



21 September 2020

PR106-2020

## **CNES PARTNERS WITH FRENCH RADIOLOGY SOCIETY NEW SYNERGIES BETWEEN SPACE AND HEALTHCARE**

Tuesday 22 September, CNES and the French Radiology Society (Société Française de Radiologie - SFR) will be announcing the signature of a partnership agreement at the Journées Francophones de Radiologie (French-speaking Radiology Days) conference running from 2 to 5 October.

CNES and SFR wish to work together in the field of medical and satellite imagery to develop new methods while sharing their expertise, raising awareness of their respective activities and meshing their various ecosystems (research scientists, manufacturers, training providers, etc.).

The partners have identified three main areas of action:

1. The need for innovative medical imaging technologies for deep space exploration
2. Interventional radiology for deep space exploration
3. Development of innovative medical and satellite image-processing technologies and methods

Human spaceflight missions in microgravity were soon seen as an opportunity to gain new insights into how the human body works and gain a deeper understanding of certain pathologies. As a result, work in the realm of health for space missions has progressively been complemented by research into space serving healthcare.

CNES's Chief Operating Officer Lionel Suchet commented: "The development of this partnership with the French Radiology Society will create new synergies between two sectors that may appear at first sight to share little in common. It is through cross-disciplinary efforts and new partnerships with centres of excellence like SFR that we are innovating for healthcare here on Earth and in space. Forging closer ties between space and healthcare is also one of the main thrusts of our *ConnectByCnes* initiative geared towards opening up the world of space to new areas of activity."

SFR President Professor Jean-François Meder, for whom the radiology community is seeking to open up new scientific horizons, in particular by establishing points of convergence between medical imagery and space missions, added: "The development of new imaging tools, notably for body morphometry and tele-radiology, and current advances in interventional radiology directly concern the health of astronauts in space. At the same time, developments underway in new medical image analysis and processing tools making increasing use of artificial intelligence to remove noise from ultrasound and magnetic resonance imagery are leveraging the same advances as those optimizing satellite Earth imagery. Our respective scientific communities and ecosystems have many things in common."

**Journalists wanting to watch the on-line press conference  
Tuesday 22 September, starting at 11.30 a.m.**

**Connect to:**

**<https://zoom.us/j/97981495219> - Meeting ID: 979 8149 5219**

## About CNES

---

CNES (Centre National d'Études Spatiales) is the government agency responsible for shaping France's space policy and implementing it in Europe. Its task is to conceive and orbit satellites, invent the space systems of the future and nurture new services to aid us in our daily lives. Founded in 1961, it is the initiator of major space projects, launch vehicles and satellites, and the partner of choice for industry fuelling innovation. CNES comprises some 2,500 men and women with a passion for space working to open up new and infinite fields of applications in five core areas of focus: Ariane, science, Earth observation, telecommunications and defence. It is a key player driving technology innovation, economic development and industrial policy for the nation. It also fosters scientific collaborations and has forged numerous international partnerships. France, represented by CNES, is the leading contributor to the European Space Agency (ESA).

## CONTACTS

---

<b>Pascale Bresson</b>	Press Officer	Tel. +33 (0)1 44 76 75 39	<a href="mailto:pascale.bresson@cnes.fr">pascale.bresson@cnes.fr</a>
<b>Raphaël Sart</b>	Press Officer	Tel. +33 (0)1 44 76 74 51	<a href="mailto:raphael.sart@cnes.fr">raphael.sart@cnes.fr</a>

---

[CNES photo and video library](#)

[presse.cnes.fr](http://presse.cnes.fr)

## About SFR

---

The Société Française de Radiologie (SFR) is a scientific society whose mission is to provide teaching and training—through the organization of congresses and development and dissemination of teaching tools—and to promote the diagnostic and therapeutic applications of radiology and medical imagery. SFR is among the largest medical learned societies in France and Europe, with 11,000 members, of whom 2,037 are from foreign French-speaking countries. Its President is Professor Jean François Meder. SFR supports research and rapid transfer of innovations to benefit patients. Every year it funds research programmes and a data challenge, encourages and leads initial and continuous training actions and works to improve the quality of radiology treatment and medical imaging.

## CONTACTS

---

<b>Nicolas Merlet</b>	Press Officer	Tel. +33 (0)6 25 79 64 79	<a href="mailto:nicolasmerlet@ortus-sante.fr">nicolasmerlet@ortus-sante.fr</a>
<b>Françoise Millet</b>	Press Officer	Tel. +33 (0)6 86 89 55 17	<a href="mailto:francoisemillet@ortus-sante.fr">francoisemillet@ortus-sante.fr</a>

---

[www.sfr.radiologie.fr](http://www.sfr.radiologie.fr)