

Press release

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Radiotherapy: Institut Curie and Varian, a Siemens Healthineers company, sign a strategic framework agreement to accelerate innovation in oncology



Halcyon® accelerator from Varian at Institut Curie. © Institut Curie / VOISIN

Institut Curie, France's leading cancer treatment center, and Varian, a Siemens Healthineers company, announce the signing of a strategic framework agreement for a period of 3 years. This agreement aims to implement ambitious scientific collaborations to accelerate research and innovation in the field of radiotherapy in the common fight against cancer.

"Institut Curie, where radiotherapy was born over 100 years ago, continues to be the leading innovator in this field thanks to dynamic research carried out as a result of joint collaboration between biologists, physicists, and doctors. This framework agreement with Varian, the world leader in radiotherapy, is part of our investment plan¹ launched in 2023 aimed at building the future of radiotherapy and offering patients the most innovative techniques. It will help accelerate the initiation of ambitious research projects," states **Prof. Steven Le Guill, Director of the Institut Curie Hospital Group.**

This agreement formalizes a sustainable collaboration strategy in terms of research and development, with the objective of driving innovation in radiotherapy between two major players in the global fight against cancer. The first radiotherapy and proton therapy center in France, Institut Curie is equipped with one of the most efficient technical platforms in Europe, treating more than 6,000 new patients per year for all cancers. For more than 75 years, world leader Varian has been developing and delivering innovative radiotherapy solutions to its international clinical collaborators, enabling them to treat millions of patients every year.

A unique collaborative arsenal for innovation in radiotherapy

About 50 to 70% of cancer treatments include radiotherapy sessions². The challenges of this technique today consist of treating the tumor effectively while reducing side effects. The first phase of this agreement is to initiate innovative research projects aimed at developing more precise, conservative, and personalized treatments by combining the clinical expertise of Institut Curie and the unique know-how of Varian.

¹ Read our press release ["Radiotherapy at Institut Curie: a boost for cutting-edge innovation"](#)

² Source : [Agence internationale de l'énergie atomique](#)

The two collaborators will also work together to accelerate the marketing of breakthrough radiotherapy technologies. To this end, Institut Curie teams will benefit from privileged access to the latest generation equipment and software developed by Varian before they are put on the market. Varian will thus be able to improve its technologies thanks to the specific feedback from the teams regarding the use of the systems.

The first collaborations launched between Institut Curie and Varian focus on the development of new state-of-the-art equipment - one of them being the recent installation¹ of the very first HyperSight system in France on a Halcyon accelerator at Institut Curie's Paris site. This cutting-edge imaging technology, which is an optional feature on most Varian linear accelerator, has enabled Institut Curie teams to benefit from a considerable improvement in image quality and adaptive tools, to optimize the accuracy and effectiveness of treatments for the benefit of patients.

Several research projects are currently underway, including one aimed at optimizing new treatment planning, a crucial process for optimizing tumor targeting during the radiotherapy session, while avoiding surrounding healthy tissue.

Beyond research, the second phase of this agreement will focus on the supervision of a complete range of collaborations between Institut Curie and Varian: services, site visits,³ and training⁴. These initiatives will allow the two collaborators to access each other's expertise and join forces to meet their common ambitions: to deepen knowledge in radiotherapy, improve the dissemination of knowledge, optimize the training of technical and medical teams, and develop new cutting-edge technologies for the benefit of patients.

"This strategic agreement with Institut Curie represents a significant step in our commitment to transforming radiotherapy and redefining treatment standards. By combining our expertise, we are determined to drive innovation forward, providing solutions that not only improve patients' lives but also bring us closer to our vision of a world without fear of cancer," said **Laurent Amiel, President Varian Europe, Middle East, and Africa.**

"We are pleased to launch this major strategic collaboration with Varian, our long-standing partner. This collaboration embodies the continuous commitment of Institut Curie to developing new cutting-edge treatments to improve patient care. This privileged partnership, made possible by our Carnot label of excellence which promotes partnerships between academics and industry, reaffirms our ambition to make France the European leader in radiotherapy and thus strengthen France's influence in medical research,"* states the **Dr. Cécile Campagne, Director of Institut Curie's Technology Transfer Office and Deputy Director of Carnot Curie Cancer.**

Varian, HyperSight and Halcyon are trademarks of Varian Medical Systems, Inc., pending or registered U.S. Pat. & Tm. Off.

³ Institut Curie is a Varian referral center. It allows potential Varian customers (hospitals, clinics, etc.) to observe and test the equipment in a suitable environment and alongside the expert teams of Institut Curie.

⁴ Institut Curie is a training site for Varian equipment, and it offers many courses each year.

About Institut Curie

Institut Curie, the first French center for the fight against cancer, combines an internationally renowned research center and a state-of-the-art hospital group that takes care of all cancers, including the rarest kinds. Founded in 1909 by Marie Curie, Institut Curie has 3 sites (Paris, Saint-Cloud and Orsay) with over 3,700 researchers, physicians and health professionals working on its 3 missions: treatment, research and teaching. A private foundation with public utility status, Institut Curie is authorized to accept donations and bequests, and thanks to the support of its donors, is able to accelerate discoveries and improve patient treatment and quality of life. Find out more: www.curie.fr



***Institut Curie has been a certified "Carnot Curie Cancer Institute" since 2011.** The Carnot certification is a recognition of excellence awarded to academic research organizations whose quality and involvement in partnership-based research have been demonstrated. Curie Cancer offers industrial partners the opportunity to implement research collaborations utilizing the expertise of Institut Curie's research teams to develop innovative therapeutic solutions for cancer, from therapeutic target to clinical approval. Find out more: <http://www.instituts-carnot.eu/fr/institut-carnot/curie-cancer> - <https://findmed.fr>

About Varian

At Varian, a Siemens Healthineers company, we envision a world without fear of cancer. For more than 75 years, Varian has developed, built, and delivered innovative technologies and solutions that help care providers around the globe treat millions of patients each year. Today, as a Siemens Healthineers company, we support every step of the cancer care journey – from screening to survivorship. From advanced imaging and radiation therapy, to comprehensive software and services, to interventional radiology, we are harnessing the power of our perspective while also pursuing clinical research to create a more efficient, and more personalized care pathway. Because, for cancer patients everywhere, their fight is our fight. For more information, visit <http://www.varian.com>.

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