

Press release for immediate release

---

## **Oncodistinct, a multidisciplinary clinical research network that meets patients' needs**

Brussels, 23 May 2018 – **Cancer research is advancing by leaps and bounds with fast changing developments in cancer treatment. To respond to these changes, clinical research in cancerology must also change. Today there is a real need for new structures that facilitate the pooling of expertise and resources to better meet patients' needs and accelerate the development of new medicines in the fight against cancer. Oncodistinct, a multidisciplinary clinical research network set up by Professor Awada - Head of Medicine and the Medical Oncology Unit at the Jules Bordet Institute - with a team of Belgian and international colleagues, was founded with this aim in mind. A network of 27 cancer centres and university hospitals, Oncodistinct will be holding its bi-annual meeting on 24 May at the Paoli Calmettes Institute in Marseille.**

Oncodistinct is a multidisciplinary clinical research network set up in November 2015. Its objective is to adapt clinical trial methodology to recent innovations in treatment and accelerate the development of anti-cancer drugs for solid tumours, in particular in situations for which no standard treatment currently exists. As such, the network is seeking to respond to unmet medical needs, especially in the field of brain metastases and rare tumours.

The network today has 27 members in all (11 cancer centres and 16 university hospitals) that pool their expertise in oncology and the development of anti-cancer medicines. Members of the Oncodistinct network meet twice yearly to jointly initiate innovative multicentre trials with the aim of improving treatment for cancer patients. The pooling of scientific expertise (oncologists and organ specialists, researchers) improves the quality of the trials, cooperation between the centres and the speed of project realisation. Oncodistinct is also committed to working in partnership with patients to better meet their needs.

**The next meeting of the Oncodistinct network will be on 24 May at the Paoli-Calmettes Institute in Marseille.**

To find out more about Oncodistinct : [www.oncodistinct.net](http://www.oncodistinct.net)

**Attached: Picture of the Oncodistinct members**

## Press Contacts

---

### Institut Jules Bordet

Ariane van de Werve

**GSM** : +32.48617 33 26

**E-mail** : [ariane.vandewerve@bordet.be](mailto:ariane.vandewerve@bordet.be)

[www.bordet.be](http://www.bordet.be)

### About the Jules Bordet Institute

---

An integrated multidisciplinary centre, unique in Belgium, the Jules Bordet Institute is an autonomous hospital devoted exclusively to cancer.

For more than 75 years, the Jules Bordet Institute has been providing its patients with diagnostic and therapeutic strategies at the forefront of progress to prevent, detect and actively combat cancer. The Institute pursues three missions: care, research and teaching. Its international reputation attracts the world's leading cancer experts. Its spirit of innovation has enabled it to participate in the development and discovery of major new methods of diagnosis and treatment with the aim of bringing the findings to the patient as rapidly as possible.

In May 2013, the Jules Bordet Institute received official accreditation and designation from the OECI (Organisation of European Cancer Institutes) as a "Comprehensive Cancer Centre", a quality label reserved for multidisciplinary cancer care institutions whose activities include research and teaching. This is a first for Belgium.

The Jules Bordet Institute is a member of the Iris and Université Libre de Bruxelles hospital networks. With its 160 beds dedicated exclusively to cancer patients, every year the Institute treats more than 6,000 in-patients, 12,000 out-patients and provides 75,000 consultations. To effectively meet future demographic and scientific developments, the Institute is planning to build a new Institut Bordet on the ULB university campus in Anderlecht, next to the Erasmus Hospital. Inauguration is planned for 2018.

- Jules Bordet Institute website: [www.bordet.be](http://www.bordet.be)
- To consult the Jules Bordet Institute presentation brochure, go to: <http://www.bordet.be/fr/presentation/brochure/index.html>
- To view the Jules Bordet Institute presentation video, go to: <http://www.bordet.be/fr/presentation/organigr/textes/bordet.htm>

### About the Friends of the Bordet Institute

---

The Friends of the Jules Bordet Institute is a non-profit-making organisation with the sole aim of supporting and financing research at the Jules Bordet Institute, a cancer centre that is a reference in Belgium and abroad. As the largest private donor to the Bordet Institute, "The Friends" have donated almost 12 million euros in the past five years.

Considerable progress has been made in the field of oncology in recent years. Our understanding of the biological origin of cancer is growing all the time. Whereas 10 years ago we spoke of the microscopic analysis of tumours, today we speak of genetic profile, of sequencing, etc. Dozens of new molecules and markers have been developed, permitting the advent of personalised treatment. This progress has to a large extent been made possible through the extraordinary technological progress of recent years. But these new techniques that now enable us to probe the infinitesimally small are increasingly expensive.

For more than 40 years, the help of the "Friends" has enabled the Jules Bordet Institute to pursue its research using the most advanced technologies, thereby providing patients with the most innovative screening and treatment techniques. Techniques that generate life and hope.

By helping and supporting "The Friends of the Bordet Institute" you are participating in the many research programmes that they support and that all pursue a single aim: victory for life.

To find out more about the association The Friends of the Jules Bordet Institute, go to the website [www.amis-bordet.be](http://www.amis-bordet.be)

To find out more about the "101 tables pour la vie", go to the website [www.101tables.com](http://www.101tables.com)

Rue Héger-Bordetstraat 1, B-1000 Bruxelles/Brussel

T + 32 (0)2 541 31 11, F + 32 (0)2 541 35 06, BELFIUS: BE72 0910 0972 7816, [www.bordet.be](http://www.bordet.be)

Institut Jules Bordet, Association Hospitalière de Bruxelles régie par la loi du 8 juillet 1976  
Jules Bordet Instituut, Ziekenhuisvereniging van Brussel onderworpen aan de wet van 8 juli 1976

