THE NEW JULES BORDET INSTITUTE
Reference centre in the fight against cancer

After more than 80 years in the heart of Brussels (Porte de Hal), the Jules Bordet Institute is moving to a brand new building from where it will continue to play its major role in the fight against cancer and in responding to major changes in patient needs and in the cancer medicine of the future. The increase in the number of cancer patients, a growing need for ever more effective technologies that require more space and the benefits of strengthening links with other research teams at the ULB (Free University of Brussels) were all reasons for the City of Brussels to support this major project.

In making this move, the Jules Bordet Institute is strengthening its positioning as a reference centre in the fight against cancer with a cancer research cluster that is unique in Belgium and inspired by other major European cancérpôles. Representing a major boost for the Brussels Region!

The new Jules Bordet Institute will be opening its doors on the ULB campus in Anderlecht at the end of November. Fully dedicated to leading edge care, research and training in the field of cancer, the new institute will retain a firm focus on patient well-being.

80,000 m² dedicated to combat cancer
10,000 m² dedicated to cancer research
250 hospitalisation beds (including 172 single rooms)
43 day hospitalisation beds (including 31 single rooms)
8 operating theatres
6 linear accelerators including one with integrated NMR and one for preoperative radiation therapy
Hospitalisation focused on the comfort and well-being of patients and their loved ones

The Jules Bordet Institute proposes 250 conventional hospitalisation beds, including 172 single rooms, and 43 beds for day hospitalisations, including 31 single rooms to ensure calm and confidentiality during treatment. The new Jules Bordet Institute was built around the needs of cancer patients on the basis of care pathways adapted specifically to their illness. In addition to the haematology, medical oncology and surgery units, the new Institute includes: hospitalisation units designed especially for elderly patients and patients requiring supportive or palliative care; a protected unit for haematopoietic cell transplantation; an intensive care unit specialised in cancer complications; a radioprotection unit for the administration of radioisotopes; and a hospitalisation unit reserved for studies of innovative new cancer treatments. These units benefit from the expertise of care teams at the patient’s bedside, specialised in oncology and including all the necessary support care.

The layout of the rooms and compact design of the building serve to maximise the comfort and well-being of the patient and reduce distances as well as the stress and fatigue associated with hospitalisation. Each room has a view of the exterior or a patio and has a shower, storage space and all the comfort of a modern hotel: wi-fi access, ventilation, audio-visual equipment, etc. The comfort of loved ones and accompaniers is also a constant consideration. The lounges with view of the surrounding nature and relaxation areas have been designed to make waiting a more agreeable experience. A space for the children of hospitalised patients will be available on Wednesday afternoons and a health education centre will enable patients to obtain all useful information on their illness and their treatment.

The new building and this new location represent a unique boost for the Jules Bordet Institute’s development and, more widely, for the diagnosis and treatment of cancer pathologies in Belgium”

Francis de Drée, General Director

“ When designing the new building, in addition to ensuring quality care by specialised teams, the focus was on providing patients and their loved ones with all the necessary well-being with comfortable, light and peaceful spaces that respect their intimacy and their needs.”

Doctor Dominique de Valeriola, General Medical Director.

The central element in a cancer treatment pole unique in Belgium

The Jules Bordet Institute, a university hospital dedicated entirely to the fight against cancer, is moving to a brand new building on the Anderlecht campus, in immediate proximity to the Erasmus Hospital and the ULB (Free University of Brussels) Faculty of Medicine. Currently occupying 35,000 m², the Institute’s new building will offer 80,000m² devoted to its care, research and teaching missions in the field of oncology. With this move the Jules Bordet Institute will increase by more than 50% its care capacity and surface area dedicated to leading edge technology and research laboratories. As the reference centre, it will become the central element in a cancer treatment pole unique in Belgium that will concentrate expertise and innovative infrastructures, train the professionals, and stimulate, structure, coordinate and optimise medical progress and research in the fight against cancer. On the Anderlecht campus, the Jules Bordet Institute will be at the heart of an environment of key players represented by the ULB’s Faculty of Medicine, the Erasmus Hospital, the Faculty of Motor Sciences, the Haute Ecole Ilya Prigogine (nurses, physiotherapists...) and the School of Public Health. It will have all the resources required to pursue its mission of centre of expertise in the field of cancer, at national level by encouraging cooperation between hospitals, as well as at European and international level at which the Institute aims to strengthen its position.

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• On the Anderlecht campus
• In immediate proximity to the Erasmus Hospital, the ULB’s Faculty of Medicine and training schools for the care professions
• European and international location

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A building designed to welcome leading edge medicine and technologies now and into the future

Technology for diagnosing and treating cancer is developing at a rapid rate, permitting more individualised, precise and effective cancer treatment for each patient. The new Jules Bordet Institute building is designed to welcome these leading edge technologies now and into the future. The fully radiation-protected lower ground floor (-1) is dedicated to technical medical procedures. Here you will find the Radiotherapy Department that has recently acquired an MRI-LINAC thanks to the support of the “Friends of the Bordet Institute”. This totally innovative technology and a premiere in Belgium combines high precision magnetic resonance imagery (1.5 Tesla MRI) and adaptive tumour irradiation using a linear accelerator (LINAC). This makes it possible to modify the field of irradiation during treatment according to the reduction in tumour volume and thereby reduce any side effects to a minimum. This latest technology is in addition to the three other new linear accelerators and one upgraded accelerator, the Gamma Knife (at the Erasmus Hospital) and the Mobetron (system of radiotherapy applied during surgery), as well as a brachytherapy device. Located in close proximity to radiotherapy, the Radiology Department’s diagnosis and treatment activities also benefit from high technology with machines of the latest generation (CT scanners, MRIs, mammograms, ultrasound scanners) providing all the imagery needed to diagnose and treat cancerous lesions. This floor dedicated to technical medical procedures is also home to the Nuclear Medicine Department (equipped with two SPECT-CTs and two PET-CTs, one reserved exclusively for medical research). The department includes a radiopharmacy (with GMP quality standards) to permit the production of radionuclides emitting ionising and oncolytic particles.

The concentration of all these departments on a single floor, in close proximity the one to the other, aims to ensure the perfect integration of these different methods of diagnosis and treatment through close inter-departmental cooperation and the ease of patent transfer from one machine to another as part of an increasingly personalised medicine.

10,000 m² dedicated to cancer research

The 4th floor of the new Jules Bordet Institute will be devoted entirely to translational research to combat cancer with the aim of arriving at a better understanding of cancer pathology in the interests of improved treatment, in particular by actively studying its functioning and the interaction between the cancer cells and the tumour microenvironment. The research laboratory platform will also have new high-tech acquisitions in tissue imaging, cellular biology, microdissection and tumour genome sequencing. These will be shared between all the researchers. New units and strengthened teams will be available to clinical research, thereby improving and personalising treatment but also permitting the development of new anti-cancer medicines of increasing effectiveness in combating tumours. The presence in the new Jules Bordet Institute of research areas in close proximity to the hospitalisation floors and units brings researchers to the heart of medical practice and to the patient’s bedside. This organization favours multidisciplinarity and exchanges between researchers and doctors with a view to enabling patients to benefit from the most innovative and personalised anti-tumour treatment available.

“Imagine on one hand doctors battling at their patients’ bedside to force back the cancer and then on the other side of the wall laboratory researchers who are studying cancer from all angles : translational research is this ‘bridge’ that enables the two to meet, to share their observations and to define the hypotheses to be tested on both sides. In the new Jules Bordet Institute this bridge will not be a fragile wooden walkway but a vast meeting space that must ‘catalyze’ major discoveries for our patients.”

Professor Martine Piccart,
Scientific Director.

• 10,000 m² dedicated to translational research to combat cancer
• Between 100 and 120 research projects approved every year
• Approximately 800 new patients included in our prospective studies every year
• High-tech equipment for tissue imagery, microdissection and genome sequencing
A modern architecture with a human vision

On first contact, the new Jules Bordet Institute is notable for its logical design and transparent organisation. The building is in the form of a parallelepiped, laid out around a central axis that serves all the vertical circulations, with six patios that allow natural light to permeate deep into the building. This apparent simplicity translates into an efficient model that makes it possible to optimise patient care pathways, limit the number of staff and patient steps and promote continuous interaction between professionals in a structure designed to stimulate multidisciplinary care and to bring the fruits of research to the patient’s bedside. The Brussels-Paris Joint Venture Brunet Saunier - Archi 2000 – TPF has understood the vision of the Jules Bordet Institute and expressed it in a building in the service of the integrated multidisciplinary approach that defines it. The new building offers a high-tech environment that at the same time exudes an atmosphere of calm and serenity. The particular attention paid to the choice of materials with an extensive use of wood, the colour schemes with their natural shades, and the presence of natural light and unobstructed views combine to ensure that this building of 80,000 m² laid out over nine floors is on a human scale for a soothing effect on patients, visitors and staff.

The Friends of the Bordet Institute

For more than 50 years “The Friends of the Bordet Institute” have been helping to fund cancer research at the Bordet Institute. Every year the generosity of donors makes it possible to launch many projects and to acquire innovative equipment that results in real progress for patients in terms of screening and diagnosis, care and treatment. Their support remains essential for the new Institute and the new challenges, technologies and innovations in the fight against cancer.

www.amis-bordet.be

The Jules Bordet Institute is ready to welcome you from November 2021 on the site of the ULB in Anderlecht!

www.bordet.be