

CYCLE DE CONFÉRENCES DE CHIMIE

Avec le concours de : Université Clermont Auvergne INP Clermont Auvergne

## Jeudi 13 juin à 16 h

Amphi Rémi (site des Cézeaux)

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## Strategies for Matching Azachelators with Cationic Radiometals in Nuclear Medicine: Approaches and Justifications

Within the vast range of ligands, the family of **tetraazamacrocycles** stands out for the efficiency and versatility of their metal chelation. These ligands are easily functionalized with *N*-appended coordinating arms to match the coordination sphere of targeted metals, making them ideal for numerous radionuclides (e.g., <sup>64</sup>Cu, <sup>68</sup>Ga, <sup>89</sup>Zr, <sup>111</sup>In, <sup>166</sup>Ho, <sup>177</sup>Lu, <sup>213/212</sup>Bi, <sup>149</sup>Tb, <sup>90</sup>Y, <sup>67</sup>Cu, <sup>212</sup>Pb) in safe radiopharmaceuticals.

Copper, in particular, garners significant interest due to isotopes suitable for radiotherapy (<sup>67</sup>Cu) and PET imaging (<sup>64</sup>Cu). As a divalent cation, copper prefers donor atoms such as amines and carboxylates, forming complexes with high coordination numbers. Chelators suitable for Cu(II) radiopharmaceuticals yield thermodynamically stable and inert complexes, preventing transchelation by biological ligands or bioreductants. They also exhibit good water solubility and fast metal complexation.

Expanding beyond copper, the chelation of lanthanides offers significant promise for both therapeutic and diagnostic applications due to their favorable nuclear properties. Lanthanides such as <sup>161</sup>Tb and <sup>177</sup>Lu (and <sup>90</sup>Y, considered as a lanthanide analog) are particularly notable for their use in targeted radionuclide therapy and imaging, leveraging similar coordination chemistry principles.

To enable site-specific delivery of radiation, an appropriate conjugation group must be introduced into the chelator structure (without affecting its properties) to allow its grafting on a biovector (typically a peptide or an antibody). The chelate Designing such chelators involves numerous challenges in organic and coordination chemistry.

This presentation will detail our work on the complexation of metals relevant to nuclear medicine, from the synthesis and study of metal chelators to their bioapplications. Special focus will be given to the complexation of <sup>90</sup>Y, <sup>161</sup>Tb, <sup>177</sup>Lu, <sup>64</sup>Cu, and <sup>67</sup>Cu: ligand synthesis, conjugation, complexation, radiolabeling and in vivo/in vivo studies will be presented.

