

## AUTHORS' NOTES AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This book is an introduction to clinical research. It presents the methodological bases of the main types of studies with their clinical purposes, illustrated in a practical way by examples. It is intended for health professionals and students wishing to do clinical research.

In a progressive approach, it consists of four parts:

- Formulation of the research question, justifying the project with the help of the literature review and considering the ethical aspects;
- Description of the main types of studies available to the clinician to develop his research protocol;
- Technical aspects of protocol development;
- Execution of the protocol and presentation of the results.

Documentary research and critical analysis of literature should be of particular interest to students, who currently have this new theme in their program. The essential biostatistics are presented as simply as possible, supported by examples. The Ethics chapter considers the most recent data - including in the international field. Particular attention is paid to the purposes of clinical research: key points of the internal validity of a study, applicability of the results and valorization of the research.

The authors have put their experience in this work which they wish to serve clinical research. Suggestions are welcome. The contact details of the contributors to the book are given at the beginning of the book.

This book owes much to the following people and institutions:

- Professor Mornex, Professor Zech (Claude Bernard University), Doctor Charles Mérieux and Doctor Caroline Dupuy (Marcel Mérieux Foundation), Professor Hélène Pellet and Professor Yves Matillon, as well as Mrs. Nicole Sallet (Claude Bernard University), who were behind the creation of the International Francophone Clinical Epidemiology Network and its implementation;
- Supports for the creation and funding of RECIF: the main ministries, in particular the Ministry of Research and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the University Claude Bernard in Lyon, the Hospices Civils de Lyon, the city of Lyon, the Council Rhône-Alpes Regional Council and the Marcel Mérieux Foundation;
- the members of the universities affiliated to INCLLEN, who were at the initiative of this educational program at the origin of the movement of evidence based medicine, and in particular Doctor Halstedt (Rockefeller Foundation), Doctors Eisenberg and Ström (University of Pennsylvania), Doctors Suzanne and Robert Fletcher and Doctors Harris and Laura Sadowski (University of North Carolina), Doctors Tugwell and Browman (MacMaster University, Ontario, Canada), Doctors Kellerman and Heller (University of Newcastle, Australia), as well as Dr. Claire Bombardier (University of Toronto, Ontario, Canada).
- the current members of the network and more particularly the Honorary Dean Hélène Pellet and Mrs. Charlotte Barthe, in particular for the proofreading of the present edition, the Deans of the medical universities of Algeria, Morocco and Romania.