



# Results of French Research on the Benefits of Thermal Medecine

Jean-Guy de GABRIAC Global Thermal Think-Tank G3T - Japan 18 October 2019



## **EXPERTISE & PASSION**







After managing an acclaimed massage institute & training academy near the Champs-Elysées in Paris (2001-2004), Jean-Guy de Gabriac became an award-winning **advisor**, **innovator** & **educator** fueling the creativity of Hospitality teams and elevating Wellness worldwide.

His workshops & master classes **enhance Guest experience**, **service & profitability** for hotel groups, cosmetic brands, and spas.

For the past 17 years, Jean-Guy spoke at 60+ international conferences, contributed to 150+ articles in trade publications, and served as:



Founder
World Wellness
Weekend



Member
Wellness Tourism
Association



Chairman
Supporting the UNITED NATIONS
17 SDGs



Board Member International Massage Association



Judge
World Spa &
Wellness Awards



Member
Global Thermal
Think Tank



Conference producer
World Spa & Wellness
Conventions
(Dubai, London, Phuket)



## THERMAL MEDECINE IN FRANCE

- 110 Thermal centers
- **600.000 curists** in 2018 (+1,8% / 2016) (+25% / 2006)
- 10,1 M days of thermal treatments
- 850 thermal Medical doctors
- Average cost for 18 days = 1.100 €

•	Rhumatology	77,8%
•	Respiratory	7.8%
•	Phlebology	3.3%
•	Digestion	3.3%

- Dermatology 2.4%
- Psychosomatic 1.7%
- Urinary 1.3%





## BUDGET AFRETh (French Association for Thermal Research) 2004 -2018





#### **13,1 M € invested by AFRETh:**

- 8,6 M € for SMR studies : aims to measure and prove the Medical efficiency given by thermal stays.
  (SMR: Rendered Medical Service)
- 4,5 M € for R&D studies

51 Research projects financed (average 300,000€ per study).

#### RESEARCH RESULTS



#### **STOP-TAG** (2006)

<u>Publication: Complementary Therapies in Medicine</u>

STUDY: Psychosomatic benefits of thermal water vs. paroxetin

- 56% of curists declare anxiety reduced by 50% with Thermal water (only 28% with paroxetin)
- 21% of curists are cured with Thermal water (lasting effects up to 6 months)

#### THERMARTHROSE (2009)

Publication: Annals of Rheumatic Diseases

STUDY: Medical Service Rendered on Knee Arthritis vs. classic treatment

- 50% of curists declare better range of movement & reduced pain with Thermal water (vs. 25% with classic treatment)
- 25% of curists feel lasting improvements with Thermal water (up to 9 months) (vs. 8% with classic treatment)

## **RESEARCH RESULTS**



#### **MAATHERMES** (2011)

<u>Publication: Complementary Therapies in Medicine</u>

STUDY: Focus on overweight & obesity in thermal medecine

- 57% of curists have lost at least 5% of their weight with Thermal water treatment (only 18% for other study group)
- 5kg is average weight loss on the 14th month with Thermal water (only 0,45 kg for other study group)

### **RESEARCH RESULTS**



#### **PACThe** (2013)

<u>Publication: European Journal of Cancer</u>

<u>PDF Programme of Accompanying women after breast Cancer treatment completion in Thermal resorts'</u> (PACThe) Randomised clinical trial of 251 patients (19 pages)

Long-term adiposity control by a 2-week physical/nutritional intervention in SPA in naïve breast cancer patients treated by chemotherapy (20 pages)

STUDY: Treatment for Women in remission of Breast-Cancer vs. classic hygieno-dietetic follow-up

- Drastic improvement in qulity of Sleep, and Reduction of depression symptoms
- Significant improvement of quality of life with Thermal water (up to 12 months

3 peer-review international publications about post breast cancer cures in spas Eur. J. Cancer 2013, 49: 1530-1538 Eur J Oncol Nurs. 2014, 18: 305-311 Br. J. Cancer 2017, 23;116(11):1389-1393

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#### STUDIES UNDER WAY



#### **ITILO**

STUDY: Evaluation of the effectiveness of a short and standardized thermal intervention in low back pain patients.

**Participating Thermal centers:** Amnéville, Aix-les-Bains, Balaruc, Dax, Royat, Saint-Amand-les-Eaux. 88 patients

#### FIETT

STUDY: Evaluation of the effectiveness of a therapeutic patient education program as a standardized spa treatment for fibromyalgia patients

Participating Thermal centers: Dax, Saint-Paul-lès-Dax

157 patients

#### SEP-SPA

STUDY: Thermal cures in the treatment of multiple sclerosis - effectiveness on the quality of life

Participating Thermal centers: Lamalou-les-Bains, Néris-les-Bains, Ussat-les-Bains

200 patients

## Let's keep in TOUCH...







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