The UNICANCER group of Translational research and development in Radiation oncology (UNITRAD)

Promoting and developing an innovative and strategic research programme in the field of radiation oncology.

The UNITRAD cooperative group was created in 2014. It brings together experts from various disciplines, such as radiation oncologists, physicists, dosimetrists and statisticians.

UNITRAD aims to develop strategic guidance in the field of radiotherapy, to set up multidisciplinary collaborative networks in France and internationally, and to stimulate and organise innovative research programmes. The group is open to all researchers interested in the development of knowledge in the various fields of radiation oncology.

Strategic priorities:

> Integration of biological and physical phenomena
> Evaluation of new dose delivery methods using external radiotherapy techniques (e.g. intensity-modulated radiation therapy), stereotactic radiotherapy, brachytherapy, intraoperative radiation therapy, proton therapy, MRI-Linac
> New combinations of radiotherapy with systemic treatments (e.g. targeted therapies or immunotherapies)
> Standardisation of radiotherapy practices

UNITRAD closely interacts with UNICANCER tumour groups and with the support of 9 Clusters of expertise
Portfolio of active studies

HYPOG-01
Multicenter, randomized phase III trial comparing hypofractionated versus standard radiotherapy in breast cancer with an indication for regional lymph node irradiation in terms of lymphedema occurrence.

Design: Randomised phase III
Tumor: Breast
Study Coordinator: Dr Sofia Rivera, Gustave Roussy, Villejuif
Study start date: September 2016
Participating countries: France; Cooperation with the Danish Breast Cancer Cooperative Group
Expected number of patients: 1012

STEREO-OS
Extracranial Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy (SBRT) added to standard treatment versus standard treatment alone in solid tumors patients with between 1 and 3 bone-only metastases.

Design: Randomised phase III
Tumor: Breast, prostate, lung
Study Coordinator: Dr Sébastien Thureau, Centre Henri Becquerel, Rouen
Dr Jean-Christophe Faivre, Institut de cancérologie de Lorraine, Nancy
Study start date: December 2016
Participating countries: France
Expected number of patients: 196

OLIVER
Oligometastases of the Liver treated with chemotherapy with or without extracranial stereotactic body radiation therapy in patients with colorectal cancer.

Design: Randomised phase III
Tumor: Colorectal
Study Coordinator: Dr Stéphanie Servage-Vernat, Institut Jean Godinot, Reims
Prof Gilles Crehange, Centre Georges-François Leclerc, Dijon
Study start date: September 2017
Participating countries: France
Expected number of patients: 158

UNITRAD Flagship programme
A major translational ancillary research programme has been developed in association with the HYPOG-01 clinical trial (see above). Using biological samples from around 1000 patients with early breast cancer, this programme aims to develop a multiparametric model in order to identify predictors of normal versus hypofractionated locoregional radiotherapy-induced toxicity.

Approximately 100 multidisciplinary experts already joined UNITRAD

3 projects out of the 4 submitted in 2015 were selected by the French National Cancer Institute and granted public funding

7 clinical and translational projects are under development in breast, lung and prostate cancer

2016 figures