# **Curriculum Vitae**

## I. PERSONAL INFORMATION

Dr. Besma BEL HADJ JRAD - TENSAOUT : PhD, Immunology, Biological Sciences Laboratory of Genetic, Biodiversity and Bioressource's valorization LR11ES41, Higher Institute of Biotechnology, Taher Haddad Street, BP74, 5000 Monastir, Tunisia. Tel.: Mobile: +216- 22-85-75-02; Work Tel: 216 73 576 062 / Fax: 216 73465404; Website: www.isbm.rnu.tn E mail: bbhj2002@yahoo.fr / bbhj2020@gmail.com Date of Birth: 24 - 01 - 1968 at Sousse (Tunisia). Nationality: Tunisian. Permanent Address: Street of pines, city of municipal stadium 4070, M'saken, Tunisia.

# **Actual Position**

1. Professor (2012-present): Higher Institute of Biotechnology of Monastir (ISBM), University of Monastir, Tunisia.

2. Researcher, (1998-present) at the University of Monastir / Tunisia.

- Laboratory of Genetic, Biodiversity and Bioressource's valorization LR11ES41, Higher Institute of Biotechnology, 5000 Monastir, Tunisia.

# **II. ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING**

Degree, Institution, Field, Date

- Bachelor, High school of Saint Raphaël, Academy of Nice, France; 1986
- B.Sc, University of Carthage, Faculty of Sciences Tunis, Tunisie; Natural Sciences 1986-1991
- M.Sc, University of Aix-Marseille II, Faculty of Luminy Marseille, France; Immunology, 1992- 93 Title of Master manuscripts: *Interaction between IGF and their receptors on the HT29 cells*.
- Ph.D, University of Aix-Marseille II, Faculty of Luminy Marseille, France; Immunology, 1993- 1997 Title of Thesis: *Antigenicity and immunogenicity of peptides mimicking the external envelope glycoprotein loops of human immunodeficiency virus type 2 (VIH-2).*
- University Habilitation, Monastir University, Higher institute of Biotechnology of Monastir, Tunisia, 1998-2006 Title of University Habilitation: *Involvement of the TNF-TNFR superfamily in EBV-associated cancers*.

# ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

2012-2023: University Professor in Immunology degree at ISBM, University of Monastir 2008-2012: Lecturer in Immunology degree at ISBM, University of Monastir 2001-2008: assistant- professor in Immunology degree at ISBM, University of Monastir 1998-2001: Assistant in Biological Sciences degree at the faculty of sciences of Monastir 1998: Recruitment on national contest for the post of Assistant in Biological Sciences at the Faculty of Sciences of Monastir

## V. RESEARCH AREAS:

# 1998-2006: Involvement of two members (TNF $\alpha$ and FAS/CD95) of the TNF-TNFR superfamily in EBV-associated cancers.

- Determination of the HPV and EBV infection frequencies in a fresh and coated in paraffin biopsies of nasopharyngeal cancers.

- Study of the polymorphism of the genes hsp-70-2 and  $TNF\alpha$  in non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in Tunisia. - Analysis of association between a Fas gene promoter polymorphism and the development of nasopharyngeal cancer; Dosage of Fas soluble in the serum of the patients presenting a NPC and highlight of a correlation between Fas genotypes and the level of Fas soluble.

- Detection of auto-antibody in patients' serums presenting a nasopharyngeal cancer and highlight of a correlation between Fas genotypes and nuclear auto-antibodies in patients sera with NPC.

# 2007-2016: Environmental and genetic factors in the development of neuro-inflammation predisposing to psychiatric diseases (schizophrenia and bipolar disease).

- Research of association between infection with microorganisms having a tropism for the nervous system (Toxoplasma gondii) and the development of psychosis.

- Research of association between of genetic polymorphism of pro- and anti-inflammatory cytokines (TNFα-TNFR, Fas-FasL, IFNγ-IFNγR, IL6-IL6R, CCL2- CCL2R, CXCL10/12, VEGF-VEGFR, IL1RA, IL8-IL8R, IL4-IL4R, IL10-IL10R) and the development of psychosis.

### **PUBLICATIONS (40)**

1- Sihem THABET, Mouna Ben NEJMA, Ferid Zaafrane, Lotfi Gaha, Kamel BEN SALEM, Abdelaziz ROMDHANE, Mohamed NOUR and <u>BEL HADJ JRAD Besma</u>. Identification of Tumor necrosis factor receptor 2 (TNFR2) as a possible susceptibility gene for paranoid and adult-onset Schizophrenia. *J Mol Neurosci* (2011) 43:358–363

**2- Aflouk Y**, Inoubli O, Saoud H, Zaafrane F, Gaha L, Bel Hadj Jrad B. (2021) Association between TLR2 polymorphisms (- 196-174 Ins/Del, R677W, R753Q, and P631H) and schizophrenia in a Tunisian population. Immunol Res. Dec;69(6):541-552.

# Indice H : 13 FOREIGN LANGUAGES:

French: Read, Spoken, Written English: Read, Written Arabic: Spoken,

### **MEMBERSHIP OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES**

- 1. President of the Tunisian society of Psycho-Neuro-Endocrinal-Immunology (2015-23)
- 2. ISBM Internship Director (6 years: 2011-2017)
- 3. Vice Director and Director of Studies at ISBM (3 years: 2020-2023)
- 4. Member of the theses and accreditations commission of the ISBM (2009-2023)
- 5. Member of the quality committee of the ISBM (2020-2023)
- 6. President of the educational commission of the ISBM (2020-2023)
- 7. Founding member of the ISBM bioethics committee (2019-2020)

### **Diplomas of Masters sustained:**

11 manuscripts sustained since 2000 at the Higher institute of biotechnology and the Pharmacy faculty of Monastir, Tunisia.

### **Diplomas of university PhD thesis sustained: 6**