Do you know the French Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences?

The French Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences is the direct follower of the "Society of Pharmacy of Paris" founded on 15 Thermidor Year XI (August 3rd, 1803).

Recognized as a public interest organization on October 5th, 1877, it was elevated to the rank and title of Academy in 1946, and then to National Academy in 1979. The Academy is a Science based and Profession-oriented Institution, representing a moral authority completely independent of public bodies, as well as any private interests. It represents the fundamental values of the whole Pharmaceutical profession. Since 2016, the Academy is under the protection of the President of the French Republic.

Composed of Scientists and Professionals elected by their peers, mostly but not exclusively issued from the pharmaceutical profession, it is a place of exchange and dialogue, with collegial expertise as well as a force of proposition. It aims at investigating all matters relating to pharmacists' areas of competence, whether the proper use of drugs, the innovation in the field of drugs and health products, clinical biology and Public Health including Health & Environment. It ensures that all Pharmacists always fulfill the Public Health mission assigned to it by Society.

Its role is also to accompany, or to anticipate, new demands of the Society, as well as professional changes inherent to their evolution. Its goals are defined by its bylaws (Article 2):
• grasp and investigate all matters relating to scientific, technical, legal, historical and ethical areas in which the skills of pharmacists can apply, particularly those related to medicinal and other health products, biology and more generally public health including environmental issues;
• contribute to the education of health professionals, in these areas;
• help to inform teachers, researchers, professionals and citizens in general;
• in these fields, to participate in the progress of science and technology, in the scientific approach of environmental issues, in the dissemination of research on these topics;
• advise official authorities in these areas and inform the public on the afore-mentioned topics, by exercising constant monitoring of their development;
• also, in these areas, to develop national and international relationships in its fields of expertise;

The Academy is made up of 120 Full Members of which at least 80% are pharmacists and 144 national Correspondent Members, divided into six sections according to their discipline or category of activity; 36 national, European or non-European Associate Members; and 80 European or non-European Foreign Correspondents. All automatically become Honorary Members after 20 years academic seniority, or at the age of 70, except for Associate Members who automatically become Honorary Members 10 years after their election. Members and Correspondents participate in the work of the Academy as part of the six Sections in line with their disciplines and expertises and through specialized cross-section permanent structures: the Study Commissions set up by the Board and composed of representatives of the six sections.

In addition, for the sake of responsiveness and efficiency, working groups focused on specific topics with a predetermined timetable for action, can be created.
Since a long time, a collaborative relationship with the National Academy of Medicine has allowed the development of joint recommendations. In the recent years, new multi-academic relations on topics of common interest have also been developed with the Academy of Sciences, the Academy of Technology, the Veterinary Academy of France, the Academy of Agriculture of France, and the National Academy of Dental Surgery.