

Philippe VERNIER

Research Director at CNRS

Originally trained as a Medical Resident in Neurology (Grenoble University Hospital, France), Philippe Vernier studied Neuroscience at the Claude Bernard University (Lyon, France) and Molecular Biology at the P&M Curie University (Paris, France). Philippe Vernier is Research Director at CNRS since 2009. He is part-time researcher at the Paris-Saclay Institute of Neuroscience (CNRS-Paris Saclay University), in Gif-sur-Yvette (Southwest of Paris), which he founded and headed for five years (2015-2019).

Philippe Vernier is a specialist in comparative and developmental neuroscience. In this context, he has mostly studied the development and evolution of monoamine systems (dopamine, noradrenaline, serotonin) in the anterior brain of Vertebrates. These researches aim at understanding how these neuromodulatory systems have been shaped and organized along vertebrates evolution. They include analysis of the genetic mechanisms of differentiation of the various catecholamine systems in several groups of vertebrates (amphibians, birds and fishes). Such work allows better understanding how the different functions of these systems has been recruited along evolution, and how their dysfunctions contribute to several pathologies (Parkinson's disease and ADHD).

Philippe Vernier is currently the director of the Frédéric Joliot Institute for life sciences at the CEA (Centre Paris-Saclay), which develops researches in the fields of basic research (in particular neuroscience genome biology), technologies for Medicine of the Future (multimodal brain imaging, "omics", digital approaches in biology and health) as well as bioenergies.