

The Roquette Foundation for Health Announces the 2022 Research Award Winner

For its second edition, the Research Award goes to Clémentine Hugol-Gential for her work on the impact of social networks on teenagers' eating habits.

La Madeleine, France – May 4th, 2022. Every two years, the Roquette Foundation for Health promotes and awards academic and lab researchers working on innovative or educational programs in the field of food and nutrition. This year, the jury granted the Research Award to Clémentine Hugol-Gential, deputy director of the [CIMEOS](#) Laboratory (information and communication sciences lab) in Dijon, France, for her project called "*Food and bodies on social networks: Preventing, raising awareness, informing teenagers about food and health.*"

Since 2020, the Research Award rewards innovative research, a thesis, a dissertation or a publication that answers the following question: "*Prevention in healthcare: what are the stakes and approaches around food and nutrition?*". New this year, the Foundation opened the applications to European researchers and projects, in countries where the group is established.

The jury, gathering Dr. Laurent Reber – winner of the 2020 Research Award – as well as French experts from the medical and academic communities and Roquette's employees, selected the project on the following criteria: relevance of the subject, interest for the populations and innovative character.

French researcher Clémentine Hugol-Gential, 38, has fifteen years of experience in food-related research. She chose to work on a project that addresses current societal issues such as the influence of social networks on the teenagers' eating habits. Co-constructed in a participative and comprehensive approach with the relevant public, Hugol-Gential's work aims to better understand and characterize the voices and speeches broadcasted on social networks. Subsequently, the goal is to develop awareness-raising tools that will be adapted to the teenage target group in terms of both content and format, thanks to key partnerships with CLEMI (Centre pour l'Education aux Médias et à l'Information) and the FFAB (Fédération Française Anorexie et Boulimie).

Clémentine Hugol-Gential and her team received an endowment of €25,000 to continue their work.

Clémentine Hugol-Gential, deputy director of the CIMEOS Laboratory, said: "*The Roquette Foundation's support will make it possible to set up discussion and co-creation groups with teens at school in order to devise appropriate activities. This support will also enable the production of an initial toolkit, co-created with teenagers, to prevent, inform and raise awareness about health and nutrition issues on social networks.*"

"The Roquette Foundation for Health Research Award is a wonderful way of honoring a researcher on a very topical social issue, like how food impacts our health capital. This year, I am delighted with the jury's choice to reward a researcher from Dijon, who is studying the impact of social networks, which can be devastating, on the eating habits of teenagers," adds **Anne Lambin, Head of the Roquette Foundation for Health.**

Jury's Favorite Award goes to Jean-Baptiste Bizeau

The jury also granted a "Jury's Favorite" prize to the project of Jean-Baptiste Bizeau, a 26-year-old researcher at INRAE, the French National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and the Environment.

Jean-Baptiste Bizeau's project investigates the influence of dietary fatty acid intake on the healthy aging of brain and retinal neurons. The aim is to evaluate and compare the impact of dietary fatty acid intake found in a Western-type diet or recommended by health agencies on the aging of nervous tissue. Bizeau's project will make it possible to offer new nutritional recommendations and educational programs. Bizeau will receive a grant of €2,000 to pursue his project.

Throwback to the 2020 Research Award given to Dr. Laurent Reber

In December 2020, the Roquette Foundation for Health awarded Dr. Laurent Reber's project on the development of a vaccine for people suffering from food allergies.

Today, Dr. Laurent Reber and his teams are pursuing the development of this anti-IgE vaccine for food allergies:

"Our experiments have progressed, including the demonstration that this vaccine induces a sustained production of antibodies to neutralize the activity of IgE, the main molecule responsible for allergic reactions. We also have demonstrated that this vaccine can protect against anaphylactic shock, which is the most severe form of food allergy. The Roquette Foundation Research Award enabled us to fund quite a number of the initial experiments in the vaccine's development, which was a valuable support to the successful progress of the project."

About Roquette Foundation for Health:

Created in November 2017, under the aegis of La 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, following the three axes that guide the Foundation's steps every day: believing in progress, changing behaviors and sharing knowledge.

To find out more: <https://www.fondation-roquette.org/en/>

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