

CANCERS

September 6th 2022—August 8th 2023
At Cit  des Sciences et de l'Industrie

In France cancer is the leading cause of death in men and the second leading cause of death in women. It is a widespread disease: you undoubtedly have someone in your family, friends or personal circle who has been or is being affected by this disease. However, it is clear that cancer is not well known. The exhibition at the Cit  des sciences et de l'industrie, produced in scientific partnership with the National Cancer Institute (INCa) and in collaboration with the National Institute of Health and Medical Research (Inserm), is a first on such a sensitive and complex subject. Cancers looks at the disease itself, of course, but it also focuses on the patients themselves and those who support them. There is much to say about this human issue: firstly, there is not just one but many cancers and their history begins 500 million years ago; secondly, research is active and progress in treatment is vast; thirdly, four cancers out of ten could be avoided, if prevention improved.

Putting words, with accuracy and modesty, on a painful reality, breaking the silences and the multiple taboos linked to cancers: these are the challenges that the exhibition aims to take up – the Cit  des Sciences et de l'Industrie's contribution to the great national cause that is the fight against cancer.

Bruno Maquart, Chairman and CEO of Universcience

Today cancer is still too often a taboo subject.

In September 2022, to open its cultural season, the Cit  des Sciences et de l'Industrie is presenting Cancers, a major temporary exhibition covering all the scientific, psychological and social dimensions of this complex disease. For thirty years, the overall number of new cases in France has been increasing every year. Today, nearly four million people live with or have experienced cancer in the country, and more than 382,000 new cases are diagnosed each year. The most common cancers in men are prostate cancer (50,430 new cases per year), followed by lung cancer (32,500 cases) and colorectal cancer (24,000 cases). In women, breast cancer is the most common (58,500 cases), followed by colorectal (21,000 cases) and lung (17,000 cases).

The Cancers exhibition has chosen to put the patient at the core of its narrative, as well as the nursing staff and carers, offering numerous testimonies on life during and after cancer. It also aims to give visitors a better understanding of the disease and its treatments by presenting an overview of current scientific knowledge, showing both the biological mechanisms of the cancer process and the therapeutic options, both conventional therapies (radiotherapy, chemotherapy, surgery) and new therapies (immunotherapy, hormone therapy).

The exhibition also fights preconceived ideas about cancer while raising public awareness on everyday risk behaviours, as well as prevention and screening.

As cancer has many facets, the exhibition could not be linear. It takes the form of a vast territory to be explored, conceived around five audiovisual installations: three are devoted to medicine and research; two to the destructive feeling caused by cancer. These installations analyse the different aspects of the disease, convey basic knowledge on the mechanisms of cancer, evoke the symptoms, the available treatments and the directions of research.

During the visit, the public can thus build a precise visual representation of cancer.

At the crossroads of these installations, five large sculptures address specific issues relating to imaging for diagnosis, intimate illness, self-image, coming face to face with one's body, supportive care, the return to work after cancer, and also animals and their role in this fight.

Finally, the tour ends with a space on prevention which ensures the transition to the post-visit period by giving practical advice to the general public. During the school holidays, associations involved in the health and social field will also come and talk with visitors. They will be present every afternoon in the exhibition according to a schedule that will be posted on the exhibition website.

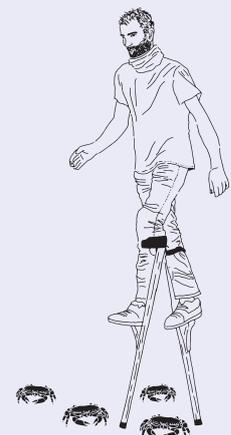
True to its public service mission, the Cit  des Sciences et de l'Industrie's ambition with the Cancers exhibition is to contribute to a better understanding of this disease, which is still taboo in many respects, and to highlight the promising developments in research.



Trilingual (French, English, Spanish)
From 14 years upward.

An exhibition conceived in partnership with the French National Cancer Institute (INCa) and in collaboration with the National Institute of Health and Medical Research (Inserm). With the support of Assurance Maladie, Assurance Pr vention, Eurofins Biomnis, La Fondation La Roche-Posay and MSD France.

"Attention, science fra che!" (Attention, fresh science!) is a series presenting exhibitions on scientific developments and their impact, whether they concern physics or life. The focus is on any topic in science that furthers knowledge in interesting ways.



TO ACCOMPANY THE EXHIBITION

■ CONFERENCES

October 6th 6:30pm

Armed cells against cancers

Karin Tarte, Inserm research director, head of the immunology and cell therapy department at Rennes University Hospital.

Combining gene therapy and cell therapy to provide patients with a personalised weapon against cancer? This is a real and promising immunotherapy strategy: enriching white blood cells with a molecule capable of identifying and eliminating cancerous cells. How do these so-called CAR-T cells work? On which types of tumours are they already used? What research is underway?

October 18th 6:30pm

Life according to...

Jean-Baptiste Méric, oncologist, director of the Public Health and Care Division of the National Cancer Institute (INCa).

How do we define life? What is its origin? What are its limits? How do human beings intervene in it? Jean-Baptiste Méric shares his point of view, based on his experience as an oncologist, and his commitment to prevention and maintaining the quality of life of his patients.

■ PUBLICATION

Cancers. Exhibition journal

Designed as a souvenir of the exhibition, from which it borrows the same graphic codes, this journal deals with several facets of the disease, from one end to the other of the chain of the fight against cancer. Through six texts and interviews with cancer specialists, it brings together three different voices: those of the researcher, the clinical doctor and the patient.

Author of the texts and interviews: Frédérique Odasso, co-author of the book *Plus forts contre le cancer* (Stronger against cancer), written with Dr Christelle Besnard-Charvet (collection "Réponses", Robert Laffont, 2020).

Texts produced with the collaboration of Alain Eychène, director of the Innovation and Research Department at INCa and scientific curator of the exhibition; Frédéric Thomas, CNRS research director, Mivegec laboratory; Caroline Robert, head of the dermatology department (Gustave Roussy Institute); Jean-Baptiste Méric, medical oncologist at INCa; Catherine Tourette-Turgis, director and founder of the Université des patients; and Sabine Dutheil, patient partner.

Price: €5,95. On sale at the shop, at the ticket office and online from September 4th 2022.

■ SPECIAL SESSIONS, from October 2022

- **Cancer is taboo, we will all get over it!** From 10 years old, 45 min.
- **Once upon a time there was cancer.** From year 7 to Year 9, 45 min.
- **Cancer: a cell that goes wrong.** From Year 10 to Year 13, 45 min.

These three presentations, combining storytelling and a Q & A activity, offer an opportunity to delve into the human body and discover the perils of cancer. In a format adapted to each age group, the public is invited to gain a better understanding of the origin and mechanisms that lead to cancer, as well as several possible treatments...

On the website dedicated to the exhibition, "Health questions", highlights questions asked by users on the Internet about cancer.

Finally, an online mediation service on the history of cancer completes the offer.

Next September, on the occasion of the opening of the Cancers exhibition, **Universcience will sign the "Cancer and Employment" charter, the first cultural institution to do so.** Developed jointly by the French National Cancer Institute (INCa), the National Association of HRDs (ANDRH), the National Agency for the Improvement of Working Conditions (Anact) and its network of regional associations for the improvement of working conditions (Aract), this charter includes eleven points to improve support for employees affected by cancer.



Practical info

Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie

30 avenue Corentin-Cariou - 75019 Paris
📍 Porte de la Villette 📞 3b

Opening times

Open every day, except for Monday, from 10am to 6pm, until 7pm on Sundays.

+33 (0)1 40 05 80 0

www.cite-sciences.fr
#ExpoCancers

Rates

→ €12, €9 (concessionary rate under 25, students, over 65, teachers, holders of large family card)

→ Free for children up to 2 years old, job seekers or recipients of minimum social benefits, disabled visitors and their accompanying person.

The ticket gives access to exhibitions on levels 1 and 2, the Argonaute submarine and the planetarium (subject to availability).



Contacts press

Aurore Wils

+33 (0)1 40 05 70 15 / +33 (0)6 46 66 18 97
aurore.wils@universcience.fr

Oriane Zerbib

+33 (0)1 40 05 78 53 / +33 (0)6 29 78 72 28
oriane.zerbib@universcience.fr