

COVID-19

François Baclesse Comprehensive Cancer Centre: patient care maintained, but controlled access to the centre

Caen, 6 November 2020 - As for all healthcare establishments, the François Baclesse Comprehensive Cancer Centre launched its 'White Plan' on Thursday 19 October 2020. A unit devoted to caring for patients tested positive for Covid will be **active as from 9th November** and staff are organised to face this second wave of the pandemic.

As per ministerial instructions, cancer care remains a priority - hence, the entire care offer is maintained at the centre, within a framework of safe conditions of welcome.

In order to guarantee this healthcare offer and to protect patients, the centre has further restricted conditions of access to the building*. Consequently,

- only persons accompanying patients to consultations are allowed to enter the building, any such accompaniment being limited to one person..
- Visits for hospitalised patients are limited and must be previously scheduled by making an appointment with the appropriate department;
- Ambulance staff are no longer authorised to circulate within the establishment, unless dispensation is granted at the reception.

A filtering system is in place at the entrances to the centre to guarantee abidance by these measures.

*Detail of measures: <https://www.baclesse-news.fr/2020/11/05/nouvelles-regles-de-visite-aux-patients-hospitalises/>

Press contact:

Centre François Baclesse: Hermeline Delepouve > Director of communication, international affairs and fundraising > +33(0)2 31 45 40 91 > h.delepouve@baclesse.unicancer.fr

About the François Baclesse Comprehensive Cancer Centre

The François Baclesse Comprehensive Cancer Centre is one of 18 French cancer centres. A private health institute of public interest (ESPIC) and member of Unicancer, activity at the François Baclesse Comprehensive Cancer Centre focuses entirely on cancer diagnosis and treatment. The centre also assures a mission of cancer research and education. The François Baclesse Comprehensive Cancer Centre cares for around 27,500 patients per year, among whom 7,657 new patients. It employs a staff of 1,000 professionals, including 137 physicians and researchers and hosts around 600 medical and paramedical students every year. The centre boasts a radiotherapy department which is among the 3 most comprehensive of its kind in France and, since July 2018, proposes protontherapy, together with the largest offer of supportive care options in France.

As a stakeholder in public hospital services, the François Baclesse Comprehensive Cancer Centre applies neither private sector fees nor fee enhancement, but exclusively standard social security fees. A public interest establishment, it may receive donations and legacies, totally exempt from taxation.

The centre was awarded level A certification (the highest level) by the HAS (French National Authority for Health) in October 2019 for a period of six years. It is also the first French centre to have obtained, in April 2020, European EUSOMA certification for its Institut Normand du Sein (INS - Normandy Breast Institute). This label is awarded by the European Society of Breast Cancer Specialists.

The centre is an accredited 'Comprehensive Cancer Centre' by the Organisation of European Cancer Institutes (OECI) since June 2020.

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About Unicancer

Unicancer is the unique French hospital network 100% devoted to fighting cancer and is the only national hospital federation devoted to cancer care. It reunites 18 Cancer Centres (CLCCs), private non-profit healthcare establishments, located on 20 hospital sites across France. CLCCs care for over 530,000 patients every year (short stay, home-based care or external procedures).

Unicancer is also the leading European academic promoter of clinical trials in oncology, with 100 ongoing clinical trials promoted, including around 6,300 patients included, and 57,000 patients listed in the ESME database.

Acknowledged as the French leader in research, the Unicancer network boasts an international reputation via the production of a third of international-scale French publications in oncology (source: Thomson Reuters / bibliometric study). A total of around 800 clinical trials (inclusions or follow-up) were promoted in 2019 by the Unicancer network, over 15% of CLCC patients are included in clinical trials and over half of PHRCs (hospital clinical research programmes) allocated to CLCCs.

Unicancer's 18 CLCCs and R&D management department are certified ISO:2015 for their clinical research.

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