

PRESS RELEASE

Amiens, September 28, 2020

The construction of Institut Faire Faces' facility, a research centre on disfigurement, has begun

Professor Devauchelle, President of the Institut Faire Faces and Mrs. Danielle Portal, Executive Director of the CHU Amiens- Picardie are pleased to announce that the construction of Institut Faire Faces facility, a research, teaching and information center dedicated to disfigurement, has begun. The construction of the facility, located close to the main entrance of the CHU Amiens-Picardie, will be completed at the end of 2021, and marks the culmination of 15 years of research and studies on disfigurement.

The Institut Faire Faces was created in 2009 by Professor Devauchelle, professor and surgeon of the maxillofacial surgery department at Amiens University Hospital (CHU Amiens), following the world's first facial transplant he performed in this hospital in 2005. The Institute's objective is to tackle the challenges posed by disfigurement. The Institute focuses its actions in three areas: research, teaching and information.

The facility: a bright and airy open space, promoting collaborations and knowledge sharing between researchers, practitioners and the public

Spreading over three floors, the 3700 square meter building designed by Architecture Studio will bring together the material and human resources that the Institute has been using to deliver its programs in its 3 areas of focus:

- Research: the building will house the exploratory, analysis and simulation equipment (biology and tissue engineering laboratories, imaging and robotics platforms) utilized by the Institute's multidisciplinary research team named CHIMERE. CHIMERE is one of University of Jules Verne's research team and is dedicated to the study of facial reconstructive and regenerative surgery. The scientific content of this research unit has been qualified as "mature and excellent" by the High Council for the Evaluation of Research and Higher Education.
- Teaching: the 135-seat amphitheater, equipped with the latest technology and connected to the University Hospital's operating rooms, the meeting and debriefing areas, as well as the 8-table experimental surgery platform, will be used to deliver trainings in innovative surgery to the medical community, through both a physical and virtual approach.
- Information : the exhibition gallery, a space for exchange and knowledge sharing open to all, will host exhibitions and presentations, in order to raise awareness of facial disability and facial reconstructive and regenerative surgery ;

A center of reference, integrated into the Amiens health cluster and with an international purpose

Right from the onset, the Institute has received the support of many partners, in particular the Regional Council of Hauts-de-France and Europe (via the European Regional Economic Development Fund (ERDF), who both financed the construction of the building, up to 14 million euros. A grant from the French National Research Agency (EQUIPEX) also enabled the Institute to acquire excellent technological equipment, which will be installed in the new facility as soon as the building opens.

The Institut Faire Faces is also supported by a wide network of regional and European partners - notably the CHU Amiens-Picardie, the Université de Picardie Jules Verne (UPJV), the Université de Technologie de Compiègne (UTC), the CEA, Amiens-Métropole, Philips, the Brothier establishments, and the European Association of Cranio-Maxillo-Facial Surgery.

Located within the Amiens health cluster, the Institut Faire Faces is a major asset for medical research, training and innovation, and contributes to promoting scientific and surgical excellence in the Hauts-de-France region.





To find out more about the Institute, visit www.institut-faire-faces.eu

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