

Full clinical research accreditation for Cliniques universitaires Saint-Luc

Saint-Luc is the first European hospital to receive a full international recognition for the quality its clinical research activities. It means the best guaranty of protection for the patients participating to clinical trials. This accreditation positions the hospital at the top in the eyes of healthcare professionals, regulatory authorities and the pharma industry from a Belgian and International stand point.

Cliniques universitaires Saint-Luc received the full accreditation from the AAHRPP (Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protection Program). This accreditation is a quality label and the recognition that the hospital follows the standards of ethics and quality in the management of its clinical research activities. It covers process and procedures, organizational management and patient protection. This accreditation positions the hospital at the top in the eyes of healthcare professionals, regulatory authorities and the pharma industry from a Belgian and International stand point.

This is the culmination of a project initiated in 2012 and sponsored by INNOVIRIS, the Brussels Institute for research and innovation.

What does it mean?

Beyond of being the top 1 in the number of patients and clinical trial offer in Brussels, the accreditation means that the patients participating to a clinical trial are surrounded by qualified people trained and complaint to the applicable laws and procedures governing clinical research.

This accreditation also recognizes the Ethics Committee as a mandatory and necessary pillar. The Ethics Committee is an independent structure/body ensuring that the rights and safety of clinical trial participants are respected by controlling that:

- the clinical trial doesn't expose the subjects to hazardous risks.
- the clinical trial participants receive the required information in a language that is easy to understand by most people before giving their informed consent.
- the team of researchers keeps all trial participants up to date about the study progress, including information about serious side effects

A bright future

Mrs. Ursula Morjaria, Director of Saint-Luc Clinical Trial center said: *"We count on this accreditation to attract ambitious researchers eager to collaborate with a leading center as well as industrial partners willing to include hospitals promoting a high quality research with the best patient protection."* Most important is that it benefits our patients who will get access to innovate and state of the art treatments.

PRESS RELEASE

215 organisations accredited worldwide

AAHRPP-accredited organizations include universities, academic medical centers, community and specialty hospitals, independent institutional review boards, contract research organizations, dedicated research sites, research sponsors, and public health departments.

To date, AAHRPP has accredited more than 215 organizations in 46 states, Belgium, Canada, China, India, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Taiwan, and Thailand. All major U.S. independent institutional review boards have earned AAHRPP accreditation. In 2 addition, more than 60 percent of U.S. research-intensive universities and over 65 percent of U.S. medical schools are either AAHRPP accredited or have begun the accreditation process. The National Institutes of Health, the world's largest public funder of research, has earned accreditation, as has Pfizer, Inc., the largest industry sponsor of clinical research.

Press contact

Cliniques universitaires Saint-Luc (UCL) – avenue Hippocrate 10 – 1200 Bruxelles
Sylvain Bayet, communication service : sylvain.bayet@uclouvain.be
Tel. 02 764 11 45 – www.saintluc.be/presse