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Press release for immediate release

Launch of Radiotheranostics Platform in Brussels A pioneering project in Belgium



23 July 2018 – The Institut Jules Bordet has signed an important agreement marking the start of close cooperation with the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) for the development of a radiotheranostics platform, the "Brussels RadioTheranostics Platform"! A pioneering project in Belgium (end even in Europe), the creation of this radiotheranostics tool places the Institut Jules Bordet and its partners at the forefront of innovative developments in molecular imaging and treatment using targeted radionuclides.

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The project would not have been possible without a substantial donation from the Association Vinçotte Nucléaire (financing of a radiopharmacy laboratory with GMP compliance, a PET-CT search camera and a preclinical micro-irradiator), with significant further aid from the Friends of the Institut Jules Bordet (preclinical molecular imaging).

Radiotheranostics uses radiolabelled drugs that simultaneously target, permit detection by medical imaging (PET-CT or SPECT-CT) and irradiate cancer cells to eliminate them. Today, further progress is only possible with advanced research infrastructures and devices and by attracting a critical mass of high level scientists. It is to this end that the Brussels RadioTheranostics Platform (BRTP) has been set up together with a coordinated network of scientists and clinicians from the Institut Jules Bordet, the UZ Brussel and the ULB Érasme, and a joint strategic plan to build and manage infrastructures.

In modern oncology the personalisation of medicine is fundamental. Nuclear medicine offers an unprecedented opportunity to offer patients a targeted and personalised radiotherapy based on the concept of radiotheranostics.

In Belgium it is the Nuclear Medicine Department at the Institut Jules Bordet that was the motor behind the development and clinical introduction of radiotheranostics and in particular Peptide Receptor Radionuclide Therapy (PRRT) for neuroendocrine tumours, molecular radiotherapy

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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



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in lymphoma and, most recently, innovative applications in metastatic prostate cancer (Ga68-et Lu177-PSMA).

For its part, the VUB is at the forefront of international developments in the field of vectors based on single domain fragments (sdAbs) for the purpose of radionuclide diagnosis and therapy.

The Brussels RadioTheranostics Platform completes the existing arsenal in nuclear medicine and research infrastructures at partner institutions and brings nuclear therapeutic applications in Belgium to the very highest level.

Attached: Photo of signing of the agreement between the Institut Jules Bordet and the VUB in the presence of : Jean Vereecken (Director of Association Vinçotte Nuclear / Emeritus Professor VUB), Tony Lahoutte (Chief of Nuclear Medicine at UZ Brussels), Caroline Pauwels (Rector VUB), Patrick Flamen (Chief of Nuclear Medicine at Jules Bordet Institute), Dominique de Valeriola (Medical General Director), Franck Deconinck (Director of Association Vinçotte Nuclear/ Emeritus Professor VUB)

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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
- To consult the Jules Bordet Institute presentation brochure, go to: <http://www.bordet.be/fr/presentation/brochure/index.html>

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- 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

To find out more about the "101 tables pour la vie", go to the website www.101tables.com