

Pr Marianne Abi Fadel

Professor Abi Fadel is the elected Dean since 2013 of the Faculty of Pharmacy at Saint Joseph University of Beirut USJ, and head of the Biochemistry and Molecular Therapeutics laboratory (LBTM) at the School of Pharmacy. Born in Beirut, she received her pharmacy Degree from USJ in 1996, her Clinical Biochemistry Specialization Diploma and her PhD in Molecular Genetics in 2003 with honour and the French accreditation to supervise research (HDR) from the University of Paris-Descartes. Her main scientific achievement is the discovery in 2003 of the implication of *PCSK9* mutations in Familial Hypercholesterolemia. This was the seminal paper linking PCSK9 to cholesterol metabolism and was the starting point of the PCSK9 adventure from gene to a new therapeutic class: the anti-PCSK9. She is a professor of biochemistry and molecular biology at USJ and has several papers in high impact journals. She was awarded several distinctions in France and Lebanon for her work on familial hypercholesterolemia, and familial aortic aneurysms: The Chancellery of Paris Universities: Nathalie Demassieux prize (Univ. Sorbonne, Paris) in 2004, the CNRS-L (National Council for Scientific Research, Lebanon) Award in Recognition of Distinguished Scientific Researchers in 2012, the Order of Pharmacists of Lebanon Award in 2012 and the '*Société des Membres de la Légion d'honneur*' Scientific Excellence Award in 2016, as well as several other invitations and recognitions in International scientific meetings. In 2019, she has been elected member in the National French Academy of Pharmacy as international correspondent.

Her research focuses on the genetics of familial hypercholesterolemia, dyslipidaemia, aneurysms, cardiovascular and metabolic diseases in Lebanon (at the LBTM laboratory/USJ in collaboration with Hotel Dieu de France hospital in Beirut) and in the French population at the INSERM U1148 at Bichat Hospital in Paris. She works in collaboration with INSERM1148 team in Paris, as well as other international teams at IRCM Montreal, Karolinska Institutet Stockholm, the FHSC/EAS, and collaborators in the MENA region.