



FONDATION KORIAN POUR LE BIEN VIEILLIR

Press Release  
February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019

## **In 2019, the Korian Foundation will focus its efforts on preventing autonomy loss and promoting the senior and elderly care professions**

The Korian Foundation is pleased to present the actions and research activities it will be launching in 2019, which will focus on the prevention of autonomy loss and the promotion of the elderly care professions.

*"In 2019, the Korian Foundation is expanding its scope by focusing on issues with a very practical, real-life impact both for carers and caregivers. And we are looking to the future with our ambitious research programme in the field of robotics. I am also very proud of the world-class scientific collaborations that will be launched. This is a prime example of our Foundation's desire to work alongside the scientific community and our public and private partners to build collaborative projects that promote social inclusion for the elderly,"* stated Sophie Boissard, President of the Korian Foundation for Ageing Well.

As a partner of the Make.org project "**How can we better care for our elderly?**", the Korian Foundation will play an active role in the transformation workshops to be held in March 2019. The aim is to develop an action plan based on proposals from the general public to improve the quality of life of elderly people, caregivers, and family carers. These proposals will be used in addition to the initiatives decided by the government as part of the French Law on Autonomy and Elderly Care ("Loi Autonomie - Grand Age").

*"Inventing a sustainable society that supports longevity requires changing how we think about ageing and valuing and supporting the care professions while also assisting the most fragile members of society, including by promoting new vocations,"* said Serge Guérin, Chairman of the Korian Foundation's Scientific Council.

### **Applied research programmes**

Several research programmes will be launched from the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2019 onwards. Their goal will be to provide support for members of the care professions in improving their practices, specifically in the field of Positive Care, which is a cornerstone of the care we provide in every Korian nursing home and clinic. These programmes will include:

- an **evaluation of the added value of hypnosis** in the care given to patients and its effect on the symptoms of pain, anxiety, and sleep disorders, in partnership with the **Syndicat National des Hypnothérapeutes (SNH) and Paris Descartes University**,
- an **evaluation of the alteration of "executive functions" in residents of nursing homes**. This study, which is carried out in partnership with the **Gérontopole Autonomie Longévité des Pays de la Loire (Professor Gilles Berrut)**, will allow us to offer the right training programmes for caregivers as well as targeted support plans for residents based on non-medicinal therapies that are designed for executive function disorders.

### **Scientific partnerships**

A new scientific partnership will be launched with the **Robotics By Design Lab** at Strate School of Design. It will bring together major players in the field of service robotics to create and assess new practices, uses, and objects in a user-centred approach:

- redesigning the experience of living in a nursing home and the contribution made by robotics to the field of elderly care,
- defining the role of robotics in nursing homes,
- creating new forms and ways of living with these devices.

This three-year project will be conducted in close collaboration with several Korean pilot facilities. A thesis will be published upon completion of the project.

A research and training-based partnership will also be launched with **Paris-Descartes University**. There are two areas of focus:

- organising scientific conferences for the Korean medical community,
- developing a multi-year joint research programme.

Finally, the Foundation will be partnering with the **INSPIRE project**, a one-of-a-kind centre in France specialised in prevention and ageing in healthcare and rejuvenative medicine, created by the G erontopole in Toulouse, France. Its activities in the field of fundamental research, preventive and therapeutic medicine, and healthcare and social training bring together all the major players from within the region, with support from the World Health Organisation (WHO). The Korean Foundation will provide funding for a Research Chair aimed at evaluating the impact of outpatient treatment/day hospitalisation in post-acute and rehabilitation care facilities on improving autonomy and quality of life for patients returning home or remaining in their home.

### **Society-level projects**

The Korean Foundation will launch an evaluation of the social, psychological, and medical support programme offered by the **Passerelle Assist'Aidant** association, which is offered on an experimental basis to family carers whose loved one lives in a nursing home, in order to evaluate its impact on their quality of life and that of their family.

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Korean Foundation Award** to be held this year in partnership with La Fonda will recognise a local initiative on the theme of **elderly individuals' freedom of choice and power to take action**. The winning project must place feedback from seniors at the heart of its decision-making process while also valuing the experiences of caregivers and the loved ones who support the person in their daily life.

Finally, the Korean Foundation will renew its partnerships with associations working to improve the professional integration of young people from disadvantaged backgrounds with the aim of changing how younger people view the elderly care professions and encouraging talented new faces to train for a career in this field:

- in the same vein as the partnership initiated in 2018 with **United Way l'Alliance**, the Korean Foundation will continue to provide support for the "**youth challenge**" programme, which is designed to help prevent 15,000 teenagers from dropping out of school between now and 2020 by offering traineeship programmes enabling them to learn about nursing homes and clinics and by supporting their career plans through individual tutoring.
- In 2019, a new partnership with **Article 1er** will also provide support for young students from a working-class background to help them choose a career and succeed in the workplace by connecting them with mentors.

## **Debates and roundtable events**

Five roundtable<sup>1</sup> sessions will be held at the Live Point event in Paris featuring experts and notable figures from the healthcare sector, civil society, and politics. They will debate the following topics:

- 31 January: To be family carers throughout, including at nursing home
- 11 April: Professions unlike any other
- 20 June: Better support starts with better identification
- Topics for September and November: to be confirmed

The Korian Foundation will also hold five morning sessions throughout France focusing on the theme of “Yes, I’m old...and so what?” Experts from the industry will discuss the topic of the utility of seniors. Join us in Toulon (5 February), Poitiers (26 March), Paris (23 May), Bordeaux (9 October), and Saint-Etienne (5 December).

### **A review of the Korian Foundation's essential initiatives in 2018:**

Several applied research projects aimed at improving quality of life and support for seniors in nursing homes were carried out:

- The first scale of the EVAluation Immédiate du Bien-Etre (EVIBE, or Immediate Assessment of Well-being) was approved by teams working under Professor Krolak-Salmon at the Institut du Vieillissement des Hospices Civiles in Lyon, France.
- The STREClo (Street Clothes) Study was conducted at the initiative of the Korian Foundation for Ageing Well in partnership with the Psychology of the Ages of Life and Adaptation Lab at François Rabelais University in Tours, France.

This is the first study to compare the medium-term impact of wearing or not wearing professional medical gowns on interactions between caregivers and patients.

The Korian Foundation also partnered with IPSOS to carry out the 3rd round of the Ageing Well Barometer for European Seniors. In line with the two previous barometers, which were published in 2015 and 2016, the third edition of this biennial survey made it possible to better understand and monitor the changing mindsets and expectations of seniors in Europe.

A white paper was published on end-of-life support in long-term care nursing homes and post-acute care facilities. This survey was a result of more than a year of work and discussions with more than 144 volunteer Korian facilities and was inspired and supported by Marie de Hennezel, a member of the Foundation's Scientific Council. This white paper was the focus of three morning sessions held in 2018 in Lyon, Orleans, and Le Bourget, which hosted nearly 600 people. The sessions focused on end-of-life support and care for dying individuals in care facilities.

In partnership with La Fonda, the Foundation also presented its first-place award (a €15,000 grant) in recognition of an initiative designed to promote connections, solidarity, and transmission between at least two generations. The award was given to the Aveyron Ségala Viaur cultural centre in support of “Oreilles en Balade”, which created historic audio archives enabling listeners to discover the history and cultural heritage of a town as told by local elderly people. In 2019, we will continue to partner with this association on a project to preserve oral memory by recording the stories told by seniors in Korian homes in the form of audio documentaries on the theme: “What do I want to transmit to younger generations?”.

In 2018, the roundtable and morning sessions held by the Korian Foundation hosted 1,500 people at a dozen different events in Paris and throughout France on the following topics:

- Let's talk about death
- Should patients take charge of their health?
- What is the future role for robots in elderly care?
- Should seniors be recognised as a public utility?
- The facility/home continuum: myth or reality?
- Yes, I'm old...and so what?

## **Useful information**

All resources, studies, and event programmes can be found [here](#)

For press releases, click [here](#)

All Korian Foundation roundtable discussions are streamed live on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/fondationkorian/>



## **About the Korian Foundation for Ageing Well**

The mission of the Korian Foundation for Ageing Well is to help change our outlook on ageing and elders. The Foundation develops unifying projects that contribute to the social inclusion of elderly people and support social relations involving elders, carers, and care professionals. Bringing together health and human science researchers, elder care professionals and geriatricians, as well as journalists, designers, and non-profit organisation leaders, the Korian Foundation for Ageing Well conducts societal studies and applied research, helping individuals to be recognised as stakeholders in their local community and in society as a whole, whatever their age, family circumstances, or health. [www.fondation-korian.com](http://www.fondation-korian.com)

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