

## **The Jules Bordet Institute accredited by the OECI, A quality label recognised at European level**

Brussels, 25 June 2018 – **Accredited in May this year, on Friday 22 June the Jules Bordet Institute was officially recognised by the OECI as a "Comprehensive Cancer Centre". This follows initial accreditation and certification in 2012. This is a quality label reserved for high level centres providing multidisciplinary cancer care that integrate advanced research and the training of care professionals. The Jules Bordet Institute is Belgium's only Comprehensive Cancer Centre. At a Comprehensive Cancer Centre the patient benefits from the most innovative methods of prevention, diagnosis and treatment and is in the care of qualified staff who are fully dedicated to the disease of cancer.**

### **What is the OECI?**

The OECI is the European network of Cancer Centres. It covers 93 institutions located across Europe with the aim of improving care quality and better organising the fight against cancer in Europe by strengthening cooperation between members. OECI accreditation is awarded on the basis of quality standards that seek to promote a continuous improvement in services to patients. To this end the OECI has developed a programme of accreditation and certification for two types of centre in Europe: the Clinical Cancer Centre that is essentially devoted to patient care and the Comprehensive Cancer Centre where research and teaching are closely integrated into day-to-day patient care.

### **2018 accreditation**

The Jules Bordet Institute first received OECI accreditation and certification in 2012. This was a first for Belgium. At that time the Institute received a list of recommendations with a view to further improving the quality of its research and patient care. Five years later, in May 2018, the Jules Bordet Institute received a renewal of its accreditation, officially awarded on 22 June in Poznan, Poland on the occasion of the 2018 OECI Oncology Days. A wonderful recognition for all those who every day give their all to ensure the well-being of patients!

The OECI's evaluation conclusions and that resulted in the Bordet Institute's accreditation place particular emphasis on the following elements:

- The quality of the multidisciplinary care
- The quality of the organisation of clinical research
- The quality of the psycho-oncological consultations available to patients
- The quality of the tumour bank, one of the biggest in Belgium and an immensely valuable resource in achieving progress in research
- The precision and effectiveness of the Screening Service

*"Among the 93 OECI member cancer centres, 17 have to date been awarded Comprehensive Cancer Centre accreditation. Today we are the only OECI-accredited Comprehensive Cancer Centre in Belgium. We are very pleased and proud of this new accreditation, the reward for the constant attention by all the Jules Bordet Institute staff to providing quality care for patients and to integrating training and research programmes in this care. A wonderful recognition for all the Bordet staff who every day devote themselves to the well-being of their patients!"* explains Dr Dominique de Valeriola, General Medical Director at the Jules Bordet Institute

## **A process of continuous improvement**

To follow the OECI accreditation programme is to commit to a process of continuous quality improvement as well as to take the opportunity to set new goals for the years to come. Among other things, the Institute is committed to perfecting its clinical pathways so as to further facilitate and improve the quality of patient care. It also invests a lot of energy in the continuous development of its "survivorship" programme that incorporates all the professional assistance that a patient may need after completing treatment. This covers a wide range of fields including professional reintegration, fertility, psychological well-being and support for family and friends. The Institute proposes numerous group activities and consultations in this connection and would like to go further still in this essential post-treatment support for the patient. Also worthy of mention is the "patient partners" project that was launched recently and through which the Jules Bordet Institute is seeking ever increased patient involvement in its plans to improve the quality of its care and research.

## **Press Contacts**

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## About the Jules Bordet Institute

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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

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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)

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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

