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Geriatrics and Aging Biology Team “Glycation, from Inflammation to Aging”

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Eric BOULANGER is Vice-President of Lille 2 University in charge of the International Relations. Eric BOULANGER, with a background of Nephrology (MD, Lille2 University, France), made his PhD at Paris7 and his post-doc at Columbia University (NYC). Eric BOULANGER was nominated as Professor of Geriatrics and Aging Biology (Lille School of Medicine) to develop research on Aging Biology especially related to glycation, one of the aging mechanisms. Eric BOULANGER heads the INSERM team Team “Glycation, from Inflammation to Aging”. Glycation is a major mechanism of aging. AGEs (Advanced Glycation End-products) are formed and accumulate during diabetes, renal failure, inflammation and aging (endogenous AGEs). AGEs are also formed during high temperature sterilization and cooking (exogenous AGEs). The human health effects of dietary AGEs are underestimated. AGEs are irreversibly formed through the Maillard reaction, resulting from the binding of a sugar to a protein. AGEs exert their toxicity through 3 mechanisms: in situ glycation, AGE deposits and interaction with the receptor for AGE (RAGE). Our team focuses its objectives on:

- 1/ Absorption, distribution and organ effects of exogenous glycation products.
- 2/ Implication of mitochondria (mitophagy, fission, fusion) in AGE-RAGE axis.
- 3/ Therapeutic screening models.
- 4/ Auto-Immunity and Biomarkers: AGEs, sRAGE, auto anti-RAGE antibodies.