

COLLECTIVE
EXPERTISE
TO **FIGHT**
AGAINST
CANCER

**ACTIVITY
REPORT
2025**



INSTITUT UNIVERSITAIRE
DU CANCER DE TOULOUSE
Oncopole



FOREWORD

The “Oncopole”, as patients and the general public know it, brings together on a single site more than 2,000 professionals committed to the fight against cancer, divided between the Toulouse-Oncopole University Cancer Institute (IUCT-Oncopole) and the Toulouse Cancer Research Center (CRCT). The Oncopole Claudius Regaud (Comprehensive Cancer Center) and the Toulouse University Hospital (CHU) join forces as the IUCT-Oncopole, sharing their expertise and excellence in missions of care, research, and teaching.

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EDITORIAL

The year 2025 reaffirms the strength of the Oncopole's collaborative model, supporting the daily commitment of healthcare professionals and researchers toward a single goal: placing the patient at the heart of every action. The past year has been marked by tangible achievements. In particular, major work was completed on the pharmacy, the first foundational step of the Oncopole expansion project. Excellence in our research was also reflected in a 15% increase in medical and scientific publications in prestigious journals, as well as in our teams' coordinating and launching major national and international research projects: the CIRCLE Consortium (INCa), BIG-2 and REMASeIN (PHRC-K), and the KAïROS Project. Such bold projects have accelerated translating research into clinical care, tangibly improving treatment effectiveness and patients' quality of life. The excellence of our site has also been reflected in rich medical-scientific collaboration. Such major advances would not have been possible without the invaluable support of our academic and industrial partners, our patrons and donors. Their commitment and trust drive innovation and play a key role in our collective successes; we express our deepest gratitude to them.

Beyond this review, this report carries meaning for the future. The challenges lying ahead for our teams are inspiring: integrating new technologies, further personalizing therapies, and pushing back the frontiers of precision medicine. We invite you to explore these pages reflecting the pride and perseverance of the teams shaping tomorrow's medicine. Enjoy your reading.

Dr. Pierre Cordelier
Director, CRCT

Prof. Jean-Pierre Delord
General Director of the Oncopole Claudius Regaud,
Administrator, GCS IUCT-Oncopole

Jean-François Lefebvre
Chief Executive Officer of the Toulouse University Hospital (CHU),
President of the General Assembly, GCS IUCT-Oncopole



RESEARCH IN 2025

LESS THAN **6** MONTHS

for a discovery by the CRCT to be translated
into a clinical trial at the IUCT-Oncopole

661

PUBLICATIONS

61

INTERNATIONAL
PUBLICATIONS

with an impact factor > 20

20

RESEARCH
TEAMS

126

RESEARCHERS

29

NATIONALITIES
among the different
researchers

8

TECHNICAL
RESEARCH
PLATFORMS

131

ENGINEERS
AND RESEARCH
TECHNICIANS

1

LABORATORY OF
EXCELLENCE:
LABEX TOUCAN



2

ERC GRANTS



CLINICAL TRIALS IN 2025

x2

the number of clinical trials has doubled
since the creation of the IUCT-Oncopole 12 years ago

366

CLINICAL TRIALS
opened for inclusions in 2025

40%

EARLY PHASE
TRIALS

2 663

NEW PATIENTS
included in 2025

22%

OF PATIENTS IN THE ACTIVE FILE
included in a clinical trial in 2025

INCLUSIONS IN 2025

57%

SPONSORED
BY THE IUCT-ONCOPOLE

26%

SPONSORED
BY ACADEMIA

17%

SPONSORED
BY INDUSTRY



1 321 CARE PROVIDERS, OF WHOM:
243 PHYSICIANS

AND **122** INTERNS

108 PHD STUDENTS AND POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHERS



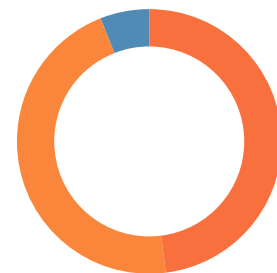
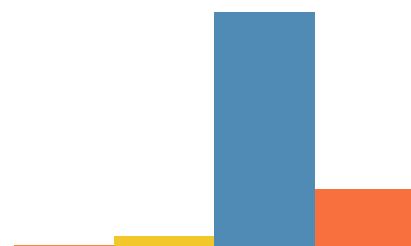
PATIENTS IN 2025

12 305 HOSPITALIZED PATIENTS
(active file)

41 539 PATIENTS TREATED

INCLUDING **5 503** NEW PATIENTS hospitalized

NEW PATIENTS



CANCER CARE ACTIVITIES IN 2025

59 548
RADIOTHERAPY
SESSIONS

132
patients received
BRACHYTHERAPY

8 586
OPERATIONS

including **4 878**
anesthesia procedures
(excluding local)

123 358
HOSPITAL STAYS,
+3.15% compared
with 2024

85,5 %
OUTPATIENTS
in hospital wards

308
BEDS
including **103**
day-hospital beds

6,6 days
AVERAGE LENGTH
OF STAY
in full hospitalization



The 1st

HOSPITAL PHARMACY
IN FRANCE (PUI)
in terms of chemotherapy
preparations

134 822
CHEMOTHERAPY
PREPARATIONS

4 167
patients treated with
ORAL THERAPIES

650
patients received
VECTORIZED INTERNAL
RADIOTHERAPY

72
patients treated with
CAR-T CELLS

191
TRANSPLANTS
PERFORMED,
including **103** autologous
and **88** allogenic grafts

2 761 implantable port or central
venous catheter insertions

3 123 LBP (Labile blood product)
transfusions

19 total body irradiation sessions

A COLLECTIVE COMMITMENT TO REDEFINING TOMORROW'S STANDARDS

The year 2025 marks a key milestone: from simplifying myeloma treatments to advances against glioblastoma, the Oncopole's scientific excellence translates into major clinical progress. Through wide-ranging collaboration and patient-centered innovation, teams are shaping tomorrow's standards for more precise, humane, and accessible medicine.

Toward changing practices in treating multiple myeloma

The MIDAS clinical trial, coordinated by **Prof. Aurore Perrot**, a Toulouse CHU hematologist on the Oncopole site, in collaboration with the Francophone Myeloma Intergroup (IFM), marks a turning point in treating multiple myeloma. This research explores a personalized therapeutic approach for patients under 66 years of age. Initial treatment combines four drugs (IsaKRD), followed by a personalized consolidation strategy in function of the minimal residual disease (MRD) rate after six months. These results, praised by international experts and subject to long-term follow-up, indicate:

- In some "good responders," autologous transplantation could be forgone without compromising efficacy (84% MRD-negative without transplantation vs. 86% with).
- In poorer responders, a second autologous transplant would offer no benefit; a single transplant is sufficient.

This research, published in the New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM) and presented at the ASCO 2025 Congress, paves the way for major treatment simplification. By reducing chemotherapy, this strategy can offer care better suited to each patient's individual characteristics.

Perrot A. *et al*, *N Engl J Med*, PMID 40459097, June 2025



"CT homecare by the Oncopole": clinical research excellence in patients' homes

The Oncopole reaffirms its role as a pioneer in oncology with the launch of "CT Homecare by the Oncopole," the only platform in France dedicated to decentralizing clinical trials in oncology. Designed by the Research and innovation department at the Oncopole Claudius Regaud, this initiative makes it possible to carry out all stages of research protocols — including administering investigational treatments — directly in patients' homes, thereby removing geographical barriers often associated with trial participation. This project, recognized by the 2025 Unicancer Innovation Award and the "Best Poster" Award at the ESMO TAT Congress, is based on close collaboration between the Oncopole's research teams, local healthcare professionals, and cutting-edge digital technologies. This coordination ensures that safety and scientific rigor remain unchanged, while offering patients greater comfort in their daily lives.

In 2025, several clinical trials adopted the platform, enabling approximately 40 patients to benefit from this initiative. As a result, these patients saved an average of 460 kilometers in travel to the Oncopole. Through this initiative, the institution reaffirms its commitment to accelerating access to therapeutic innovations, while placing people and flexibility at the heart of its approach.



The Oncopole at the forefront of pediatric cancer research

The CIRCLE consortium (*Collaboration In between two seas Resistance Cancer LongEvity*) has been designated the fourth center of excellence in pediatric cancer research by INCa (National Cancer Institute). With funding of three million euros over five years, the project is led by **Prof. Marlène Pasquet**, pediatric oncologist at the Toulouse CHU, along with **Profs. Stéphane Ducassou** from the Bordeaux CHU and **Anne Laprie** of the OCR. This network brings together 26 research teams based in Toulouse, Bordeaux, and Montpellier.

The research is organized around two programs:

Overcoming treatment resistance: Coordinated by **Dr. Fabienne Meggetto** and **Prof. Nicolas Sirvent**, this program studies cancer cell resistance mechanisms through epigenetic and metabolic reprogramming. It uses artificial intelligence, medical imaging, and the development of liquid biopsies to personalize treatments.

Improving quality of life after cancer: Led by **Prof. Anne Laprie** and **Dr. Sébastien Lamy**, this program aims to optimize post-treatment recovery. It takes a holistic approach (physical, neurocognitive, socioeconomic) by studying, in particular, patients' metabolism, microbiome, as well as the impact of social disparities on young patients' health.



Brain tumors: initial positive results in glioblastoma treatment



The year 2025 marked a decisive milestone in treating recurrent glioblastomas with the presentation of results from the national STERIMGLI study, sponsored by the Oncopole and led by **Prof. Elizabeth Moyal**, head of the Oncopole department of Radiotherapy and deputy director of the CRCT. This multicenter Phase II trial demonstrated for the first time worldwide the clinical efficacy of an innovative strategy combining hypofractionated stereotactic radiation therapy with immunotherapy. By extending median survival from ten to sixteen months, this research redefines treatment standards for a particularly resistant disease. "In glioblastomas, few clinical trials show positive results," emphasizes **Prof. Elizabeth Moyal**.

"STERIMGLI has all the more impact since it involves 10 research centers in France with a total of 102 enrolled patients." This major breakthrough was hailed by the international scientific community at the World Congress of Neuro-Oncology in November 2025, where **Prof. Moyal** received the "Clinical Study of the Year 2025" Award. Building on this success, and together with the CRCT's RADOPT team, work continues to identify biological and imaging biomarkers to optimize the targeting and efficacy of this new treatment.



Managing immunotherapy-related toxicities

Managing toxicities associated with anti-cancer immunotherapies is a rapidly expanding field. In response to ever-increasing indications for immune checkpoint inhibitors, a dedicated care pathway has been established for the entire Western Occitanie region. In 2025, more than 180 new patients received medical support to manage these toxicities. Outpatient care has also expanded, with 450 consultations for immunological checkpoint inhibitors (ICIs), bispecific antibody therapies, and

antibody-drug conjugates (ADCs). Regional multidisciplinary team (MDT) meetings dedicated to immune-induced toxicities were implemented to ensure rapid and coordinated expertise. This activity is carried out monthly by **Drs. Iphigénie Korakis** and **Valérien Rivet** as part of the Onco-Occitanie network and is led by **Dr. Valérien Rivet** within the department of Internal medicine, ensuring its continued growth with nearly 200 new cases.

UNIVERSITY-HOSPITAL AGREEMENT

50 YEARS OF HISTORY AND A SHARED FUTURE



On October 24, 2025, a 2025–2029 university-hospital agreement was signed, marking a new milestone in the historic partnership uniting the University of Toulouse, the Toulouse CHU, and the Oncopole Claudius Regaud.

This agreement commemorates more than 50 years of shared history and formalizes the university-hospital strategy shared by the signatory institutions. It sets out broad guidelines for training, research, innovation, and attractiveness, in line with the Institutional projects and the Performance agreements of each of the signatory institutions.

Through this agreement, the partners reaffirm a shared ambition: strengthen the position of the Toulouse School of Health as a center of excellence dedicated to public health and training healthcare professionals. In a spirit of cooperation and public service, and as an integral part of the University of Toulouse, this agreement contributes to the momentum of the newly established University of Toulouse. It illustrates the dynamic that has been developing in oncology for more than ten years on the Oncopole site. The agreement was signed by **Jean-François Lefebvre**, CEO of the Toulouse CHU; **Prof. Odile Rauzy**, President of the University of Toulouse; **Prof. Fabrice Muscari**, Dean of the Faculty of Health, and Prof. **Jean-Pierre Delord**, General Director of the Oncopole Claudius Regaud and Administrator of the GCS IUCT-Oncopole, in the presence of representatives from the university-hospital community.



PHARMACY MODERNIZATION:

A STRATEGIC MILESTONE FOR THE ONCOPOLE

€2 645 000
FOR NEW
EQUIPMENT

€2 858 366
FOR
CONSTRUCTION

+134 822
CHEMOTHERAPY
PREPARATIONS
PER YEAR

90

STAFF MEMBERS
ACROSS 8 UNITS



As part of the Oncopole expansion project, the Hospital pharmacy (PUI) – the most active in France, preparing over 134,000 chemotherapies annually – is undertaking a preliminary phase of large-scale expansion and renovation (2023–2027). This project represents a major investment of over 5.5 million euros.



The objective is threefold:

- Upgrade equipment
- Comply with drug serialization requirements
- Increase production capacity to accommodate up to 60% estimated rise in activity by 2030.

In March 2026, the completion of the UPCO2's new ISO 7 cleanroom (80 m²) marked a key milestone. It now incorporates three state-of-the-art ApotecaChemo automated systems, designed to automate half the production of conventional chemotherapy drugs while enhancing safety and traceability. At the same time, modernization of the UPPHRC* continues with the upcoming installation of a dispensing robot and rotary storage systems.

* Unit for non-radiopharmaceutical and cytotoxic pharmaceutical products (UPPHRC)



AN INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

The excellence of research conducted on the Oncopole site is now recognized as a global benchmark. Whether through securing prestigious international grants (ERCs) or leading nationwide studies (INCa), Oncopole clinician-researchers are advancing knowledge to transform patient care and daily life. Recognized for their expertise, they contribute significantly to major European projects harmonizing medical practices to promote more equitable, innovative, and coordinated cancer care throughout Europe.

Dr. Lorenzo Scipioni, Recipient of an ERC Starting Grant

Dr. Lorenzo Scipioni, a researcher at the Toulouse Cancer Research Center (CRCT – Inserm, CNRS, University of Toulouse) located on the Oncopole campus, has just been awarded a prestigious ERC Starting Grant from the *European Research Council* (ERC). Funding of 1.5 million euros over five years will enable Lorenzo Scipioni and his OncoBreast team — under his direction since 2024 — to continue and expand their research on triple-negative breast cancer. The winning project, ESPRESSO-Omics, seeks to better understand and predict the mechanisms of treatment resistance in this cancer. Lorenzo Scipioni has thus developed an innovative technological approach — ESPRESSO — combining advanced microscopy, chemical tools, and computational analyses. This method enables real-time observation of individual tumor cell behavior. The goal is to identify new biomarkers able to decipher chemoresistance mechanisms, better predict the risk of relapse, and, ultimately, pave the way for new personalized therapeutic approaches. After arriving in Toulouse in the summer of 2024 from the University of California, Irvine (United States), Lorenzo Scipioni founded the on-site CRCT OncoBreast team. His moving to Toulouse was made possible by €1.5 million in seed funding provided jointly by the TotalEnergies Foundation, the Toulouse Cancer Health Foundation, the Oncopole Claudius Regaud, and Inserm. This initial support enabled him to launch his research program on triple-negative breast cancer.

Scipioni L. et al., Nat. Methods, PMID 41184551, Nov 2025



HORIZON EUROPE

Clinician-researchers at the Oncopole are also involved in “Horizon Europe” projects to optimize patient care and quality of life. Through programs focused on ovarian cancer (SALVOVAR) and uterine cancer (HPV-FASTER), as well as innovation in radiotherapy (RHYTHM) and medical imaging (JANE-2), they help harmonize practices and ensure equitable access to care across Europe.



4 RESEARCH PROJECTS COORDINATED BY THE ONCOPOLE AND FUNDED BY INCa



Basic and translational research (PLBIO): targeting intestinal immunity in anti-metastatic therapies

This project, led by **Dr. Christel Devaud** (CRCT, Oncopole Claudius Regaud, OCR), is part of her work to identify an immune system specific to the gut, whose characteristics could open up new therapeutic avenues, particularly in cases of metastatic colorectal cancer.

BIG-2 (PHRC-K): Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML) and response to treatment

Minimal residual disease (MRD) is a measure of persistent tumor cells using highly sensitive techniques. The BIG-2 clinical trial of the French AML Intergroup, led by **Prof. Christian Récher**, head of the CHU department of Hematology. The project seeks to prospectively evaluate therapeutic response through MRD analysis and consequently adjust patients’ individual treatments according to their MRD level. This study is part of a national program for young adults and adults (ages 18–60) with AML.



REMASeIN (PHRC-K): Surgery and inflammatory breast cancer

This rare and aggressive form of breast cancer has, until now, been treated by mastectomy without immediate breast reconstruction (IBR), due to the risk of the disease spreading to skin and surrounding tissues. The primary objective of this clinical trial, coordinated by Toulouse CHU surgeon **Prof. Charlotte Vaysse**, is to determine whether IBR can be offered without increasing the risk of locoregional recurrence in patients responding to initial medical treatment. This study, involving 18 centers in France, will also assess the impact of this approach on patients’ quality of life.

RESPOND (PHRC-K): nuclear medicine and Prostate Cancer

Led by **Dr. Lavinia Vija Racaru**, an OCR nuclear medicine physician, the RESPOND project is a phase III clinical trial involving patients with metastatic prostate cancer treated with Lu-177 PSMA-617. The study aims to evaluate the benefits of a personalized, therapeutic de-escalation approach versus standard treatment for a specific patient population.



In 2025, several distinctions were awarded to recognize the medical and scientific expertise and commitment of the Oncopole teams, confirming this site's unique position in France among leading players in oncology.

Individual Recognitions



Prof. Hervé Avet-Loiseau

Researcher, GENIM Team – 2025 Oberling-Haguenau Grand Prize, ARC Foundation



Prof. Pierre Brousset

Pathologist at the Toulouse CHU, head of the Pathology laboratory – Elected member of the National Academy of Medicine



Dr. Théo Carrié

Junior Physician, Radiotherapy laboratory – Lucien Mallet Prize, Fondation de France



Léa Goupille

Ph.D. candidate and researcher, METAML Team – 2025 Kerner Prize, ARC Foundation



Dr. Anne Huynh

Hematologist, Toulouse CHU – Elected president of the Francophone Society for Bone Marrow Transplant and Cell Therapy



Prof. Anne Laprie

Oncologist and Radiotherapist – Appointed chair of the Children and TYA Focus Group, European Society for Radiotherapy and Oncology (ESTRO)



Prof. Julien Mazières

Head of the Toulouse CHU Pneumology department – Listed among the most cited researchers in 2025



Dr. François Poumeaud

Junior Physician and Researcher, ONCOSARC Team – 2025 Doctoral dissertation Award, French Cancer Society



Mary Poupot-Marsan

Researcher, NetB(10)² Team – Recipient of the 14th Call for proposals, BMS Foundation for Research in Immuno-oncology



David Verger

Director of Quality, Patient Security and Risk management – Appointed a member of the OEI Accreditation Committee



Prof. Sébastien Vergez

Head of the Toulouse CHU department of Surgery – Appointed Secretary General of the French Society of Otorhinolaryngology (SFORL)



Prof. Odile Rauzy

Internal medicine physician – Elected president of the University of Toulouse



The Oncopole teams are proud to see Prof. Odile Rauzy elected president of the University of Toulouse. This election highlights the university-hospital collaboration and the role of the Oncopole's healthcare professionals within this ecosystem.

PROF. JEAN-PIERRE DELORD REAPPOINTED



Prof. Jean-Pierre Delord has been reappointed as General Director of the Oncopole Claudius Regaud (OCR) for a new five-year term as of March 31, 2025. In this capacity, he will also continue to serve as Administrator of the IUCT-Oncopole Healthcare consortium (Groupement de Coopération Sanitaire, GCS). In October 2025, the General Assembly of the UNICANCER Federation renewed **Prof. Jean-Pierre Delord** as vice president.

A medical oncologist, international expert in phase I trials, he co-directs the CRCT T2i team with **Prof. Maha Ayyoub**. Since 2023, he has been listed in Clarivate, the global ranking of the most cited and influential researchers.

In 2025, several young CRCT researchers received grants from the FONROGA Corporate Foundation to support their innovative projects in oncology and immunology: Loélia Babin, Aurore Gaudin, Léia Lelievre, Eva Malaterre, Clara Da Cunha, Lucie Maffre, Roukia Saïd Omar, and Pauline Sierra.



Hospital and clinic rankings: the Oncopole stands out

The French weekly news magazine *Le Point* published its 2025 rankings of the best hospitals and clinics. Once again, the IUCT-Oncopole confirms its excellence and stands out in several specialties:

- 2nd** for head and neck cancers
- 4th** for skin cancers
- 4th** for uterine and ovarian cancers
- 5th** for thyroid cancers
- 5th** for adult leukemias
- 7th** for breast cancers
- 10th** for lymphomas and myelomas
- 14th** for sarcoma and soft tissue surgery

Prof. Agnès Dupret-Bories, head and neck surgeon, featured on the cover of the magazine's Occitanie edition. The Toulouse CHU retains its first place among French hospitals.





PAVING THE WAY FOR NEW THERAPEUTIC STRATEGIES

TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH: FROM BENCH TO BEDSIDE

The proximity of basic and clinical research teams on the Oncopole campus fosters a close-knit and responsive collaborative environment. This organization promotes a rapid flow of scientific advances toward clinical applications, strengthens interactions between researchers and clinicians, and helps refine diagnostic and therapeutic strategies – all directly benefiting patients and improving quality of care.

On the trail of dormant leukemic stem cells

Within the IGAALD team, **Bastien Gerby**'s research seeks to understand why certain leukemic cells resist treatment and cause relapses, particularly in children with B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia, the most common pediatric cancer. By developing innovative experimental models, his team has demonstrated the existence of “dormant” pre-leukemic cells capable of evading chemotherapy and then reactivating the disease long after treatment. His research has also shown how certain genetic mutations, notably PAX5-P80R, disrupt normal blood cell development and promote the onset of leukemia. By identifying key players such as the Hif2a factor, his work opens up new therapeutic avenues aimed at developing targeted treatments capable of permanently eliminating resistant cells and preventing relapse.

Bayet M. et al., Cancer Res., PMID 40354631, May 2025



BASTIEN GERBY
**BRONZE MEDAL
WINNER,
CNRS TALENT AWARDS
IN 2025**



Tumor tissue cells capable of slowing pancreatic cancer progression

The research conducted by **Dr. Corinne Bousquet** and the MICROPANC team focuses on the role of pancreatic cancer fibroblasts — cells making up the tumor’s “supporting tissue.” Long considered to uniformly promote tumor growth, these fibroblasts are, in fact, heterogeneous, with subpopulations that can, on the contrary, slow down disease progression.

The team has identified a protein — FKBP7 — found in the endoplasmic reticulum that acts to regulate tissue organization around the tumor. When FKBP7 is expressed, it promotes type IV collagen production that helps form a more structured and “confining” matrix limiting tumor growth. Conversely, it also reduces type I collagen production, associated with more aggressive fibrosis. Thus, without FKBP7, fibroblasts become pro-tumoral. These findings open up avenues for “reprogramming” tumor microenvironment to slow down pancreatic cancer progression.

Quemerais C. et al., Cancer Lett., PMID 39924075, April 2025

CLINICAL RESEARCH: COMBINING EXPERTISE TO DRIVE INNOVATION

The Oncopole, certified CLIP² by INCa, accelerates access to tomorrow’s therapies. Combining cutting-edge technologies and emerging expertise, the institution drives early-stage clinical research and social innovation through the PRIC unit (Prevention and reduction of cancer-related inequalities), transforming each discovery into personalized and equitable progress for all patients.

CP-START-001: next-generation immunotherapy

The Oncopole reaffirms its pioneering role in providing access to global therapeutic innovations through the phase I/II CP-START-001 clinical trial. Led by **Dr. Carlos Gomez-Roca**, this study evaluates the efficacy of STAR0602 (invikafusp alfa), a next-generation selective T-cell activator. This immunotherapy treatment seeks to revitalize the immune system to destroy tumor cells, specifically targeting advanced solid tumors that are antigen-rich or resistant to conventional therapies

ESMO Congress 2025: international scientific excellence

The 2025 ESMO Congress in Berlin confirmed the strong involvement of Oncopole medical and scientific teams with more than 50 presentations. Driven by 28 clinician-researchers whose work focuses on early-phase trials (phases I and II), accounting for more than 50% of all abstracts presented. These results are part of a global dynamic: in 2025, teams working on early-phase trials — representing nearly one in two trials — authored 147 medical and scientific publications in international journals.



Launch of the PRIC unit: innovating to combat inequalities in cancer care

In late 2025, the Oncopole officially established the PRIC unit (Prevention and reduction of cancer-related inequalities) within the OCR’s Research and innovation directorate. The institution thus became the first comprehensive cancer center in France to incorporate a unit specifically dedicated to this issue.

Led by **Dr. Cyrille Delpierre***, the unit includes two senior researchers and the Tarn Cancer Registry. Their work, focusing on social epidemiology and interventional research in population health, pursues two complementary objectives:

- **Measure and understand** the social and local determinants of the disease.
- **Implement** concrete actions to optimize equity in care.

This pioneering project falls directly in line with the guidelines of the 2021–2030 National Ten-year Strategy to Fight Cancer.

*Inserm research director, Director of CERPOP (Toulouse Center for Epidemiology and Research in POPulation Health), co-leader of the EQUITY team and of the Greater Southwest cancer cluster’s research axis “Cancers: Individual and Collective Challenges”.

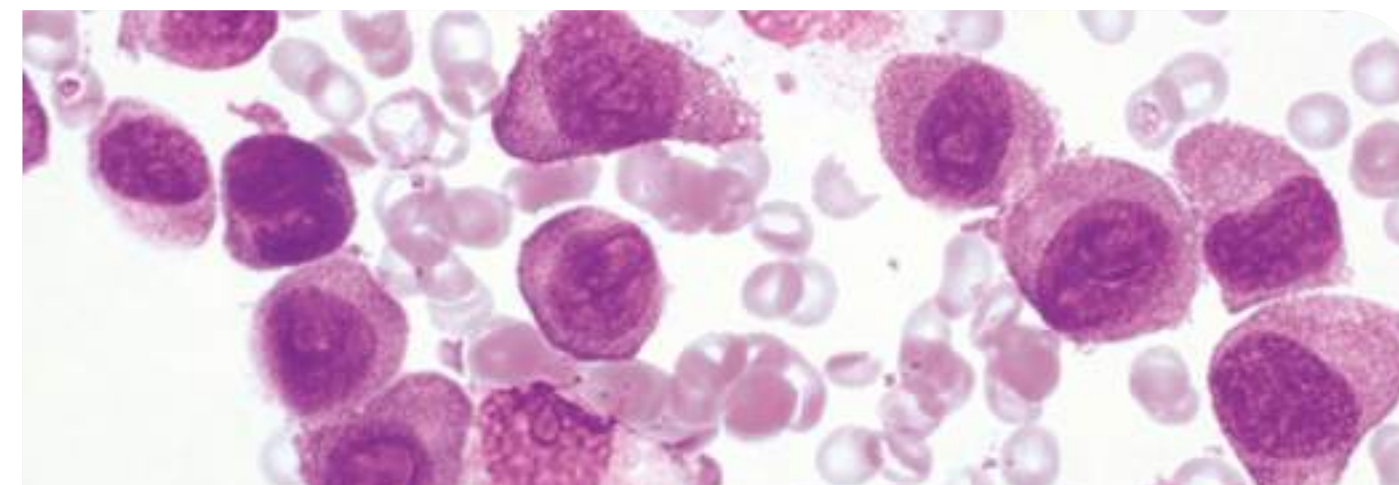
HEMATOLOGY: INNOVATING FOR PRECISION MEDICINE

Major advances in treating multiple myeloma, two high-impact clinical studies on Acute Myeloid Leukemia and participation in the ASH Annual Congress marked the year 2025.



An International Presence at the 2025 ASH Congress

At the annual congress of the American Society of Hematology (ASH) in December 2025, the hematology and internal medicine teams at the Toulouse CHU (Oncopole and CRCT) co-authored no fewer than **110 oral presentations and poster presentations**. This international recognition validates the relevance of local research, capable of transforming biological discoveries into global standards of care. Whether validating new standard-of-care treatment combinations or unraveling the cellular mechanisms of resistance, the institution reaffirms its leading role in precision oncology, where each academic innovation translates into tangible improvement in patients' chances of recovery.



Multiple Myeloma: toward a deep and lasting response

The year 2025 was marked by major advances in treating multiple myeloma, driven by an in-depth analysis of therapeutic response. Results presented by **Dr. Anaïs Schavgoulidze** (Toulouse CHU biologist), based on the international BENEFIT study, demonstrate that the Isa-VRd treatment protocol achieves sustained minimal residual disease (MRD)-negative status in patients aged 65 to 79 not eligible for transplantation. The protocol is effective even in patients at high genomic risk, positioning this treatment as a future standard of care for prolonged remission. At the same time, **Dr. Ludovic Martinet** (CRCT GENIM team) unraveled resistance mechanisms to teclistamab in the ResisTec study. His research reveals that the abundance of CD8 T cells in the immune environment prior to treatment predicts therapeutic success. By observing this "killer" cell activation as early as the first weeks of treatment, this study paves the way for innovative predictive tests to personalize treatment strategies and overcome resistance.

Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML): redefining clinical standards

In the field of Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML), the Oncopole reaffirms its leadership through high-impact clinical trials.

Dr. Sarah Bertoli's research has highlighted a crucial therapeutic breakthrough for a very rare form of AML (t(9;22)+), previously classified as having poor prognosis. Adding a tyrosine kinase inhibitor (TKI) to intensive chemotherapy raised the complete remission rate to 90.2%, radically transforming survival prospects and prompting a revision of international classifications. In addition, **Prof. Christian Récher** carried out major research within the multicenter BIG-1 platform to optimize treatment protocols for young patients. His work demonstrates that a simplified induction cycle with daunorubicin offers the same effectiveness as idarubicin while reducing infectious risk. Finally, adding dexamethasone during the consolidation phase significantly improves hematologic tolerance, making it possible to reduce hospitalization by two to three days per cycle at no additional daily cost, thereby directly improving patients' quality of life.



Listen to the Oncopole FM podcast, featuring Prof. Jill Corre and Dr. Ludovic Martinet, researchers in the CRCT GENIM team



NEURO-ONCOLOGY & RADIOTHERAPY

At the Oncopole, the fight against brain tumors is built around a multidisciplinary approach. Researchers, medical oncologists, neurologists, radiation oncologists, biologists, and data science experts work in constant synergy. From the lab bench to the patient's bedside, this cross-disciplinary collaboration transforms scientific expertise into concrete therapeutic solutions.

Glioblastoma: Boosting the effectiveness of radiotherapy

Funded by the ARTC, this translational research project, developed within the CRCT's RADOPT team, explores an innovative strategy against glioblastoma by targeting mitochondrial metabolism. Coordinated by **Drs. Anthony Lemarié** and **Mireille Sebbag** (CRCT), the study evaluates the radiosensitizing effect of inhibitors of these metabolic pathways on cancer stem cells, responsible for relapse. The researchers use innovative 3D cerebroid models mimicking the brain and into which tumor stem cells will be implanted to simulate tumor development, sparing animals. This research aims to validate a therapeutic combination (radiotherapy and antimetabolites) to make radiation therapy more effective in treating glioblastomas. Ultimately, these experiments could serve as the foundation for developing a future clinical trial at the Oncopole.

A molecular discovery to predict patient survival

Published in May 2026 in *The Oncologist*, the retrospective study by **Dr. Adèle Meola**, supervised by **Dr. Delphine Larrieu** (Oncopole), sheds new light on glioblastoma. By analyzing patients' NGS sequencing data, the team demonstrated for the first time that specific EGFR gene substitutions are associated with improved overall survival. This major discovery allows for more refined prognostic stratification beyond conventional histology, paving the way for more personalized care.

TTFields and radiation therapy: discovery of a double sensitivity

Prof. Elizabeth Moyal's team, in collaboration with **Drs. Valérie Gouaze-Andersson** and **Pauline Deshors**, has made a major breakthrough in the fight against glioblastoma. Published in *Cell Death Discovery*, their study reveals common pathways of tumor resistance to transcranial alternating electric fields (TTFields) and radiotherapy, linked to FGFR receptor signaling. The researchers demonstrated that pemigatinib, an FGFR inhibitor, disrupts these mechanisms, reduces survival of cancer stem cells, and impairs DNA damage repair pathways in cancer cells treated by the combined therapy. This radiosensitization paves the way for new first-line therapeutic strategies; these patent-protected findings are currently undergoing clinical validation in the EXOFIELDS trial at the IUCT-Oncopole.

Deshors P. et al., Cell Death Discovery, PMID 40467542, June 2025

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Co-supervised by **Prof. Elizabeth Moyal** (Oncopole) and **Ahmad Berjaoui** (IRT Saint-Exupéry), **Lucas Robinet's** doctoral research focused on developing deep learning models capable of integrating multiple data sets – even when some data are missing – to improve survival predictions and reconstruct biological profiles from simple anatomic pathology imaging. This dissertation has resulted in several international publications and reflects the partnership between the two institutions on ambitious projects involving AI.

Robinet L. et al., Cancers, PMID 37190181, April 2023 / Zerbib C. et al., Oncologist, PMID 40542584, June 2025 / A. Berlaoui et al., Artif Intell Med, PMID 40617061, Oct. 2025

HEAD AND NECK CANCERS: IMPROVING QUALITY OF LIFE

With 15,000 new cases per year in France and a late diagnosis for 70% of patients, head and neck cancers require more personalized treatments. Oncopole teams are conducting research in surgical innovation, reducing side effects, and sustainably improving patients' quality of life.



The NIVOPOST-OP project: reducing relapse

THE LANCET

The Oncopole, through **Dr. Anouchka Modesto**, played a leading role in the international phase III NIVOPOST-OP study, published in the prestigious scientific journal *The Lancet*. This clinical trial shows that adding immunotherapy (nivolumab) to standard treatment (chemoradiotherapy) after surgery significantly reduces the risk of local relapse in high-risk cancers of the upper aerodigestive tract (mouth, throat, larynx). At three years, the disease-free survival rate reached 63% compared to 52%. This promising combination could redefine global standards of care.

Bourhis J. et al., The Lancet, PMID 41448222, Jan. 2026

The REDUCE project: balancing effectiveness and quality of life

The national REDUCE project, coordinated by **Dr. Victor Sarradin**, has reached a key milestone with the enrollment of 25 patients from 12 treatment centers, enabling an initial interim analysis in 2026. Designed for patients with recurrent head and neck cancer, this study evaluates reducing immunotherapy from six to four cycles prior to a maintenance phase with immunotherapy alone. Inspired by lung cancer treatment protocols, this approach aims to reduce side effects in these frail patients and improve their quality of life without compromising therapeutic effectiveness.

The ANR BIOFISS project: surgical innovation

The ANR BIOFISS project, coordinated by **Prof. Agnès Dupret-Bories** with **Prof. Audrey Tourrette** (CIRIMAT), focused on developing a biomaterial-based dressing to prevent the risk of salivary fistula following total laryngectomy. Completed in November 2025, it served as the basis for **Dr. Émilien Chabrillac's** doctoral dissertation and included significant literature reviews on the use of biomaterials in pharyngeal surgery. The aim is to develop less invasive surgical approaches promoting better healing while reducing sequelae and morbidity associated with cancer treatments.

Chabrillac E., et al, Head and Neck, PMID 40260473, Jul. 2025

Chabrillac E., et al, Biomaterials Translational, PMID

The BIOFACE project: a new, unprecedented study



With the support of the Fondation des Gueules Cassées ("broken faces", or people with facial disfigurement), the RHU BIOFACE facial reconstruction project coordinated by **Prof. Agnès Dupret-Bories**, a Toulouse CHU surgeon, includes a new, unprecedented ancillary study. Using a comparative medicine approach, the study will cross-reference biopsy data from oral cavity cancers in humans and animals to identify common risk factors.

DID YOU KNOW?

Oncopole experts **Drs. Modesto** and **Vieilleveigne**, contributed to drafting the SFRO's national guidelines (RecoRad™) on conformal radiation therapy and brachytherapy techniques for oral cavity cancers.

(El Houat Y, et al. Cancer Radiother, PMID 41330330, Nov 2025)

* French Society of Radiation Oncology

ONCO-GYNECOLOGY: COLLABORATION IN ACTION



The SALVOVAR project: a European initiative to harmonize practices

The year 2025 marks a key milestone for the European SALVOVAR project (Horizon Europe program) for which the Oncopole hosted the 3rd annual scientific meeting. This large-scale consortium, comprising 69 international sites, aims to improve treatment of high-risk ovarian cancers following neoadjuvant chemotherapy, notably through a phase III randomized clinical trial on adjusting chemotherapy regimens.

The Oncopole's expertise is showcased here through **Dr. Gwénaél Ferron** who coordinates part of the project harmonizing European surgical practices, notably through implementation of an e-learning program. This strategic axis ensures that patients can equitably access high-quality standards of care, regardless of where they receive treatment. For healthcare professionals, this initiative promotes collaborative skill development and rapid dissemination of therapeutic innovation. By spearheading this medico-scientific standardization, the Oncopole reaffirms its leading role in international clinical research, transforming complex protocols into tangible benefits for patients' survival and quality of life.



22
ONCO-GYNECOLOGY
CLINICAL TRIALS
AT THE IUCT-ONCOPOLE

930
PATIENTS TREATED,
INCLUDING 104
NEW INCLUSIONS
IN A CLINICAL TRIAL

+ 40
PUBLICATIONS
IN JOURNALS

The ROSELLA trial: a new option for resistant ovarian cancers

The international phase III ROSELLA trial marks a major breakthrough for patients with platinum-resistant ovarian cancer, an aggressive disease with limited treatment options. Conducted among 381 patients, this randomized trial evaluated the effectiveness of relacorilant, a selective glucocorticoid receptor antagonist, in combination with nab-paclitaxel. The results, published in *The Lancet*, demonstrate significantly improved progression-free survival and 35% reduction in the risk of death.

The Oncopole stood out as the second-largest recruiting center in France (tied with the Hospices Civils de Lyon) for this study, from which two articles published in *The Lancet* were co-signed as second author by **Dr. Laurence Gladieff**, principal investigator for France. Although adverse effects remain comparable to standard treatments, this new protocol offers concrete hope in this disease whose treatment needs remains unmet.

Olawaiye AB. et al., Lancet, PMID 40473448, June 2025; Lorusso D. et al., Lancet, PMID 41974149, April 2026



THE LANCET

The PAROLA study: patient enrollment to expand internationally

The PAROLA study reached a major milestone in 2025 with 70 patients enrolled thanks to the participation of 24 French centers. Coordinated by **Prof. Alejandra Martinez**, Oncopole surgeon and international principal investigator, and under the auspices of the GINECO group, this phase III trial is the second international surgical study in onco-gynecology led by France. It aims to evaluate whether aortic (lymph node) dissection followed by personalized radiochemotherapy improves survival in patients with advanced cervical cancer. Building on this national momentum, the study is now ready to break new ground expanding to an international scale.



Recognized expertise



Dr Laurence Gladieff

Head of the department of Medical oncology and chair of the Oncopole Gynecology Committee, vice president of the GINECO Group (National Investigators' Group for Ovarian and Breast Cancer Studies).



Dr Gwénaél Ferron

Surgical oncologist and expert in ovarian cancer, president of the Francophone Society of Surgical Oncology.



Pr Alejandra Martinez

Surgical oncologist, deputy head of the Oncopole department of Surgery, member of the Scientific Council of the ESGO (European Society of Gynecologic Oncology).

BREAST CANCER

SYNERGY BETWEEN CARE AND RESEARCH

Led by Profs. Florence Dalenc and Charlotte Vaysse and Dr. Gabrielle Selmes, the Oncopole Breast Cancer Committee brings together all areas of expertise to provide comprehensive, personalized, and innovative care. In 2025, this Europe-wide synergy between care and research was exemplified by 37 clinical trials dedicated to breast cancer, covering all stages of the disease.

Triple-negative breast cancer: from the right treatment to understanding immunotherapy resistance mechanisms

In 2025, the Oncopole joined major national and European projects to implement precision oncology dedicated to triple-negative breast cancer (TNBC) to personalize care, limit overtreatment, and overcome resistance:

- **The CARTOMANCIES project:** defining a composite biomarker (tumor and immune) to identify patients at risk of poor therapeutic response. The Oncopole centralizes coordination along with pathologic and biological analysis of tumor biopsies and surgical specimens.
- **The MATRix-TNBCs:** predicting individual response to chemoimmunotherapy by combining imaging (MRI/radiomics) with biological data at the time of diagnosis.

These projects draw on the European expertise of **Prof. Florence Dalenc** and **Dr. Camille Franchet**, in close collaboration with **Dr. Salvatore Valitutti** of the CRCT DynAct team.



At the same time, the Oncopole carries out cutting-edge translational research:

- **The BIO-ELOV project:** Led by Profs. Florence Dalenc and Céline Colacios (CRCT), this project explores sphingolipid metabolism to overcome resistance to immunotherapy. The researchers discovered that overexpression of the ELOVL1 enzyme reduces antitumor immunity, thereby promoting tumor growth. With this target blocked, immunotherapy becomes more effective, paving the way for a new therapeutic strategy to overcome resistance.

This collaboration between clinical research and biological innovation reaffirms the Oncopole's commitment to transforming standards of care in clinical situations where necessary.



LEARN MORE

Check out our special feature "Triple-negative breast cancer"

Surgery: increasingly minimally invasive procedures to improve patients' quality of life

At the Oncopole, the surgical team drives a culture of therapeutic innovation focused on surgical de-escalation. By combining the expertise of breast cancer specialists and plastic surgeons, multidisciplinary surgical care makes it possible to offer cutting-edge procedures, such as the first laparoscopic risk-reducing mastectomy or targeted axillary dissection (TAD). These high-quality minimally invasive approaches ensure oncological safety while considerably reducing physical sequelae. By preserving body image and optimizing postoperative recovery, the Oncopole consistently places patients' quality of life at the heart of its commitment.

TDXdose: optimizing the dosage of antibody-drug conjugates based on body mass

Trastuzumab deruxtecan (T-DXd) is an innovative antibody-drug conjugate (ADC) combining anti-HER2 targeted therapy with chemotherapy delivered directly to the core of tumor cells. The TDX Dose project, launched in 2025 in 10 institutions, is evaluating the impact of patients' morphological characteristics on the pharmacokinetics and toxicity of this treatment in women with metastatic breast cancer.

This national multicenter study is coordinated by **Profs. Fabienne Thomas**, pharmacist and professor of pharmacology at the Oncopole and CRCT DIAD researcher, and **Florence Dalenc**, medical oncologist. **Profs. Étienne Chatelut** and **Florent Puisset**, both pharmacists, are also actively involved in the project.

Its goal is to compare plasma exposure and adverse effects in 210 patients of normal weight, overweight, or obese to ultimately recommend specific dosage adjustments (weight-adjusted, lean body mass, or dose capping). This study is funded by the National League Against Cancer.

The same team has submitted a proposal to study this question with other classes of these innovative ADCs.

A surgical first in breast reconstruction: "zero scarring on the breast"

In May 2025, **Prof. Charlotte Vaysse** and her team performed the first laparoscopic preventive mastectomy at the Oncopole. This technical feat embodies modern, minimally invasive, and breast-conserving surgery. Through a four-centimeter axillary incision, the entire mammary gland is removed while preserving the skin envelope and the areola-nipple complex. During the same surgical procedure, immediate reconstruction is performed by placing an implant in the prepectoral position. Particularly well-suited for patients with "small breast volumes," this procedure offers the same aesthetic advantages as robot-assisted surgery (an invisible scar outside the breast), thus combining medical safety with preservation of body image.

Recognized expertise



Prof. Florence Dalenc

Medical oncologist, co-chair of the Oncopole Breast Cancer Committee, CRCT researcher, and vice president of the French Society of Breast Cancer and Breast Pathology.



Dr Gabrielle Selmes

Breast surgeon and co-chair of the Oncopole Breast Cancer Committee.



Prof. Charlotte Vaysse

Breast surgeon, co-chair of the Oncopole Breast Oncology Committee, deputy medical coordinator of the Cancer Federation at the Toulouse CHU, IPBS Toulouse researcher, member of the National Academy of Surgery

Elected Toulousaine of the year, 2025



INNOVATING TO SUPPORT EVERY PATIENT



CARE AND SUPPORT: NEW SOLUTIONS FOR EVERYDAY LIFE

At the Oncopole, supportive care is a fundamental and integral part of patient care pathways. It encompasses all care provided alongside cancer treatment, from diagnosis through to the post-cancer phase. Its goal is to improve patients' quality of life by managing side effects of treatments – such as pain or fatigue –, as well as psychological and social repercussions of the disease. Under the direction of Dr. Nathalie Caunes-Hilary, the Interdisciplinary Department of Supportive Care for Oncology Patients (DISSPO) works closely with teams from other departments to implement innovative, personalized solutions suited to every individual's needs. Part of this commitment to continuous improvement, several transformative projects launched in 2025 demonstrate the institution's ongoing dedication to enhancing patients' quality of life and effectively supporting caregivers.

Therapeutic patient education for everyone: a broader and more inclusive offer

In 2025, the Oncopole reached a key milestone by making Therapeutic Patient Education (TPE) available to every patient, expanding beyond the three original programs (EducSeno, head and neck, and oral treatments). Since December 1, 2025, the new cross-disciplinary program “Envisaging and Building Daily Life” has eliminated disease-related inclusion barriers. Based on 26 thematic workshops (nutrition, sleep, intimacy, life after cancer, work, pain, cognitive impairment), this program involves 24 professionals and three patient partners. This comprehensive approach now ensures that every patient receives personalized support to better understand her/his illness, optimizes the treatment journey, and sustainably preserves quality of life.



Dr. Nathalie Caunes-Hilary,

Head of the Oncopole Interdisciplinary department of Supportive care for oncology and hematology patients (DISSPO)

Our mission within the department of Supportive care is to support patients throughout their care journey, from diagnosis to post-treatment, empowering them to take control of their daily lives and continue living life to the fullest.



New podcast “Vulnerable but not guilty”

The Oncopole has launched its second podcast, entitled “Vulnerable but not guilty,” examining social pressures often associated with cancer. This audio project highlights the psychological impact of common phrases such as “Be strong” or “You’re going to win this battle”, that while expressing good intentions can make patients feel guilty. Over the course of four episodes, Oncopole psychologists and experts in the humanities open up a space for reflection on social pressures and expectations weighing on patients. This podcast aims both to encourage patients and caretakers to speak freely and to foster collective reflection on how society perceives and supports people living with cancer.



The KAÏROS national project: redefining end-of-life planning

The Oncopole is making a name for itself nationally with the KAÏROS project, part of the national “Anticipation” consortium. Led by an interdisciplinary trio — **Dr. Marie Bourguin** (Oncopole), **Prof. Bettina Couderc** (CERPOP-Oncopole), and **Lucie Sourzat** (UT Capitole) — this research program, funded through 2029, aims to dispel the misconception that palliative care is synonymous with end-of-life care.

Through this project, the three Toulouse-based partners seek to promote early, safe and secure palliative care through a unique synergy:

- **Clinical:** implementation of advance care planning (ACP) consultations.
- **Legal:** development of a handbook to guarantee patients' rights.
- **Training** for medical professionals after identifying barriers to implementing ACP.

This collaborative success positions the Oncopole at the heart of a national dynamic to bring about lasting change in patient support, placing patients' values and autonomy at the heart of their care journey.



Listen



New care pathway dedicated to sleep impairment

In 2025, a structured care pathway was established for patients experiencing sleep impairment during their cancer treatment. Several options are available:

- **Therapeutic patient education**, including a workshop on “Sleep difficulties and their prevention in oncology” and a second one on the more specific topic of insomnia.
- **A specialized medical consultation** on sleep disorders provided by Dr. Pierre Rigal when initial sleep hygiene measures are ineffective and/or when serious factors are identified.
- **A nighttime sleep study**, or polysomnography may also be recommended following the consultation in certain cases.



A booklet on this program dedicated to sleep impairment has been distributed to all practitioners at the IUCT-Oncopole. In parallel, Cécile Combis and Dr. Pierre Rigal have developed a decision-making guide for treating sleep disorders in the hospital setting.



ONCOLOGY AND REHABILITATION: SYNERGY FOR YOUNG PATIENTS

Personalized care for adolescents and young adults (AYAs)

At the Oncopole, special attention is given to the care of adolescents and young adults (AYAs) aged 15 to 25. Recognizing that this population requires a specific therapeutic approach and support — between pediatric and conventional adult oncology — the healthcare teams have launched a comprehensive initiative to optimize patients' care journey.

Innovative synergy: medical oncology and onco-rehabilitation

One of the cornerstones of this new organizational structure is the close partnership between the departments of Medical oncology and Supportive care — particularly the Onco-rehabilitation unit — , integrating this discipline into the treatment plan as early as possible.

Coordinated by **Dr. Thibaud Valentin** (medical oncologist and AYA specialist) and **Dr. Audrey Eche-Gass** (physical and rehabilitation medicine specialist), this collaboration seeks to anticipate physical and cognitive sequelae associated with aggressive treatments such as intensification chemotherapy or orthopedic surgeries.

Creation of multidisciplinary team meetings (MTD) dedicated to AYA care pathways

While treatment decisions continue to be made by organ-specific MDTs for this specific population, this complementary body intervenes to systematically integrate appropriate supportive care for each new AYA patient.

This MDT enables proactive planning from the moment of diagnosis:

- **Functional preparation:** optimizing prehabilitation prior to complex surgery.
- **Specialized coordination:** organizing transition to rehabilitation facilities, particularly when prosthetics are involved.
- **Social, educational, and vocational support:** planning steps as early as possible for returning to school or the workforce.

Enhanced coordination

This program is led by a dedicated AYA team ensuring a seamless care journey "within the hospital." Since 2024, **Sarah Nogaret** and **Christine Rozyki**, nurse coordinators, have played a pivotal role in coordinating care for the 200 to 250 AYA patients treated each year. Thanks to this unique integration of oncology and rehabilitation, the Oncopole reaffirms its commitment to offering young patients not only effective treatment but also the best possible chance to maintain their quality of life and secure their future.



INNOVATION FOR EVERYONE



IFAQ projects: eight winners

At the 2025 IFAQ* Awards ceremony, eight innovative projects were recognized by a jury composed of healthcare providers, patients, and patients' representatives for their contribution to improving quality of care at the Oncopole. These projects will receive 30,000 euros funding in 2026. Congratulations to the winners!

- **"I communicate!"** aims to improve communication between patients, loved ones, and healthcare providers using wall-mounted VELEDA whiteboards.
- **"Hospital biography"** allows patients to tell their life stories through writing, leaving a legacy for their loved ones.
- **"The keys to sleep"** offers relaxation sessions to improve post-operative sleep.
- **"I'm keeping my spot!"** enhancing patients' comfort in day hospitals by providing them with pagers.
- **"Pediatric space"** setting up an area with play items to reduce anxiety among young patients.
- **"All in good time,"** making waiting rooms more welcoming and functional by incorporating patients' suggestions.
- **"Digital app to support TPE workshops,"** an app to support patients at home during their treatment.
- **"Waiting room decor,"** incorporating greenery to improve patients' emotional well-being and staff comfort.

These initiatives, among others, illustrate the Oncopole's commitment to promoting well-being and quality of care, in line with the national health strategy.

* Financial Incentive for Quality Improvement (IFAQ) – funded by the HAS (French National Authority for Health)

Smoke-free Oncopole: a strengthened policy

As of November 3, 2025, the Oncopole implemented a strengthened anti-smoking policy, transforming its campus into a 100% smoke-free environment. This initiative applies to everyone on the premises — staff, patients, caregivers, and visitors — and now prohibits smoking and vaping in all outdoor areas, including entrances, forecourts, parking lots, and gardens. This decision conforms to the national circular of December 8, 2006, and decree no. 2025-582 of June 27, 2025, seeking to reinforce the fight against smoking and protecting everyone's health. By adopting this measure, the Oncopole reaffirms its commitment to prevention, coherent with its mission of excellence in oncology and its dedication to promoting health, both inside and outside its premises.





SHARING KNOWLEDGE



THE ONCOPOLE: A CENTER DEDICATED TO EXCELLENCE AND SHARING KNOWLEDGE

In 2025, the Oncopole reaffirmed its role as a major hub of oncology expertise. By hosting conferences and professional meetings, this site – unique in France – brought together all disciplines around a common ambition: sharing knowledge to transform care. This dynamic of enriching exchange, driven by major scientific and technological advances, confirms the Oncopole's renown as a center of excellence and knowledge transfer dedicated to patient care.



10

EVENTS

41%

OF EXTERNAL
PARTICIPANTS

2

EVENINGS DEDICATED
TO COMMUNITY
PROFESSIONALS

2 200

PARTICIPANTS

Ethics and palliative care: A landmark conference at the Oncopole

On September 26, 2025, the Oncopole had the honor of hosting **Dr. Claire Fourcade**, a palliative care specialist and leading figure in the field, for a conference dedicated to legislative developments regarding the “right to assisted dying.” This event, co-organized by the Oncopole (department of Supportive care and the OCR Ethics Committee), along with the Law School of the University of Toulouse Capitole, provided a unique forum for dialogue. Healthcare teams were able to discuss future trends in the field and the impact of these legislative changes on their daily practice. This meeting underscores the institution's commitment to in-depth ethical reflection, ensuring that patient support is increasingly informed by issues facing society.



Head and neck cancer screening: 220 Dentists welcomed at the Oncopole

As part of the national “Rouge-Gorge” (red throated robins) awareness campaign for head and neck cancers, the Oncopole's Head and Neck Cancer Committee organized a conference for dental surgeons, key players in screening and managing cancers of the upper aerodigestive tract. It was a successful inaugural event, bringing together 220 dental surgeons!

With the support of 

Paramedical staff: innovation on the move!

In September, the Oncopole hosted the 12th Interregional Colloquium on Paramedical Staff* Research, co-organized with the Comprehensive Cancer Centers of Montpellier and Bordeaux. Bringing together 150 participants around the theme “Reinventing Interprofessionalism,” these two days were marked by rich and fruitful exchanges. Featuring plenary sessions, “battles” of ideas, and original collaborative workshops — some of which were held in Toulouse's cable cars —, the event fostered synergy among professionals. This success underscores the vitality of paramedical research, driven by a collective and creative commitment to new perspectives in care.

**Nurses, nurses' aides, physiotherapists, psychologists, radiologic technologists, etc.*



Onco-gynecology in the spotlight at the Oncopole

For four days, the French Society of Gynecologic Oncology (SFOG) took over the Oncopole to host its annual congress. The first two days were entirely dedicated to surgery, featuring “live surgery” sessions, lectures, and practical case studies coordinated and led by the Oncopole surgical team. These were followed by two days, chaired by **Dr. Laurence Gladieff**, focusing on the themes of foresight, innovation, and transformation. A “Nursing care” day was also organized in parallel. Nearly 300 congress attendees were able to share their expertise and explore the Oncopole.



Looking ahead to the future of anesthesia!

In late November, the Oncopole hosted the 2025 edition of the GARO (Group of Anesthesiologists and Intensive Care Specialists in Oncology) congress, bringing together more than 60 specialists both in person and remotely. The event explored key themes: perioperative medicine, rehabilitation, eco-design, and accreditation. By promoting a cross-functional and multidisciplinary approach, the event highlighted the strategic role of anesthesia and intensive care in oncology. This success underscores the expertise of our teams and their commitment to innovation in healthcare practices.



Medical secretaries: a day for innovation and well-being

For its first edition at the Oncopole, the 6th UNICANCER Medical Secretaries' Day brought together 75 participants from nine cancer centers. This gathering highlighted these professionals' pivotal role in the care continuum amid evolving technologies. Beyond professional challenges, the focus was on self-care: sessions dedicated to managing stress, along with hands-on workshops, provided practical tools to promote well-being at work. A day successfully unifying key players.



Toulouse Onco Week : an international event



The fourth edition of the Toulouse Onco Week (TOW), organized by the Oncopole from February 2 to 7, 2025, reaffirmed its major role in fighting cancer and sharing medical and scientific knowledge. Around the central theme of resistance to cancer therapies, this event brought together international experts, researchers, and industry representatives. A key focus of this year's event was artificial intelligence, highlighting its revolutionary potential in oncology. Experts, notably from the Oncopole and the Saint-Exupéry IRT, demonstrated how AI is now refining diagnoses, predicting tumor aggressiveness, and enabling personalized treatments. This synergy of expertise reinforces the dynamics of innovation essential to tomorrow's therapeutic advances.



MOBILIZING FORCES

TOGETHER FOR NEW VICTORIES AGAINST CANCER

€3 431 315
COLLECTED IN 2025

**INCLUDING
56% BEQUESTS
AND
44% DONATIONS**

The collective momentum driving the Oncopole is rooted in the strength of every individual commitment. Thanks to the generosity of our individual donors and to the active involvement of our ambassadors — associations, businesses, local governments, universities, high schools, middle schools, patients, and caregivers — large-scale research projects are coming to fruition, and patients' daily lives tangibly improve. All of the Oncopole teams warmly thank donors and community partners for their continued trust, invaluable support, and unwavering commitment to our cause.



LE MARATHON DE LAURIE



LES COURBES DU 31



ENTENTE CORDIALE GAILLACOISE



VILLE ET ASSOCIATIONS
PORTÉSIENNES



LES AMIS DE L'ONCOPOLE



CHŒUR LITURGIQUE
ŒCUMÉNIQUE DE L'ARIZE



MERVÉTÉTISTE ET MAIRIE
DE MERVILLE 31



LES FOULÉES DES ENTREPRISES



ASSOCIATION SPORTIVE
CAUX ET SAUZENS

A big thank you to all the associations and their volunteers:

ASSOCIATION JEAN JOSEPH ROQUEFORT- ASSOCIATION MEMOIRE DE MAUBEC EN LOMAGNE - ASSOCIATION BEL HORIZON - BENOIT UN SOURIRE POUR LA VIE - BOURDICOU FOUR DES ANCIENS - COMITE DES FETES DE GIROUSSENS - EL MAGNIFICO - ENZO ONE LIFE - FOR ROSE - GYM LA CAPULETTE - GYM PLUS RISCOISE - LA BOULE PLAISANTINE - LA SEIN GO ROSE - LES POUMPILS DU CABARDES - MAIRIE DE BALMA - MAIRIE DE SEMALENS - MISSION LOCALE DES HAUTES PYRENEES - MP RESILIENCE - PORTET BRIDGE CLUB - RANDO POUR UNE MAMAN - ROSE'TIVAL LA ROMIEU - SPORT NATURE THERAPIE - VIVE LES VOISINS

*List of organizations donating more than €1,500 to the Oncopole to advance cancer research

They stand by us, supporting our projects, our research teams, and our patient care services:

Inserm – CNRS – Université de Toulouse – UNICANCER – Institut national du cancer – ANR – Région Occitanie – Les Investissements d'avenir – Cancéropôle Grand Sud-Ouest – établissement français du sang – Union européenne – Fondation pour la recherche médicale – Fondation ARC pour la recherche contre le cancer – Ligue nationale contre le cancer – Ligue contre le cancer 31 – Chaire Pierre Fabre – Fondation de France – Fondation RITC – Fondation Bettencourt Schueller – Laurette Fugain – GIRCI SOHO – Fondation Amgen – Fondation Bristol Myers Squibb – Fondation Riney

Thanks to the companies rallying around the Oncopole, including:



The Crédit Agricole Toulouse 31 is committed to supporting professionals in the health and aging sectors. The Oncopole Challenge was a wonderful opportunity for us to take on a challenge that was both athletic and charitable. The collective effort to support cancer research resonates deeply with us and corresponds to the values we uphold.

Christelle SIMON

Health and Local Development
Project Manager



Through the “Garlands against cancer” campaign, we sought to turn a creative gesture into a genuine outpouring of solidarity. Thanks to the commitment of our members, partners, and donors, we donated €21,000 to the Oncopole. Every garland, every donation, and every gesture help fight against the disease. Together, let's continue to share the light of hope.

Carry BENNING

President 2025 – Rotary Club of Toulouse and the Frontonnais region



PREVENTION ON THE MOVE: MOBILIZING AND INSPIRING ACTION

Turquoise September: spotlight on gynecological cancers

For the 2025 edition, the Gynecology Committee revamped its program by creating a video miniseries for the general public focused on prevention. The four social-media-style episodes attracted more than 35,000 views. The 4th Turquoise Challenge also stood out following its launch on YouTube and Discord: 81 works of art were exhibited in the main hall, a 30% increase from 2024. Turquoise Day, meanwhile, brought together 80 patients, caregivers, and organizations — a 25% increase over the previous year. Finally, the medical-scientific

evening brought together 60 physicians from the Oncopole and private practice to discuss latest developments in oncogynecology.

Thanks to our partners: MSD x AstraZeneca, Pharma®, GSK, AbbVie, and Tisséo Collectivités.



“Sun in moderation”

To mark June 21 — the first day of summer and national Music Day in France — the Oncopole launched a unique awareness-raising campaign against skin cancers. Breaking with traditional approaches to prevention, this original initiative features a quirky song and music video entitled “Coup de soleil” (Sunburn), composed by the Toulouse-based band De Fleur. The lyrics directly incorporate key messages and basic reflexes to protect your skin from the sun. Shared on social media and all streaming platforms, this project uses art to make a lasting impression in a lighthearted way.



Pink October: a historic mobilization

The 2025 edition of Pink October demonstrated unprecedented collective dynamics and solidarity. Featuring the slogan “Pink October, Pink City, same fight,” the initiative brought together the regional community around large-scale actions. Kicked off at the Rose Festival, where Oncopole healthcare teams ran the “Boobs Corner,” the campaign raised awareness among more than 3,000 young festivalgoers in a space dedicated to dialogue and prevention. This momentum continued throughout the month with six charity concerts at the Zénith arena in Toulouse. In total, more than 100 organizations and local authorities, along with some 50 partner companies, joined forces with the Oncopole to carry out 150 initiatives across the region. Finally, to celebrate this success and bring the network together, the first edition of the Rose Ambassadors Gala brought together more than 140 participants. This event honored the exceptional commitment of volunteers, essential liaisons for sharing research advances, raising public awareness, and mobilizing support for the Oncopole's scientific projects.



Blood cancers: informing and supporting

As part of Red September awareness-raising month, three information days for patients and caregivers were held at the Oncopole. Several topics were covered, including innovations in treating red blood cell disorders and the importance of blood and bone marrow donation, home hospitalization, and remote patient monitoring. Several associations — ADOT 31, AF3M, EFS, ELLyE, FFDSB, FLE, along with *Les Chapeaux de Martine* and the Ligue contre le cancer 31 — participated in these events.



INITIATIVES PROMOTING SOLIDARITY AND UNITY



An evening of lectures and solidarity

In 2025, the Rotary Club of Toulouse and the Frontonnais region chose to support the Oncopole. On May 6, the club organized a charity event focusing on the development of a personalized cancer vaccine. Several Oncopole specialists spoke to offer an update on the latest research and their work. The event brought together 200 participants, and €21,000 were raised. Big thanks to the Rotary Club of Toulouse and the Frontonnais region for its support.



Two “golden events”

When it comes to supporting pediatric oncology research, the race *Course la Jeannette* in Toulouse and the *Marathon de Laurie* in Cadalen (Tarn) have become two flagship events over the years. The 6th edition of the *Jeannette* raised €74,740 for teams at the Oncopole and Gustave Roussy. As for the 2025 edition of the *Marathon de Laurie*, €12,000 euros were raised. A remarkable effort!



A call for generosity: les ailes de l'Oncopole (the Oncopole takes wing)

To celebrate its tenth anniversary, the Oncopole launched its first major fundraising campaign under the banner of hope and renewal: “*Les Ailes de l'Oncopole*”. Centered around a totem animal — the bird — and the message “Let's give wings to the fight against cancer,” a 360° campaign was implemented to reach the general public and key players in the business community. Partnerships were forged with the Federation of Merchants' Associations, artisans, and professionals of Toulouse and Klépierre (the Portet-sur-Garonne shopping center).

Christmas with Galeries Lafayette

In 2025, the Christmas magic of the Galeries Lafayette department store in Toulouse lit up the Oncopole. Their marketing, merchandising, and HR teams put their creativity to work for the hospital through a skills-based sponsorship initiative, setting up... magnificent, decorated Christmas trees, bringing a warm and festive atmosphere throughout. Big thanks for this thoughtful gesture.





FOCUSING ENERGIES

THE IUCT-ONCOPOLE: COLLECTIVE EXPERTISE



For over ten years, the IUCT-Oncopole has brought together on a single site the Claudius Regaud Cancer Center and several teams from the Toulouse University Hospital to fulfill three missions: care, research, and teaching.

12 YEARS AFTER ITS OPENING, THE ONCOPOLE OFFERS TWICE AS MANY CLINICAL TRIALS TO PATIENTS AND PRODUCES TWICE AS MANY PUBLICATIONS IN INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS.

Symbolizing this continuum of care and research, a walkway links the Oncopole to the Toulouse Cancer Research Center (CRCT) to complement expertise and conduct fundamental and translational research programs. In total, more than 2,000 professionals combine their skills to accelerate cancer research and provide the best possible support to patients and their families. The site, comprising the IUCT-Oncopole and the CRCT, is certified as a Comprehensive Cancer Center by the Organisation of European Cancer Institutes (OECI). This label of excellence attests to expertise in oncology and highlights the multidisciplinary approach to patient care and the high level of integrated clinical practice and research. The strength of this model — a pioneer in France — lies in the pooling of skills of care and research teams working together on a daily basis to ensure that patients benefit from comprehensive, cutting-edge care.



Organization

The IUCT-Oncopole brings together more than 20 care units and medico-technical platforms. The organization is structured around 18 medico-clinical departments and 14 Organ Coordination Committees (CCOs), in collaboration with three other CCOs at the Toulouse CHU's Rangueil and Purpan sites.

The GCS IUCT-Oncopole

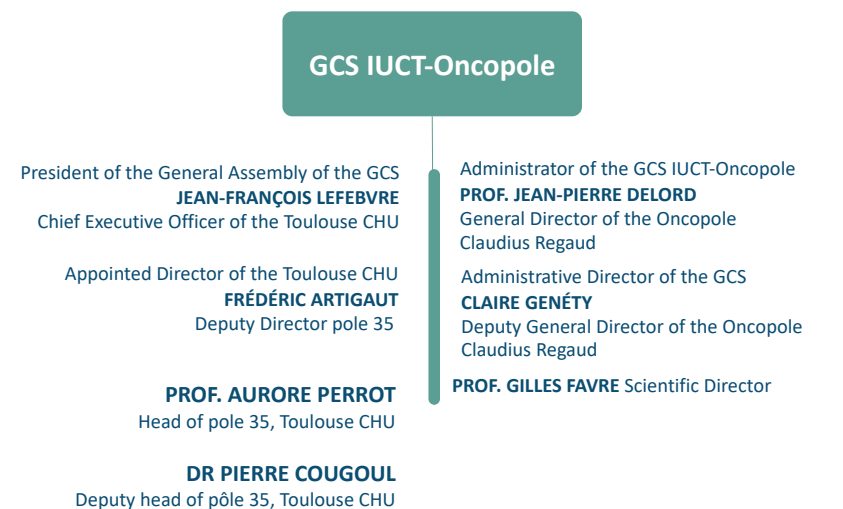
The IUCT-Oncopole is organized as a healthcare consortium (Groupement de Coopération Sanitaire, GCS) set up under private law as an equal partnership between the Oncopole Claudius Regaud (OCR) and the Toulouse University Hospital (CHU). The Director General of the OCR acts as GCS administrator. Internal rules of procedure specify the division of disciplines and competencies. This cooperation is unique in France; its aim is to ensure the operation of the entire Oncopole site. It is also responsible for the Hospital pharmacy (PUI) and radio-protection activities. Together, the two institutions have drawn up a medical project committing the IUCT-Oncopole to an expansion program.



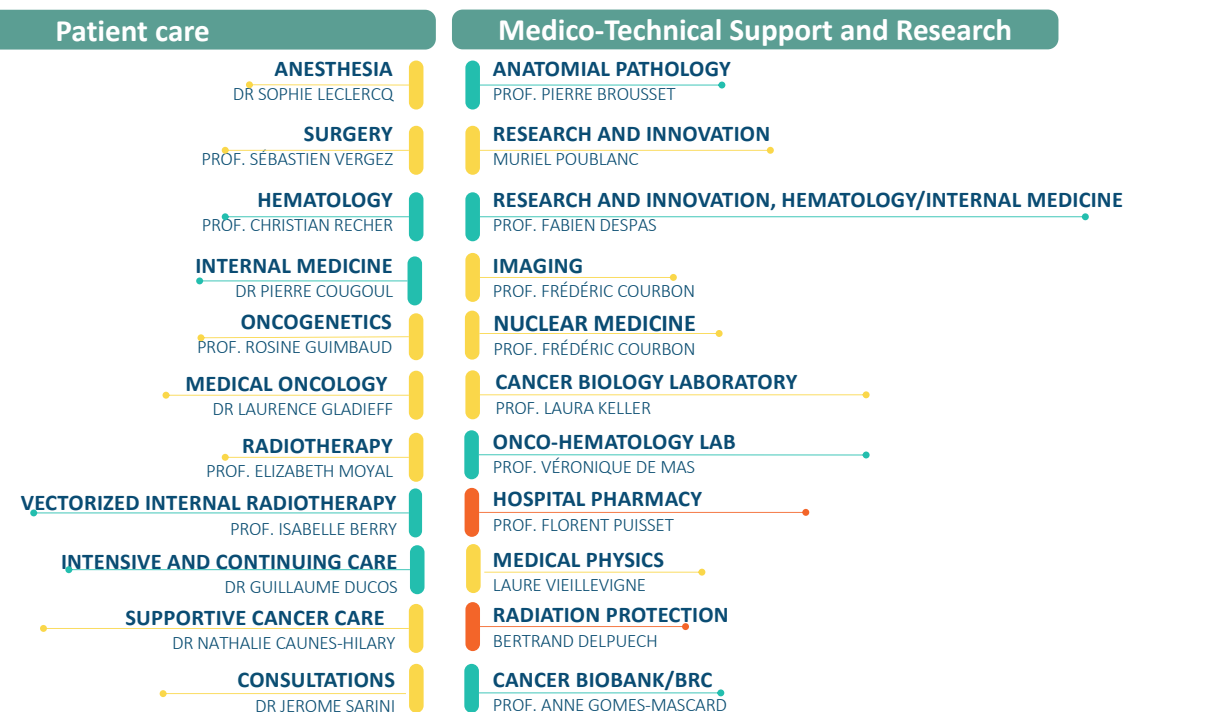
Prof. Jean-Pierre Delord,
General Director of the Oncopole
Claudius Regaud, Administrator,
GCS IUCT-Oncopole



Jean-François Lefebvre,
Chief Executive Officer of the Toulouse CHU,
President of the General Assembly,
GCS IUCT-Oncopole



Division of responsibilities



€16M

GLOBAL BUDGET
IN 2025

€787 000

CAPITAL
EXPENDITURES

€1,8M

SURPLUS TO SUPPORT
PROJECTS AND OPERATIONS

THE GCS IUCT-Oncopole oversees PUI activity

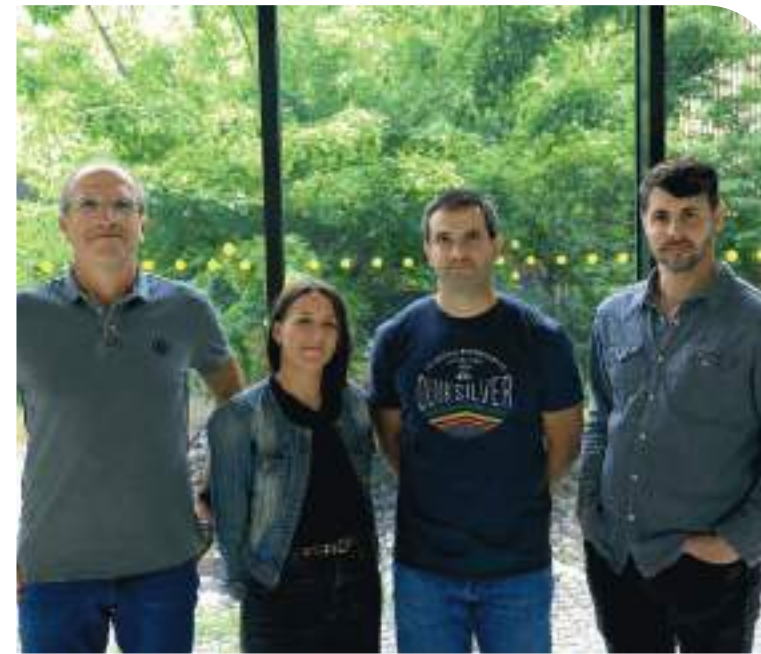
- UPCO (Oncology Clinical Pharmacy Unit): Over 134,000 chemotherapy preparations (injectable and oral).
- UPPHRC (Non-Radiopharmaceutical and Non-Cytotoxic Pharmaceutical Products Unit): 126,273 dispensation lines.
- Outpatient dispensing of hospital-restricted drugs: 14,015 dispensation lines recorded.
- UPLC (Preparation and Quality Control Laboratory): 2,718 preparations processed.
- Radiopharmacy activities: 19,860 drugs dispensed
- Clinical Trials Unit: 120 clinical trials set up and 151 ATPMs reconstituted.

Outpatient drug dispensing

The Oncopole Pharmacy department is responsible for dispensing hospital-restricted medications to the public (also known as “hospital dispensing”). If the treatment prescribed to patients includes hospital medications, the latter cannot be dispensed by community pharmacies. Only hospital pharmacies are authorized to dispense these specific medications. In 2025, 14,000 hospital dispensations were prepared.

The pharmaceutical warehouse

As part of an ongoing effort to improve the efficiency of clinical research, the IUCT-Oncopole's Hospital pharmacy (PUI) is committed to creating a national pharmaceutical warehouse by implementing a model — unique in France for a healthcare facility — ensuring safe and faster access to medications already on the market and tested in clinical trials (as IMP or AxMP). In clinical research, access to medications is a complex, costly, and fragmented process placing a financial burden on hospital pharmacies at investigational healthcare centers. The appeal of research in France is thus undermined. To overcome these obstacles, the Oncopole, in partnership with Myonex, manages the entire pharmaceutical supply chain (purchasing, relabeling, distribution) on behalf of all participating investigator sites involved in clinical trials. This simplifies processes and reduces the risk of shortages, ensuring rapid delivery to clinical sites. This initiative was launched in 2025 and has been implemented across six research projects. It will be expanded in 2026, particularly to include academic sponsors such as the Unicancer network.



Radiation protection at the IUCT-Oncopole

The primary mission of radiation protection at the IUCT-Oncopole is to safeguard people and the environment from the harmful effects associated with the medical use of ionizing radiation. Within the GCC IUCT-Oncopole, this regulatory mission is carried out by the Radiation Protection Advisor (RPA) on the Oncopole site. Supported by a dedicated team of three people, the RPA ensures radiological safety of professionals and the public through risk assessment, facility zoning, and specific technical inspections, in constant coordination with the relevant authorities. The year 2025 was marked by a strong focus on optimizing protocols and developing skills.

Key figures for 2025:

- 282 professionals monitored via delayed-reading dosimetry.
- 80 radiation protection verifications and technical inspections conducted (internally and externally).
- 198 staff members trained and 30 individual training sessions conducted.
- 4 e-learning modules developed to strengthen institutional safety culture.

The service thus maintains a high level of safety monitoring and quality assurance, as well as consistent communication with the ASN (French Authority for Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection).

The Oncopole Expansion Project

In a context of demographic, epidemiological, and technological change, the Oncopole has been moving forward since 2023 with the stages of its expansion project to better address, collectively, current and future challenges in cancer care. Part of the Institutional projects of the Toulouse CHU and the Oncopole Claudius Regaud, it is based on a shared medical vision.

The challenges:

- Ensure the smooth flow of patient care pathways.
- Support medical, healthcare, pharmaceutical, and logistics operations.
- Increase bed and treatment capacity in light of population needs (increase of both population and cancer incidence).
- Develop modular spaces, from reception areas to care units, to accommodate evolving organizational structures and patient pathways.
- Support research development by expanding research facilities.
- Address issues related to quality of life and working conditions for staff, along with environmental issues (CSR).

+14 000 m²

CONSTRUCTION
AND RENOVATION

+3

OPERATING
ROOMS

+104 beds

BRINGING
CAPACITY TO 410

THE TOULOUSE CANCER RESEARCH CENTER

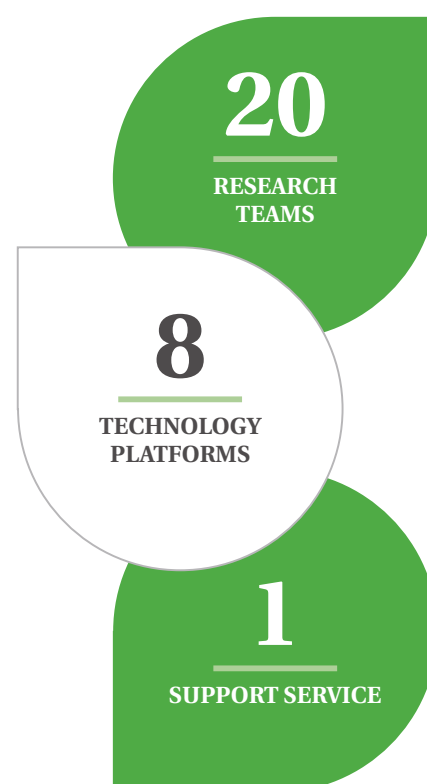


From left to right: Sébastien Guibert (Administrative Director), Dr. Pierre Cordelier (Director), Prof. Elizabeth Moyal (Deputy Director), Dr. Frédéric Lopez (Technology Cluster Director).

The multidisciplinary expertise of the CRCT teams is organized around four thematic axes, all of which aim to better characterize the mechanisms of oncogenesis and thus better understand and target the mechanisms of tumor cell resistance to different treatments.

- **Oncogenic pathways in cancer: from modeling to targeted therapy.** The goal is to better understand and target oncogenic mechanisms within cells or their immediate environment.
- **RNA & cancer.** The mechanisms of RNA deregulation are explored in order to better identify their role in tumor initiation and progression to the metastatic stage.
- **Tumor microenvironment and metabolism.** Here, the challenge is twofold: on the one hand, to better understand the dialogue between tumor cells and stroma, and on the other, the role of metabolism in tumor growth and cancer cell resistance to treatment.
- **Onco-immunology.** The aim is to characterize the molecular and cellular determinants involved in the anti-tumor immune response to improve its effectiveness.

The only research center in Toulouse dedicated entirely to cancer research, the CRCT (Inserm Joint Research unit 1037, University of Toulouse, CNRS Joint Research unit 5071) brings together over 400 people in 20 research teams, 8 technology platforms and 1 support service. Each team integrates on-site clinicians, and all translational research projects are led by researcher/clinician duos.



To further encourage collaboration between CRCT members and researchers from various disciplinary backgrounds, the CRCT has signed two partnerships with the Systems Analysis and Architecture Laboratory (LAAS-CNRS) and the Toulouse Institute for Research in Information Technology (IRIT). These partnerships aim to broaden the scope of cancer research and offer innovative solutions to better understand and more effectively fight cancer. Together with LAAS researchers, the CRCT is exploring, in particular, the importance of physical constraints in oncogenesis and therapeutic response, as well as developing tomorrow's theranostic approaches. Together with researchers from IRIT — some of whom are based on-site — CRCT researchers are using artificial intelligence to model living systems, better understand tumor biology, optimize treatments, and develop future digital assistants to aid in clinical decision-making. Finally, the CRCT is also involved in industrial commercialization, notably as a member—along with IUCT-Oncopole — of Roche-Genentech's ImCORE international immuno-oncology expertise network.

Technology cluster news

For ten years, the CRCT Technology Cluster has provided technological support for CRCT and IUCT-Oncopole research teams and, more broadly, for the regional and even national scientific community. Equipped with a substantial array of instruments, it benefits from the technological and administrative know-how and skills of a team of 15 people spread across eight technical platforms. The Technology cluster holds double quality certification (ISO 9001:2015 and NFX 50-900) and benefits from the GénoToul environment (a Toulouse-based network of life sciences research platforms) to carry out its three missions: expertise, training, and R&D. In 2025, it carried out initiatives focused on recruitment, securing funding, installing new equipment, establishing a new facility, and organizing scientific events.

COMPLEMENTARY ON-SITE EXPERTISE

The IUCT-Oncopole and the CRCT are located on the Campus Santé du Futur, bringing together academic, scientific, medical, clinical, industrial, public, and private expertise striving for a single goal: the fight against cancer. More than 6,000 professionals work daily on this 220-hectare campus. Beyond the buildings, the IUCT-Oncopole offers patients and visitors 3,000 square meters of landscaped green spaces.



Onco-Occitanie

Located within the IUCT-Oncopole (in Western Occitanie), Onco-Occitanie has a mission to support, structure, and federate all cancer care professionals in the region to improve and harmonize quality care for cancer patients.



French National Blood Service

On site, the **Etablissement français du sang** – EFS (French National Blood Service) operates a hematopoietic stem cell collection unit (HSC) for adults to meet the needs of the IUCT-Oncopole, as well as a cell therapy unit to prepare and store bone marrow and stem cell samples and respond to regional, national, and international needs.



SEVERAL PATIENTS' ASSOCIATIONS, BASED WITHIN THE IUCT-ONCOPOLE OR ON THE CAMPUS, ARE ALSO INVOLVED ON A DAILY BASIS WITH PATIENTS.

The IUCT-Oncopole is accredited by



Publishing directors: Prof. Jean-Pierre Delord, Jean-François Lefebvre, Claire Genéty

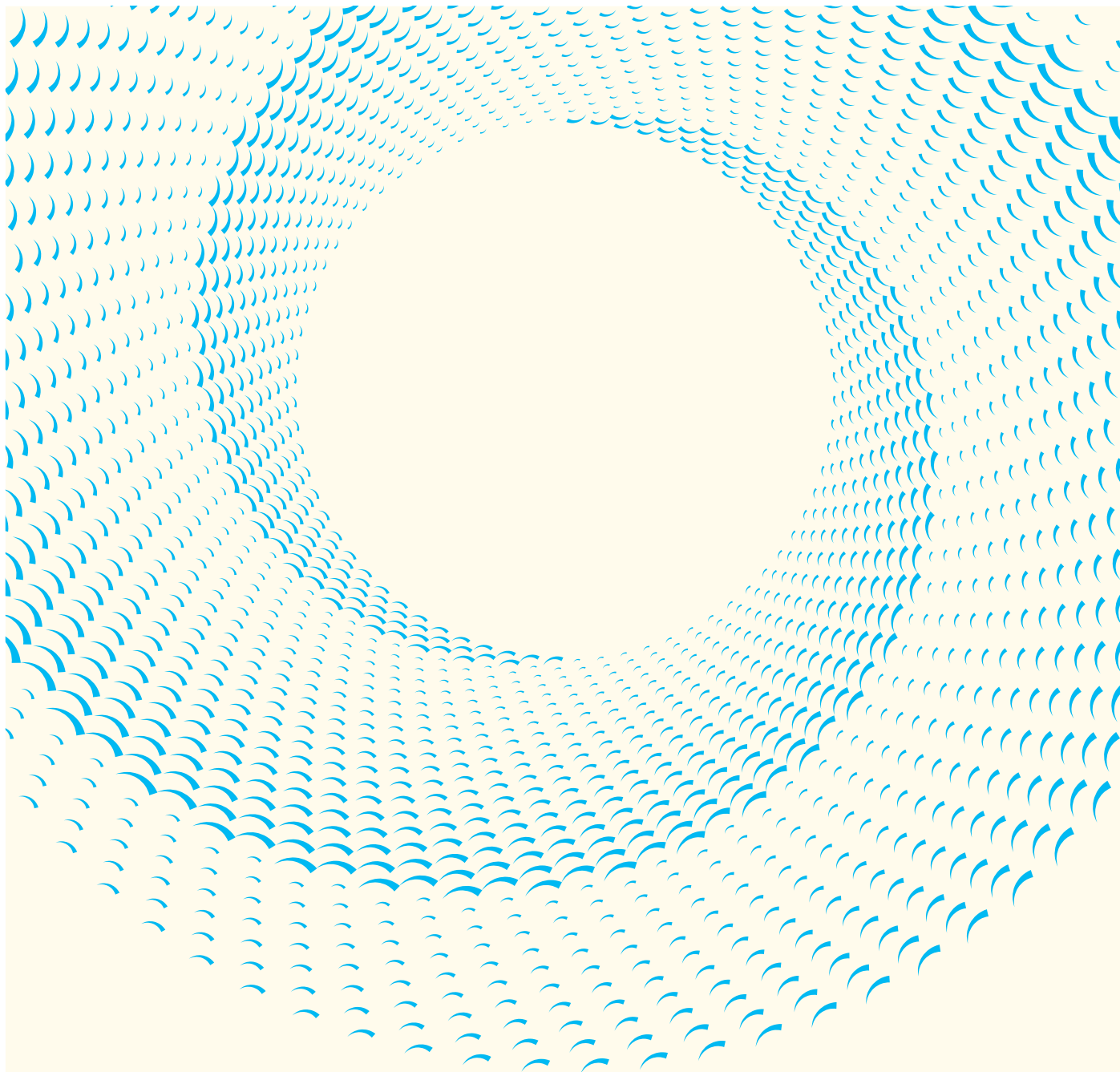
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INSTITUT UNIVERSITAIRE
DU CANCER DE TOULOUSE
Oncopole

1, avenue Irène Joliot-Curie - 31 059 Toulouse cedex 9

+33 (0) 5 31 15 50 50

www.iuct-oncopole.fr

