BLITZ INTERVIEW



Jean-François Knebel

Jean-François Knebel, 34 years old, is a Swiss citizen "and more precisely a real vaudois". He is currently research scientist in the LINE (Laboratory for Investigative Neurophysiology) laboratory. He holds a PhD in neuroscience from UNIL and a master in physics from EPFL.

What are you working on?

I am currently involved in EEG recording and analyzing for Lausanne Axis-1 project. This involves early phase psychosis, chronic patients and control populations.

Why did you choose neuroscience/psychiatry?

By chance, after my master in physics, I started medicine but after one year, I realized that I was not made for these studies. After this I decided to start a PhD but I had too many fields of interest such as neuroscience, physics of ski, etc. So I applied in different places and the first one that replied was neuroscience.

Where will you be in 20 years?

I hope to live in my small village of Montricher with my family. I imagine myself with more wrinkles and grey hair.

The scientific breakthrough you are waiting for?

The unification of physical laws. Something like Maxwell did with electricity and magnetism.

A movie to see?

There is not only one, I like Star Wars, Lord of the rings but also all the Monty Python.

Desert island book?

Boy scouts for dummies. I was a boy scout and this is the best way to survive in a desert island.

Sundays are made for...

The morning is dedicated to my daughter and my wife. At noon, I take an "apéro" with friends and play boardgame (like Agricola, Puerto Rico, Pandemia). The afternoon could be dedicated to role-playing games, especially Call of Cthulhu with my wife and friends. Finally, I play hockey in the evening.

Being part of the NCCR Synapsy is...

Very interesting, because Synapsy's research goes from clinics to fundamental research and the NCCR tries to find a way to help the patient directly.