

Emmanuel Bourinet, DR1 CNRS

Group leader at the Institut de Génomique Fonctionnelle, Université de Montpellier / CNRS / INSERM. Montpellier France

Emmanuel Bourinet holds a CNRS research director position from the French scientific research agency and leads the team “Calcium channel dynamics and nociception” at the Institute of Functional Genomics in Montpellier (France). From a research background in the structure function studies of voltage-gated calcium channels, He aims, with his collaborators, at understanding the impact of calcium channels in the pathophysiology of somatosensation with a focus on peripheral sensory neurons and on spinal circuits using mouse genetics, electrophysiology, pharmacology and behaviour in preclinical models of chronic pain as well as more recently in the study of social/affective touch. As PI, E Bourinet has demonstrated the major pro-nociceptive role of the CaV3.2 isoform of T-type channels, which is largely involved in chronic pain, both in somatic and visceral syndromes of distinct etiologies. They aim to validate their preclinical findings in human tissues. They position their research on a reverse translational strategy prioritizing conserved molecular pathways between animal models and humans to maximize the chances of uncovering mechanisms of pain pathophysiology. Emmanuel Bourinet is a member of the CoNRS Molecular and Cellular Neuroscience committee (president for the 2022-2027 period).