

PRESS

RELEASE



HÔPITAL UNIVERSITAIRE
DE BRUXELLES
ACADEMISCH ZIEKENHUIS
BRUSSEL



A RAPID DIAGNOSIS PATHWAY FOR COLORECTAL CANCER AT THE H.U.B

Brussels, 21st March 2023 – Teams from the Gastroenterology and Digestive Oncology Departments of the Erasmus Hospital and Jules Bordet Institute are now working hand-in-hand within the Brussels University Hospital (H.U.B). They propose a rapid diagnosis pathway reserved for patients showing warning signs, a positive result in a search for blood in the stools or who are at high risk. On 22 and 23 March a giant colon will be installed in the lobbies of the Erasmus Hospital and Jules Bordet Institute. Professionals from our institutions will be there on the day to help you discover this organ and highlight the importance of screening for colorectal cancer.

Essential screening

Every year more than 8,000 Belgians, both men and women, are diagnosed with colorectal cancer. In 90% of cases they are aged over 50. One third of these persons will die from their cancer due to a late diagnosis. If detected in time, 90% of these persons are cured. Faced with this problem, our professionals decided to put into place a rapid diagnosis pathway for patients presenting a warning sign or a high risk. Colonoscopy screening is essential as it reduces the risk of developing colorectal cancer and reduces the mortality by 50%. This examination has therapeutic as well as diagnostic benefits as it not only allows a cancer to be detected at an early stage but also prevents its occurrence by removing colorectal polyps and early cancers.

Who is the screening targeting?

You can make an appointment with our professionals who will rapidly schedule a colonoscopy if you present warning signs such as an unexplained and lasting change in bowel movements, the presence of blood in the stools, abdominal pain or unexplained weight loss. If you have a personal or family history of polyps and/or colorectal cancer, inflammatory diseases of the digestive tube (Crohn's disease or proctocolitis) or a family history of multiple polyposis or hereditary colon cancer you will be prioritised.

With or without warning signs, from the age of 50 you can also undergo a simple test for the presence of blood in the stools, carried out in your own home following an invitation sent by the Region.

Do you show any of these symptoms? Then make an appointment with our specialists who will schedule your tests as quickly as possible on the basis of your symptoms.

Gastroenterology consultation: • Jules Bordet Institute 02 541 34 80 • Erasmus 02 555 35 04

Screening consultation at the Jules Bordet Institute (if no symptoms): 02 541 30 00

A giant colon to boost awareness

March is awareness month for colorectal cancers. On this occasion the Brussels University Hospital invites you to come and discover a giant colon. Accompanied by health professionals you can actually go inside the structure to discover this organ, in 3D, and better understand why and how to protect yourself against colorectal cancer, one of the most deadly cancers in Belgium. The dates are 22 March at the Erasmus Hospital between 9 am and 4 pm and 23 March at the Jules Bordet Institute between 9 am and 4 pm.

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ABOUT THE JULES BORDET INSTITUTE

An integrated multidisciplinary centre, the only one of its kind in Belgium, the Jules Bordet Institute is an autonomous hospital dedicated exclusively to cancerous diseases.

During the past 80 years the Jules Bordet Institute has been offering its patients diagnostic and treatment strategies at the leading edge of progress to prevent, detect and actively fight cancer. The Institute pursues three missions: care, research and teaching. The Institute's international reputation attracts leading experts in the field of cancer. Its spirit of innovation has enabled it to participate in the development and discovery of new methods of diagnosis and major treatment innovations, with the aim of translating the results into improved patient care as rapidly as possible.

In May 2028, the Jules Border Institute was officially awarded, for the second time, OECl (Organisation of European Cancer Institutes) accreditation as a "Comprehensive Cancer Center", a quality label reserved for multidisciplinary cancer care institutions that combine research and training. The Jules Bordet Institute is the only Comprehensive Cancer Centre with OECl accreditation in Belgium.

On 28 November 2021, the Jules Bordet Institute opened its new building on the ULB university campus in Anderlecht with 80,000 m² fully dedicated to leading edge cancer care, research and training, as well as a patient well-being centre. It offers 250 hospitalisation beds and 43 day hospitalisation beds.

The Jules Bordet Institute is also part of the H.U.B., the University Hospital of Brussels, which includes the Erasmus Hospital, the Jules Bordet Institute and the Queen Fabiola Children's Hospital. Thanks to new investments, this internationally renowned university hospital group is able to guarantee high quality care accessible to all combined with excellence in research and training.

www.bordet.be

ABOUT THE ERASMUS HOSPITAL

The Erasmus Hospital is located on the Erasmus hospital-faculty campus, which includes the Faculty of Medicine (about 3500 students), the Faculty of Motor Sciences (about 1100 students) and the School of Public Health (about 600 students). Opened in 1977 and with a capacity of 1,048 beds, the hospital receives 25,000 to 30,000 inpatients annually and has 350,000 to 400,000 consultations.

More than 4,000 members of staff, in 80 different professions, contribute on a daily basis to providing care under the sign of ambition, excellence and well-being. The Lothier Polyclinic and 2 external centres (the Traumatology and Rehabilitation Centre - CTR and the Geriatric Revalidation Centre - CRG) complete the care offer.

www.erasme.ulb.ac.be

ABOUT THE H.U.B

The Hôpital Universitaire de Bruxelles (H.U.B) is the academic hospital of the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), which unites the Jules Bordet institute, the Erasme Hospital and the Queen Fabiola Children's University Hospital (HUDERF) since 2021.

As an international reference center, located in the heart of the Brussels Region, the H.U.B offers high quality general, oncological and pediatric care.

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This excellent care, accessible to all, is enriched and sustained by a dual approach of scientific research and teaching for the caregivers of tomorrow.

In 2022, the H.U.B. is composed of more than 6,000 employees who share the following values: Interest of the patient, Respect, Commitment, Solidarity, Diversity and Inclusion, and the principle of Free enquiry.

www.hubruelles.be