

The Region, at the Crossroad of Healthcare



DOSSIER DE PRESSE

OUVERTURE DU CENTRE D'IMAGERIE MOLÉCULAIRE DE LA GUADELOUPE (CIMGUA)



*Pour une Région Guadeloupe
durable, responsable et solidaire.*

Plus d'informations www.regionguadeloupe.fr   [RegionGuadeloupe](https://www.instagram.com/RegionGuadeloupe)  [CRGuadeloupe](https://twitter.com/CRGuadeloupe)



@CRGuadeloupe / @achalus971



Région Guadeloupe / Ary Chalus

REPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE

2018, LA RÉGION GUADELOUPE TOUTES VOILES DEHORS

Basse-Terre, June 15, 2018

PRESS RELEASE

CIMGUA – CYCLOTRON - PETScan

The President of Region and the Chairman of the CIMGUA are opening the site to the patients

In the wake of the programs already conducted towards the improvement of public health, Ary Chalus, President of the Guadeloupe Region, Guy Losbar, Chairman of the CIMGUA and the Sem Patrimoniale, in collaboration with the University Hospital Center (CHU) and the Regional Health Agency (ARS), are proud to invite you, on Monday, 18th of June 2018 at 10h30, to the opening to its first patients, of the Center of Molecular Imaging of Guadeloupe (CIMGUA) - equipped with the first Cyclotron with PETscan of the Caribbean - in the presence of several dignitaries from the Caribbean states.

Public health is a major concern for the regional executive council. In recent years, there has been an increase in the occurrences of diabetes, high blood pressure and cancers among the inhabitants of the Caribbean, and particularly here in Guadeloupe. Therefore, with this new equipment, the Regional community aims to facilitate the screening of diseases. From now on, the patients will be treated locally, hence reducing their level of stress and the financial burden of travelling to mainland France.

With the aim of promoting a more durable health among its constituents, the Guadeloupe Region earmarks significant funds to optimizing and modernizing the local health facilities and equipment.

By sustaining investments in high end health equipment, the Regional Council aims to make nuclear medicine accessible to the people of the Lesser Antilles and to strengthen the appeal of the Guadeloupian archipelago as a destination for health tourism.

In order to bring the news to the widest audience,
the support from your media company would be greatly appreciated

On the topic of the ASN, the Nuclear Safety Authority

The opening of the CIMGUA was conditional on two authorizations granted by the Nuclear Safety Authority (ASN). The follow-up on the safety dossier and the assistance provided by the ASN to the implementation team allowed the SEM Patrimoine Region Guadeloupe to undertake the operation in compliance with all the regulations required with regard to radiation protection of patients, workers as well as of the environment.

In July 2017, the ASN issued the first authorization concerning the "production" department (Cyclotron), which allowed the site to operate during the equipment installation and qualification phase.

The Cyclotron successfully passed all the testing and parameter setting phases required to guarantee a perfect optimization; likewise, the other pieces of equipment were also qualified in the meantime.

Following the ASN onsite inspections on May 29, 30 and 31, 2018, the clearance for the "Imaging" department was granted on June 14, 2018, for a 5-year period, while the authorization given to the "Production" department was extended.

These authorizations certify both that the CIMGUA is a production site for radiotracers and that is able to receive patients in full compliance with the relevant rules and regulations.

They represent a guarantee of quality of the engineering conducted on this operation and they allow the CIMGUA to officially enter its operational phase.



Le Président du Conseil régional de la Guadeloupe, Ary Chalus et le Président du CIMGUA, Guy Losbar, vous convient à la

CONFÉRENCE DE PRESSE D'OUVERTURE DU CENTRE D'IMAGERIE MOLÉCULAIRE DE LA GUADELOUPE

LUNDI 18 JUIN 2018 - 10H30
Parc d'activités de la Providence - Les Abymes

Renseignement au 0590 28 86 48
www.regionguadeloupe.fr | RegionGuadeloupe | @RegionGuadeloupe | CPiGuadeloupe

WHAT IS THE CIMGUA?

The CIMGUA, Molecular Imaging Centre of Guadeloupe, is the first Caribbean Centre to provide at the same location the production of radiopharmaceuticals and the imaging scan for medical prognosis.

This innovating project is also effective with regard to the choice of equipment, as it is designed to answer the needs of the population of the archipelago of Guadeloupe and of the neighboring islands.

The CIMGUA brings together a Production department, a Synthesis and Quality Control Laboratory and an Imaging department.

The Production department is equipped with a Cyclotron, a particle accelerator that generates 18-Fluorine, which is then taken to the Synthesis Laboratory, where it is turned into a radiotracer named Fluorodeoxyglucose (FDG) used to label "diseased" cells, i.e. cells that exhibit a hyperactive metabolism.

The isotope produced is then tested at the Quality Control Laboratory to attest to its quality before injection to the patient.

At the Imaging department, patients are greeted by a team of medical and paramedical professionals trained to perform PET/CT scans.

The PETscan or PET/CT camera uses positron emission tomography to measure in 3-D the metabolic activity of cells. Cells that are in an inflammatory state require more sugar than healthy ones, and it is this over-consumption of glucose that makes the cells stand out on the image. Today, this method is seen as the reference diagnostic tool in cancerology.



WHO CAN UNDERGO A PET SCAN?

Any person whose health assessment requires complementary investigation for cancers, inflammations, neurological or cardiac diseases.

WHO PRESCRIBES THIS TEST ?

The prescription of a PET/CT scan is not only restricted to specialists, although it will often be the case in the logical course of treatment organized for a patient.

Referring physicians, if they deem it necessary, can prescribe a PETscan. Their patients are then directed to the Nuclear Medicine department of the CHU of Pointe-à-Pitre, where their prescriptions are validated and where they are assisted during the whole registration procedure.

WHAT HAPPENS DURING THE TEST?

The PET/CT scan is completely painless, and as in most medical imaging tests, patients must have been fasting for at least 6 hours before the scan is performed. After review of their medical files, the patients are injected with FDG by manipulators who make sure the patients stay fully rested for about an hour, as the tracer must spread evenly throughout the whole body, to guarantee the best image quality. The nuclear medicine physician proceeds to the analysis of the scan and then sends her/his report to the prescribing physician.



THE CIMGUA AND ITS FUTURE PROSPECTS?

The CIMGUA is, first and foremost, an answer to the needs of the population of Guadeloupe health district, which comprises Guadeloupe, Marie-Galante, les Saintes, la Desirade, Saint-Martin and saint Barth. Every year, more than 1,700 new cases of cancer are detected in our region. From now on, these patients, who were usually flown to mainland France for a PET/CT scan and those who were unable to travel, will be screened locally.

THE FRENCH CARIBBEAN - FRENCH GUIANA AND REGIONAL COOPERATION

From the time of its opening, the Centre will accommodate patients from Martinique and Guadeloupe. The ongoing healthcare cooperation agreements tying Guadeloupe and some other Caribbean island nations will facilitate the intake of patients from neighboring islands.

MEDICAL TOURISM

Likewise, there is a new and promising development outlook for medical tourism in Guadeloupe. So far, Caribbean patients have been forced to travel to the United States, where the cost of the procedure is very high. But, from now on, those patients have a more affordable alternative at the CIMGUA. Our region, where the air connections have been greatly improving lately, will become a top-choice healthcare destination.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Thanks to the partnership with SYNBIOLAB, a subsidiary company of PMB Alcen, a Research and Development Department is also integrated within the CIMGUA. The search for new radiotracers and the establishment of cooperation with the academics are due to be implemented within the year following the site opening.

DEVELOPMENT OF OTHER DIAGNOSES



Monday, June 18, 2018

The mid-term objective of the CIMGUA is to produce other types of radiotracers with the view to extend the diagnoses to conditions different than the ones screened with the 18FDG.



THE OPENING OF THE CYCLOTRON, THE RESULT OF A CITIZEN MOBILISATION

June 4, 2014: At the initiative of the journalists, Eddy Nedelkovski and Jacky Massicot, the petition “A TEPscan and a Cyclotron for Guadeloupe” is launched. The petition, carried by a dedicated and organized citizen group, garners more than 25,000 signatures in just a few months.

August 2014: The Regional Council makes the formal commitment to achieve the project. The feasibility studies are conducted by the future project managing authority, the SEM Patrimoniale Region Guadeloupe,

2015: The experts and consultants fine-tune the operation with the steering committee, as a political battle attempts to pit the Guadeloupian and Martiniquan projects. However, during a trip to the archipelago, the French President confirms that Guadeloupe can have “its” own cyclotron. At the end of the year, the operational framework of the future Centre is approved following the creation of the Public Interest Grouping “Cyclotron Guadeloupe” CIMGUA.

2016: The design, construction and equipment contracts are awarded. The construction works, led by the GTM consortium, commence in May with earthworks on the site located in the Parc d’Activités of Providence.



Monday, June 18, 2018

THE OPENING OF THE CYCLOTRON, THE RESULT OF A CITIZEN MOBILISATION

2017: Arrival of the first major pieces of equipment on site. The installation of the Cyclotron receives an important media coverage. The PET/CT camera of the CHU is installed in October. The CIMGUA enters the delicate phase of qualification of its entire installations.

June 18, 2018: Opening of the Guadeloupe Molecular Imaging Center, the first Caribbean care center for cancer diagnosis. Four years after the public outcry over the inequality of access to healthcare for Guadeloupian patients, the Center offers numerous perspectives and puts our region at the heart of medical innovation