measles; Yellow Fever, Human Flu.
- WHO Inter-State Laboratory for poliomyelitis.
- WHO Regional Centre of Excellence for the survey of infections from foods in Francophone Sub - African Zone
- WHO Regional Laboratory for integrated survey and sub-Regional Response.
- WHO Reference Laboratory for bird flu.

Centre Pasteur of Cameroon is a member of the International Network of Pasteur’s Institutes which includes 30 institutes scattered over six continents and represents nearly 10000 staff.

In conclusion, these four missions: Service activities, Public Health, Research and Training are strongly interwoven and have mutual potentials.

This is where Centre Pasteur derives its force and quality, this is what explains the scientific recognition we enjoy at national and international level.
