

## **COVID-19: The Roquette Foundation for Health supports the University Hospitals of Lille and Strasbourg**

***The financial support meets the most urgent needs of caregivers on the front line in the fight against COVID-19***

**La Madeleine (France), April 21, 2020** – The current unprecedented situation requires immediate action to help caregivers and medical researchers in their fight against the pandemic. Aware of this emergency, the Roquette Foundation for Health wishes to support the actions of health professionals working in hospitals near the Roquette group's sites in France.

Departing in this case from its original mission and with the agreement of the *Fondation de France*, the first support of the Roquette Foundation concerns a project to study the impact of COVID-19 on the staff of different care units. The project will include 900 caregivers and is led by Professor Annie Sobaszek, head of the occupational medicine service of the University Hospital Center (CHU) of Lille, in collaboration with Professor Karine Faure, head of the infectious diseases department, and with the biologists and epidemiologists of the CHU.

*"The support of the Roquette Foundation to this project will make it possible to determine the contamination rates with COVID-19 among caregivers, according to the evolution of the epidemic, the specificities of the care activities carried out as well as the modes of protection and care organization. We are grateful for this civic and humanist commitment for the Hauts-de-France region,"* said Professor Annie Sobaszek.

With a community of nearly 16,000 professionals, the Lille CHU is one of the largest health campuses in northern Europe.

At the same time, the Roquette Foundation for Health also supports the University Hospitals of Strasbourg (HUS) by contributing to the funds of the University and Hospitals of Strasbourg Foundation. The largest employer in Alsace, HUS comprises five establishments and employs more than 11,000 people, including 2,800 doctors.

On the front line since the beginning of the epidemic, the HUS is facing a constant influx of patients and an exceptional mobilization of all their caregivers. Thanks to its donation, the Roquette Foundation is committed alongside the caregivers and patients of Strasbourg University Hospitals by enabling them to meet their immediate or future needs.

*"Showing solidarity in this period of fight against the COVID-19 pandemic is essential. The Foundation contributes to help patients and caregivers in hospitals in two French regions particularly affected by this epidemic, located near the production sites of the Roquette group. This financial support allows us to mobilize and act in response to this exceptional situation, while ensuring the continuity of the various projects supported by our Foundation, in line with its original mission,"* said Anne Lambin, Head of the Roquette Foundation for Health.

**About the Roquette Foundation for Health:** Created in November 2017, under the guidance of the Fondation de France, the Roquette Foundation for Health supports innovative or educational programs in



the areas of food and nutrition. It will support various types of projects, such as: support for educational programs on diet, studies on the impact of food on diseases, and support for operational and sustainable projects that are beneficial to health. To find out more: <https://www.roquette.com/roquette-foundation-for-health>

**Press contacts:**

Roquette Corporate  
Carole Petitjean  
[carole.petitjean@roquette.com](mailto:carole.petitjean@roquette.com)

OXYGEN  
Jessica Djaba, Sidonie Legrand, Pierrick Pichot  
[roquette@oxygen-rp.com](mailto:roquette@oxygen-rp.com)  
+ 33 1 41 11 37 93 / +33 3 74 02 03 83

**Roquette Foundation contacts:**

Anne LAMBIN  
Head of the Roquette Foundation  
[Anne.lambin@roquette.com](mailto:Anne.lambin@roquette.com)

Margaux OVLAQUE  
Communications – Roquette Foundation  
[Margaux.ovlaque@roquette.com](mailto:Margaux.ovlaque@roquette.com)