

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

CORRESPONDENCE



# Variant Creutzfeldt–Jakob Disease Diagnosed 7.5 Years after Occupational Exposure

La Recherche

Innovation

International

Talents

## Suspension provisoire des travaux sur les prions dans les laboratoires de recherche publics

27 juin 2021

Les directions générales de l'ANSES, du CEA, du CNRS, d'INRAE et de

INSTITUTIONNEL SANTÉ

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## Un chercheur contaminé par la maladie de la vache folle? Les travaux en laboratoire suspendus

Les recherches sur les prions sont suspendues en France, le temps de vérifier si un employé de laboratoire a été ou non contaminé par la maladie de la vache folle.



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[...] Such cases highlight the need for improvements in the prevention of transmission of variant CJD and other prions that can affect humans in the laboratory and neurosurgery settings

## 5. requirements related to other legislation



- **5.1 Production of thematic best practices through dialogue with NRLs (outside the scope of R999/2001)**
- to develop agreed documentation on specific relevant issues: e.g. laboratory decommissioning, effective risk management of biological risks
- volunteering for working groups membership?

# Our proposal: an activity among peers

- We will email all NRLs and ask if any volunteer will be available to join a working group on lab biosafety issues
- A survey to all the NRLs will be carried out with the following aims:
  - Hazard identification: what kind of prions handled and how: only routine diagnostics activities or also research?
  - Main features of the facilities and management where we work
  - Availability of sharing internal biosafety instructions
  - Produce a summary document
- Make an inventory of international guidelines or best practices and make them available through the EURL repository