

Press release for immediate release

Professor Martine Piccart receives the 2018 Bob Pinedo Cancer Care Award in the Netherlands.

23/11/2018 – **This 22 November, Professor Martine Piccart, Director of Scientific Research at the Jules Bordet Institute, received the 2018 Bob Pinedo Cancer Care Award from the Royal Netherlands Academy of Sciences. This award is in recognition of her major scientific contribution in the field of breast cancer, its treatment and clinical cancer research.**

The Bob Pinedo Cancer Care Award from the KNAW (Koninklijke Nederlandse Akademie van Wetenschappen) is awarded every two years to a scientist for outstanding work in the fight against cancer. It is named after Bob Pinedo, the Dutch oncologist and researcher. The winner of this prestigious award receives the sum of 100.000 euros to be dedicated to scientific research activities.

The major contribution of Professor Martine Piccart in breast cancer research has been illustrated many times over. She was the founder of the Breast International Group (BIG), the world's largest clinical research network for breast cancer. Thanks to this network she was able to initiate research proving the effectiveness of a combination of chemotherapy and Trastuzumab in treating HER2 + breast cancers. This protein recognizes cancer cells, attaches itself to them and prevents them from growing and dividing. Treatment of this kind makes it possible to achieve a 40% reduction in the risks of reappearance of the disease and therefore of deaths due to this type of cancer. Professor Piccart is the driving force behind many studies, including most recently AURORA that is investigating the molecular causes in metastatic breast cancers.

This award is well deserved recognition for her work and her undisputed contribution to breast cancer research and forms of treatment.

Attached : foto of Professor Martine Piccart receiving the Bob Pinedo Cancer Care award 2018, Symposium Cancer Center Amsterdam, Amstelzaal, UMC Amsterdam, Location VUMC.

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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 2018, 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 Institute Bordet on the ULB university campus in Anderlecht, next to the Erasmus Hospital. Inauguration is planned for 2020.

www.bordet.be

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.

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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



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

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