



PRESS RELEASE
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The AFM Receives the Gold Medal of the National Academy of Medicine

In the presence of its president, Laurence Tiennot-Herment, the AFM, received today the gold medal of the National Academy of Medicine. This great institution has honoured the Association for its role in *"the fight against neuromuscular diseases and the disability they cause, and, more generally, the fight against diseases of genetic origin and its research support, culminating in the creation of Généthon."*

The AFM has been awarded this distinction as it celebrates its 50th anniversary. **50 years of unremitting fight for patients and parents of patients whose motto remains unchanged: refuse, resist cure.** A philosophy of struggle and revolt that has allowed unprecedented results: publication of the first human genome map, tracking genes responsible for hundreds of diseases, improving medical care, gain in fifteen years of life for certain neuromuscular diseases, recognition of rare diseases as an issue for public health and the citizenship of people with disabilities ... and now the emergence of innovating therapies, the first trials in humans and the first therapeutic victories!

None of this would have been possible without the continued support of Telethon donors, intensely renewed this year, despite the economic and social crisis. **It is therefore to all of those who so generously give the Association the means to continue its fight that the AFM dedicates this new distinction.**

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