PRESS RELEASE



A single medical council as the logical next step in shared progress.

May 5th 2023 – The Brussels University Hospital (H.U.B), consisting of the Erasmus Hospital, the Jules Bordet Institute and the Queen Fabiola University Children's Hospital, employs more than 800 doctors. To improve collaborations, inter-departmental communication and care pathways, at the end of December these doctors voted to set up a single Medical Council. An initiative seen as a logical next step and that respects the identities of each hospital. This form of transverse representation of the medical staff makes it possible to support both respective and common projects in the interests of medicine, both today and into the future.



All the doctors represented within the same body

The attachment of each hospital to the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB) already enabled the three medical councils to cooperate regularly in the past. The creation of the Brussels University Hospital (H.U.B) as an academic hospital for the City of Brussels in October 2021 served to consolidate this cooperation. Common governance was therefore soon seen as the logical next step. Thus, on 20 December 2020, doctors from the Brussels University Hospital (H.U.B) came together and opted, by more than 80% of votes, to deploy a single medical council. This form of representation of the medical staff within the hospital governance aims to facilitate and improve inter-departmental cooperation and promote an efficient sharing of activities. The future doctors' representatives on this single Medical Council will be appointed when new elections are held at the start of the next academic year. Voting will be by electronic means.

Unifying while respecting the identity of each hospital

The role of the Medical Council is to coordinate medical activities, promote quality care and harmonise patient pathways that are accessible to all within the hospital networks while maintaining the spirit of cooperation between the doctors. Although the Brussels University Hospital is deployed through its governance and its transversality, the desire to preserve the identity of each institution, for both staff and patients, remains a priority. Each of these constituent institutions is recognised nationally and internationally for its medical projects and innovations, whether oncological, paediatric or specialised.

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The communication challenge

Regular meetings of all the H.U. B doctors are needed to ensure that the deployment of a common medical project is a shared experience. The existence of two distinct hospital sites (Anderlecht and Laeken) remains the biggest challenge in terms of communication for the teams, especially when members of the medical staff must be present physically. Using the right means of communication at the right time remains a key issue in ensuring the smooth functioning of the institution.

A union in keeping with the triple mission: care, research and teaching

As a university structure with many researchers and research physicians, the Brussels University Hospital offers a stimulating environment that permits the continuous recruitment of young specialists. A youth that has a vital place within the institution and to which established staff are always attentive. The medical staff also interact very closely both with the paramedical teams and support services (data processing, human resources, etc.) as well as with GPs, with the aim of always guaranteeing the best care for the patients.

PRESS CONTACT

Press responsible : Alexandra Cazan E-mail : <u>alexandra.cazan@hubruxelles.be</u> communication@hubruxelles.be

Tel : +32 (0)2 541 38 89 Mob : +32 (0) 493 16 74 79 Press officer : Gabrielle Vanhoudenhove E-mail : <u>g.vanhoudenhove@hubruxelles.be</u> communication@hubruxelles.be Tel : +32 (0)2 555 83 95

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, OECI (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 OECI 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

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H.U.B

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.

ABOUT THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

The Queen Fabiola University Children's Hospital is the only Belgian hospital exclusively dedicated to children and adolescents. By doing everything possible for the well-being of children, our hospital contributes to their being actors of their own development and to their blossoming in society. The hospital's mission is to

- To care for and support children, adolescents and their families through comprehensive, multidisciplinary, humanistic and excellent care.

- To provide high-level teaching and research through a continuous process of innovation and development of knowledge.

- To contribute actively to health education.

The Children's Hospital in figures: 183 beds, nearly 135,000 consultations, more than 36,000 emergency admissions and more than 41,000 days of hospitalisation per year. More than 3,700 operations are performed in the operating area each year. More than 1,000 people work there today, representing 750 FTEs (full-time equivalents), including 170 FTE doctors (52.5 post-graduate FTEs) and 440 FTE nurses and paramedics. www.huderf.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.

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.hubruxelles.be