

Australian Cancer Survivorship Centre

A Richard Pratt Legacy



Multilingual Cancer Glossary

French | Français

www.petermac.org/multilingualglossary



email: contactacsc@petermac.org

www.petermac.org/cancersurvivorship

The Multilingual Cancer Glossary has been developed to provide language professionals working in the cancer field with access to accurate and culturally and linguistically appropriate cancer terminology. The glossary addresses the known risk of mistranslation of cancer specific terms in resources in languages other than English.

Acknowledgements

This project is a Cancer Australia *Supporting people with cancer* Grant initiative, funded by the Australian Government.

The Australian Cancer Survivorship Centre, A Richard Pratt legacy would like to thank and acknowledge all parties who contributed to the development of the glossary. We particularly thank members of the project steering committee and working group, language professionals and community organisations for their insights and assistance.

Disclaimer

The information contained within this booklet is given as a guide to help support patients, carers, families and consumers understand their health and support their health decision making process.

The information given is not fully comprehensive, nor is it intended to be used to diagnose, treat, cure or prevent any medical conditions. If you require medical assistance please contact your local doctor or call Peter Mac on 03 8559 5000.

To the maximum extent permitted by law, Peter Mac and its employees, volunteers and agents are not liable to any person in contract, tort (including negligence or breach of statutory duty) or otherwise for any direct or indirect loss, damage, cost or expense arising out of or in connection with that person relying on or using any information or advice provided in this booklet or incorporated into it by reference.

CONTENTS

A	Pg. 1	M	Pg. 39
B	Pg. 7	N	Pg. 44
C	Pg. 11	O	Pg. 47
D	Pg. 17	P	Pg. 48
E	Pg. 19	Q	Pg. 55
F	Pg. 22	R	Pg. 55
G	Pg. 24	S	Pg. 60
H	Pg. 27	T	Pg. 66
I	Pg. 30	U	Pg. 69
J	Pg. 34	V	Pg. 70
K	Pg. 34	W	Pg. 72
L	Pg. 35	X	Pg. 72

A

abdominoperineal (AP) resection

résection abdomino-périnéale

Surgery to remove the anus, rectum, and sigmoid colon. Most often used to treat cancers located very low in the rectum or in the anus.

ablation

ablation

Destroys a tumour without removing it. Ablation may be performed by surgery, hormones, drugs, radiofrequency, heat, or other methods that destroy cancer cells.

accelerated radiotherapy

radiothérapie accélérée

Where the total dose of radiation is divided into small doses and given more than once a day. The total dose of radiation is given over a shorter period of time compared to standard radiation therapy

acral lentiginous melanoma

mélanome acrolentigineux

A type of melanoma arising on the palms or soles.

active surveillance

surveillance active

A treatment plan that involves closely watching a patient's condition but not giving any treatment unless there are changes in test results that show the condition is getting worse.

acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL)

leucémie aiguë lymphoblastique (LAL)

A type of blood cancer characterised by an overproduction of immature white blood cells, called lymphoblasts. Also called acute lymphocytic leukaemia.

acute myeloid leukaemia (AML)

leucémie aiguë myéloblastique (LAM)

A type of blood cancer characterised by an overproduction of immature white blood cells, called myeloblasts.

acute promyelocytic leukaemia (APML)

leucémie aiguë promyélocytaire (LAP)

A type of blood cancer characterised by a switching of two chromosomes within the DNA (chromosomes 15 and 17). Part of the same family as acute myeloid leukaemia (AML); however, is treated differently to other types of AML.

adenocarcinoma

adénocarcinome

Cancer that begins in glandular (secretory) cells. Most cancers of the breast, pancreas, lung, prostate, and colon are adenocarcinomas.

A cont.

adenoma

adénome

A benign tumour that arises in or resembles glandular tissue. If an adenoma becomes cancerous, it is called an adenocarcinoma.

adenopathy

adénopathie

Large or swollen lymph nodes.

adenosquamous carcinoma

carcinome adénoquameux

A type of cancer that contains two types of cells: squamous cells (thin, flat cells that line certain organs) and gland-like cells.

adhesion (cellular)

adhésion (cellulaire)

The close adherence (bonding) to adjoining cell surfaces.

adhesion (general)

adhésion (général)

An abnormal adhering of surfaces due to inflammation or injury.

adjuvant therapy

traitement adjuvant

Treatment given in addition to surgery and radiation to treat breast cancer that may have spread to other parts of the body. It may include chemotherapy, targeted therapy and/or hormone therapy

adrenal glands

glandes surrénales

Endocrine glands that produce a variety of hormones including adrenaline and the steroids aldosterone and cortisol. They are found above the kidneys.

advanced breast cancer

cancer du sein avancé

See metastatic breast cancer.

adverse effects

effets indésirables

An undesired harmful effect resulting from a medication or other intervention such as surgery. An adverse effect may also be called a "side effect"

AIDS-related cancers

cancers liés au SIDA

Cancers that people with HIV/AIDS have a higher chance of developing. These include: Kaposi sarcoma, Non-Hodgkin lymphoma and Cervical cancer.

A cont.

allergic reaction

réaction allergique

A condition where the immune system reacts abnormally to a foreign substance.

allied health professional

professionnel du paramédical

A tertiary-trained professional who works with others in a health care team to support a person's medical care. Examples include psychologists, social workers, occupational therapists, physiotherapists and dietitians.

allogeneic stem cell transplant

allogreffe de cellules souches

A procedure in which a person receives blood-forming stem cells (cells from which all blood cells develop) from a genetically similar, but not identical, donor.

alopecia

alopécie

Loss of hair from the head or body. A common side effect of chemotherapy.

alternative therapies

traitements alternatifs

Treatments that are used instead of standard (traditional) treatments. Alternative therapies may include special diets, megadose vitamins, herbal preparations, special teas, and magnet therapy.

anal cancer

cancer de l'an

A type of cancer that occurs in the anal canal.

anaplastic thyroid cancer

cancer anaplasique de la thyroïde

A rare, aggressive type of thyroid cancer in which the cancer cells look very different from normal thyroid cells.

anastomosis

anastomose

The surgical connection of normally separate parts. For example, connecting the healthy sections of the colon or rectum after a cancerous or otherwise diseased portion has been surgically removed.

androgen deprivation therapy

traitement par privation androgénique

Therapy which acts by either stopping testosterone production or by blocking the action of testosterone on the cells and tissues.

androgens

androgènes

Male sex hormones that increase at puberty. The most important androgen is testosterone.

angiogenesis (tumour)

angiogenèse (tumorale)

The growth of new blood vessels that tumours need to grow. This process is caused by the release of chemicals by the tumour and by host cells near the tumour.

A cont.

angiogenesis inhibitors

inhibiteurs de l'angiogènèse

Medication that blocks angiogenesis. Examples include Bevacizumab (Avastin), Lenalidomide (Revlimid) and Thalidomide (Synovir, Thalomid). Also known as anti-angiogenics.

angiosarcoma

angiosarcome

A cancer of the inner lining of blood vessels. It can occur in any area of the body, most commonly in the skin, breast, liver, spleen, and deep tissue.

anterior resection

résection antérieure

An operation to remove the rectum or a part of it.

antibody

anticorps

Proteins made by the immune system that bind to specific markers on cells or tissues, generally in response to infection or vaccination.

antibody therapy

traitement aux anticorps

Treatment that uses antibodies to help the body fight cancer, infection, or other diseases.

anticoagulant

anticoagulant

An agent that is used to prevent the formation of blood clots.

antiemetic

antiémétique

A drug that prevents or reduces nausea and vomiting.

antifungal

antifongique

A drug that treats infections caused by fungi.

antigen

antigène

A substance that causes the body to make an immune response. These include toxins, chemicals, bacteria, viruses, or other substances that come from outside the body.

anti-oestrogens

anti-œstrogènes

Medication that stops oestrogen in the body from attaching to cancer cells. One of the most well known is tamoxifen.

apheresis

aphérèse

A procedure where blood is temporarily taken from the body, one or more parts removed, then transfused back into the body. Also called pheresis or haemapheresis.

A cont.

apoptosis

apoptose

A type of cell death in which a series of molecular steps in a cell lead to its death. Also called programmed cell death.

appendix cancer

cancer de l'appendice

Cancer that occurs in the appendix tissue.

areola

aréole

The coloured area of skin around the nipple.

aromatase inhibitors

anti-aromatases

Hormone therapy drugs that lower oestrogen levels in the body. Used to treat postmenopausal women with hormone receptor positive breast cancer

asbestosis

asbestose

A chronic lung disease caused by inhaling asbestos fibres. Prolonged exposure to these fibres can cause lung tissue scarring and shortness of breath.

ascites

ascite

A build-up of fluid between the two layers (membranes) that form the lining of the abdomen

aspiration (diagnosis)

biopsie par aspiration (diagnostic)

A type of biopsy procedure, used to help make a diagnosis or rule out conditions such as cancer. A thin needle is inserted into an area of abnormal-appearing tissue or body fluid to collect a sample. Types include fine needle or bone marrow aspiration.

aspiration (side effect)

aspiration (effet secondaire)

A condition in which food, liquids, saliva or vomit is breathed into the airways.

astrocytoma

astrocytome

Tumours that arise from astrocytes—star-shaped cells that make up the “glue-like” or supportive tissue of the brain.

autologous

autologue

Involving one individual as both donor and recipient. For example, an autologous blood transfusion or an autologous bone marrow transplant.

autologous stem cell transplant

greffe autologue de cellules souches

Where a person's own blood-forming stem cells are collected and then later transplanted back into the patient, usually following treatment.

A cont.

axilla

axillaire

The area under the arm or armpit.

axillary dissection/clearance

ablation ou curage axillaire

A surgical procedure to remove some or all the lymph nodes under the arm so they can be examined under the microscope to check whether cancer cells are present.

axillary lymph nodes

ganglions lymphatiques axillaires

The lymph nodes in the axilla, the area under the arm or armpit.

B

Bacillus Calmette-Guérin (BCG)

bacille de Calmette et Guérin (BCG)

An immunotherapy used for treating early-stage bladder cancer. BCG is put directly into the bladder through a catheter. The treatment triggers an inflammatory response in the bladder that can prevent the tumour from growing. Treatment is usually given once a week for 6 weeks.

barium enema

lavement baryté

A diagnostic test used to detect cancer in the bowel. A white chalky liquid containing barium sulphate is put into the rectum and x-rays are taken.

barium meal

repas baryté

A diagnostic test used to detect abnormalities of the stomach and small bowel. X-rays are taken after the patient drinks a liquid containing barium sulphate, which coats the inner walls of the gastrointestinal tract so they can be seen on X-ray.

barium swallow

déglutition barytée

A diagnostic test used to detect abnormalities of the pharynx and the oesophagus. X-rays are taken after the patient drinks a liquid containing barium sulphate, which coats the inner walls of the gastrointestinal tract so that they can be seen on X-ray.

basal cell

cellule basale

A small, round cell found in the lower part (or base) of the epidermis, the outer layer of the skin.

basal cell carcinoma (BCC)

carcinome basocellulaire

A type of cancer that begins in the lower part of the epidermis (the outer layer of the skin). It may appear as a small white or flesh-coloured bump that grows slowly and may bleed. Also called basal cell cancer.

baseline

initial ou initiale

An initial measurement that is taken at an early time point to represent a beginning condition, and is used for comparison over time to look for changes. For example, the size of a tumour will be measured before treatment (baseline) and then afterwards to see if the treatment had an effect.

basement membrane

membrane basale

A thin, delicate membrane of protein fibres and mucopolysaccharides separating an epithelium from underlying tissue.

benign

bénin ou bénigne

Not cancerous.

B cont.

bilateral

bilatéral ou bilatérale

Involving both sides, such as both breasts.

bile duct cancer

cancer des voies biliaires

A type of cancer that occurs in the bile duct, the slender tubes that carry bile (the digestive fluid) through the liver. Types of bile duct cancer include Klatskin tumours (also called perihilar cancers), intrahepatic, common and multifocal bile duct cancer.

biological therapies

biothérapies

A type of treatment that uses substances made from living organisms to treat disease. These substances may occur naturally in the body or may be made in the laboratory. Types of biological therapy include immunotherapy (such as vaccines, cytokines, and some antibodies), gene therapy, and some targeted therapies.

biopsy

biopsie

The removal of a small amount of tissue for examination under a microscope.

bisphosphonates

bisphosphonates

Drugs that help prevent or slow down bone thinning (osteoporosis). They can help to treat some types of cancer that cause bone damage.

bladder cancer

cancer de la vessie

Cancer that occurs in the tissues of the bladder.

bone cancer

cancer des os

A type of cancer that occurs in the bone. The three main types of bone cancer are osteosarcoma, Ewing's sarcoma and chondrosarcoma.

bone marrow

moelle osseuse

The soft, fatty tissue inside the bones. Bone marrow produces blood cells.

bone marrow aspiration

ponction de la moelle osseuse

A procedure that removes a sample of the liquid portion of bone marrow for testing purposes.

bone marrow biopsy

biopsie médullaire

A procedure that removes a small, solid piece of bone marrow.

bone marrow transplant

greffe de moelle osseuse

A procedure to replace damaged or destroyed bone marrow with healthy bone marrow stem cells.

bone scan

scintigraphie osseuse

A nuclear medicine test which shows the effects of a disease, such as cancer, on the bones.

B cont.

bowel cancer

cancer de l'intestin

Cancer that occurs on the inside wall of the bowel, usually affecting the colon or rectum (large bowel).

bowel obstruction

occlusion intestinale

When there is a blockage in the bowel.

bowel preparation

préparation des intestins

Cleansing of the intestines from faecal matter and secretions before a diagnostic procedure or treatment can be initiated for certain colorectal diseases.

brachytherapy

curiethérapie

A form of internal radiation therapy where a small radioactive source is delivered directly to the tumour.

brain metastases

métastases cérébrales

Cancer cells that have spread to the brain from primary tumours in other organs in the body.

brain tumour

tumeur cérébrale

A type of tumour that develops in the tissues of the brain.

BRCA1 and BRCA2 gene

gènes BRCA1 et BRCA2

Genes that help limit cell growth. A mutation (change) in one of these genes increases a person's risk of breast, ovarian and certain other cancers

breakthrough pain

accès douloureux paroxystiques

A sudden flare of pain that "breaks through" the long-acting medication prescribed to treat moderate to severe persistent pain.

breast

sein

Glandular organs on the chest, made up of lobules (milk-producing glands) and ducts (tubes that carry milk to the nipple).

breast cancer

cancer du sein

Cancer that occurs in the breast.

breast care nurse

infirmier ou infirmière spécialisé(e) en soins
mammaires

Health professionals who are specially trained to manage the care of breast cancer patients throughout the course of their treatment.

B cont.

breast conserving surgery

chirurgie conservatrice du sein

The removal of cancer within the breast with a border of normal tissue around it. Also known as wide local excision, lumpectomy or partial mastectomy.

breast density

densité mammaire

A measure used to describe the amounts of fat and tissue seen in the breast as seen on a mammogram.

breast implant

implant mammaire

A silicone gel-filled or saline-filled sac placed under the chest muscle to restore breast shape. Used as part of breast reconstruction after a mastectomy.

breast prostheses

prothèses mammaires

Temporary or permanent moulds worn in the bra to replicate the shape of a breast.

breast reconstruction

reconstruction mammaire

Surgery to create a breast shape after all or part of the breast has been removed.

breast surgeon

chirurgien ou chirurgienne mammaire

A doctor specialising in surgery of the breast.

bronchoscopy

bronchoscopie

A procedure that uses a bronchoscope (a thin, tube-like instrument) to examine the inside of the trachea, bronchi and lungs.

bronchus/bronchi

bronche et bronches

Part of the respiratory tract. The trachea divides into a right and left main bronchus. Each major bronchus then subdivides into smaller airway passages referred to as bronchi.

Burkitt lymphoma

lymphome de Burkitt

A form of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in which cancer starts in immune cells called B-cells.

C

cachexia

cachexie

Classified as progressive weight loss, anorexia, and persistent erosion of host body cell mass in response to a malignant growth.

calcifications

calcifications

Deposits of calcium in the breast that appear as bright white spots on a mammogram. Most calcifications are not cancer. However tight clusters (microcalcifications) can be a sign of breast cancer.

cancer

cancer

A term for diseases in which abnormal cells divide without control and can invade nearby tissues.

cancer antigen 125 (CA-125)

antigène tumoral 125 (CA 125)

A protein found on the surface of many ovarian cancer cells. CA-125 is used as a tumour marker, which means the test can help show if some types of cancer are present.

cancer incidence rate

taux d'incidence des cancers

The number of new cancers of a specific site/type occurring in a specified population during a year. Usually expressed as the number of cancers per 100,000 population at risk.

cancer journey

parcours du malade du cancer

Encompasses patients' cancer experiences from diagnosis through survivorship.

cancer mortality

décès par cancer

The number of deaths, with cancer as the underlying cause of death, occurring in a specified population during a year. Usually expressed as the number of deaths due to cancer per 100,000 population.

cancer of unknown primary origin

cancer primitif inconnu

A rare disease in which cancer cells are found in the body but the place the cancer began is not known.

cancer risk

risque de cancer

The chance that a person will develop cancer, or the chance that a cancer will come back or recur.

cancer screening

dépistage du cancer

Looking for cancer before a person has any symptoms. May include pathology tests, imaging, genetic testing or physical examinations

central venous access device (CVAD)/central line accès veineux central ou voie veineuse centrale

Small, flexible tubes placed in large veins for people who require frequent access to the bloodstream. Often referred to as venous access ports or catheters.

cervical cancer **cancer du col de l'utérus**

A type of cancer that occurs in the cells of the cervix, the lower part of the uterus that connects to the vagina.

cervical intraepithelial neoplasia (CIN) néoplasie intraépithéliale cervicale (NIC)

The growth of abnormal precancerous cells on the surface of the cervix. Grades from one to three (least to most) may be used to describe the degree of involvement.

checkpoint immunotherapy inhibiteurs des checkpoints immunitaires

Drugs that prevent cancer cells from turning off T cells.

chemoprevention chimioprévention

The use of natural, synthetic, or biologic agents to reduce the risk or delay the development or recurrence of cancer.

chemotherapy chimiothérapie

The use of anti-cancer drugs to destroy cancer cells.

childhood cancers **cancers de l'enfant**

Cancers that occur between birth and 15 years of age.

Chinese herbal medicine phytothérapie chinoise

The use of herbs originating from Asia to help strengthen vitality, overcome illness and improve patient outcomes.

cholangiocarcinoma cholangiocarcinome

A rare type of cancer that forms in the bile ducts.

chronic lymphocytic leukaemia (CLL) leucémie lymphoïde chronique (LLC)

A slow-growing type of blood cancer that affects developing B-cells. Also known as chronic lymphatic leukaemia.

chronic myeloid leukaemia (CML) leucémie myéloïde chronique (LMC)

A type of cancer that affects the blood and bone marrow. Occurs when the bone marrow produces too many granulocytes, a type of white blood cell. Also known as chronic myelogenous leukaemia.

chronic myeloproliferative neoplasms néoplasmes myéloprolifératifs chroniques

Diseases in which the bone marrow makes too many red blood cells, platelets, or certain white blood cells.

C cont.

chronic pain

douleur chronique

Any pain lasting more than 12 weeks.

clear cell carcinoma

carcinome à cellules claires

A rare type of tumour, usually of the female genital tract, in which the insides of the cells look clear when viewed under a microscope. Also called clear cell adenocarcinoma and mesonephroma.

clear margin

marge saine

Where cancer cells are not seen at the outer edge of the tissue that has been surgically removed.

clinical breast examination

examen clinique mammaire

A physical examination conducted by a health professional to check the look and feel of the breasts and underarm for any changes or abnormalities, such as lumps.

clinical guidelines

guide de pratique clinique

A graded set of recommendations to assist clinical decision-making or service planning based on best available research.

clinical trial

essai clinique

Any research study that prospectively assigns human participants or groups of humans to one or more health-related interventions to evaluate the effects on health outcomes.

cognitive behaviour therapy (CBT)

thérapie comportementale et cognitive (TCC)

A common type of counselling that helps people identify unhelpful thoughts and behaviours and change how they respond to negative situations or emotions.

cognitive impairment

déficience cognitive

Where a person may have trouble with memory or paying attention, communication and/or difficulty recognising people, places or things. They might also find new places or situations overwhelming.

cold cap

casque réfrigérant

A cap that is connected to a cooling system and worn on the head to help prevent hair loss.

colonoscopy

coloscopie

Examination of the large bowel with a camera on a flexible tube (endoscope), which is passed through the anus.

colorectal cancer

cancer colorectal

Cancer that occurs in the colon (the lower part of the intestine) or the rectum.

C cont.

colostomy/stoma bag

poche de colostomie ou de stomie

An operation where the colon is attached to an opening on the stomach. A bag is attached to the opening to collect faecal matter.

community nurse

infirmier visiteur ou infirmière visiteuse

A nurse who provides primary health care to people in their homes and communities and may coordinate palliative care. Community nurses usually work for local health services.

complementary therapies

thérapies complémentaires

Therapies used together with standard medical treatment. Examples include counselling, relaxation therapy, massage, acupuncture, yoga and meditation, aromatherapy, and art and music therapy.

complete blood count (CBC)

formule sanguine complète

A test to check the number of red blood cells, white blood cells and platelets in a sample of blood.

condition

état (de santé d'une personne) ou affection (maladie)

An illness or injury.

constipation

constipation

A condition in which stool/faeces becomes hard, dry, and difficult to pass, and bowel movements don't happen very often.

contralateral

controlatéral ou controlatérale

The other or opposite side. For example, the other breast.

contrast

produit de contraste

A substance injected into a vein or taken orally before a scan (such as a CT or MRI scan), which helps make pictures clearer. Also called a contrast medium, agent or dye.

control group

groupe témoin

Used in research to refer to a group of patients that is compared with another group receiving experimental treatment.

cording

cordes

Tight cords of tissues stretching down inside of the arm which can occur after surgery to remove the lymph nodes under the arm.

C cont.

core needle biopsy

biopsie au trocart

A biopsy using a hollow needle to take a sample(s) for analysis under a microscope.

corticosteroids

corticoïdes

A class of drugs that are mostly used to reduce inflammation, and have been found to be effective in treating myeloma.

counselling

soutien psychologique

Helping someone discuss and resolve issues by listening to them.

cryopreservation

cryopréservation

A process that freezes cells, tissue, semen or other substances.

cryosurgery/cryotherapy

cryochirurgie ou cryothérapie

The use of extreme cold to freeze and destroy unwanted tissue.

CT scan

CT-scan

The technique for constructing pictures from cross-sections of the body, by x-raying the part of the body to be examined from many different angles.

culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD)

de langues et de cultures différentes

Generally defined as people born overseas, in countries other than those classified as main English speaking countries.

curative cancer treatment

traitement curatif du cancer

Treatment given to damage or kill cancer cells.

cutaneous t-cell lymphoma

lymphome T cutané

A type of lymphoma that affects the skin.

cyst

kyste

An abnormal sac or closed cavity in the body filled with liquid or semi-solid material.

cytotoxic drug

médicament cytotoxique

A substance that is toxic to cells, so it can kill or slow the growth of cancer cells. For example, chemotherapy.

D

debulking	chirurgie réductrice du volume tumoral
Surgery to remove as much of a tumour as possible.	
deep vein thrombosis (DVT)	thrombose veineuse profonde (TVP)
A blood clot that forms in the deep veins of the leg or pelvis, often caused by immobility after surgery or long-distance travel.	
dermatologist	dermatologue
A doctor who specialises in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of skin conditions, including skin cancer.	
desmoid tumour	tumeur desmoïde
A type of tumour that develops in fibrous tissue covering some organs and muscles.	
detection	dépistage
The discovery of an abnormality or disease in the body.	
diagnosis	diagnostic
The identification and naming of a person's disease.	
dietitian	diététicien ou diététicienne
A health professional who supports and educates patients about nutrition and diet during treatment and recovery.	
diffuse large B-cell lymphoma	lymphome diffus à grandes cellules B
A fast-growing type of non-Hodgkin lymphoma that starts in the lymph nodes in the neck, groin or armpit.	
digital rectal examination (DRE)	toucher rectal
A way to diagnose prostate abnormalities, where the doctor places a gloved finger into the rectum and feels the prostate through the rectum wall.	
dilation and curettage (D&C)	dilatation et curetage (D & C)
A procedure where the cervix is dilated and the lining of the uterus (endometrium) is scraped out. D&C is sometimes used to treat precancerous changes of the cervix.	
direct discrimination	discrimination directe
When someone is treated less favourably because of a disability, such as cancer.	

E

early breast cancer

cancer du sein au stade précoce

Breast cancer that has not spread beyond the breast or lymph nodes under the arm (known as axillary lymph nodes). Also described as stage I and stage II breast cancer.

early detection of cancer

dépistage précoce du cancer

Recognising possible warning signs of cancer and taking prompt action leads to early diagnosis.

early menopause

ménopause précoce

Menopause (ending of the normal menstrual cycle) occurring in women under 45 years of age. Often a side effect of some common treatments for breast cancer.

early warning signs of cancer

signes précurseurs du cancer

Signs that indicate that there may be a malignant growth in the body. For example, a new or change in a mole, a lump in the breast or the presence of side effects of cancer, such as bloating or fatigue.

echocardiogram

échocardiogramme

An ultrasound scan of the heart to check its function. Also called a cardiac echo or cardiac ultrasound.

electrolyte

électrolyte

A substance in the body that conducts electricity.

emphysema

emphysème

A benign condition in which the alveoli of the lungs are enlarged and damaged reducing the lung's surface area and causing breathing difficulties.

endocrine therapy

endocrinothérapie

See hormone therapy/treatment.

endocrinologist

endocrinologue

A doctor who specialises in treating people with disorders of the endocrine system.

endometrial cancer

cancer de l'endomètre

See uterine cancer.

E cont.

endometrium

endomètre

The glandular lining of the inside of the uterus that is stimulated by the hormones oestrogen and progesterone and shed each month.

endoscope

endoscope

A thin and flexible tube with a light and camera attached, used for examining the inside of the body.

endoscopy

endoscopie

A type of internal examination or diagnostic test which uses an endoscope.

enema

lavement

The injection of a liquid into the rectum through a small tube to elicit a bowel motion.

energy (calories/kilojoules)

valeur énergétique (calories/kilojoules)

Obtained from food and drink and provides fuel for daily activities. Counted in calories or kilojoules.

enteral feeding tube

sonde gastrique entérale

A fine flexible plastic tube used to insert food directly into the stomach if a person is unable to eat.

enteral nutrition

alimentation entérale

Receiving all or part of daily nutrition requirements through a feeding tube.

enzymes

enzymes

Essential proteins for the normal functioning and performance of the body.

epidermis

épiderme

The surface layer of the skin, which contains basal cells, squamous cells and melanocytes.

epidural

péridurale

An injection into the spinal column, outside the lining of the spinal cord. Used to remove pain from the lower part of the body.

epithelium

épithélium

The cells that make up the internal and external surfaces of the body.

erectile dysfunction

dysérection

Inability to obtain or maintain an erection firm enough for penetration. Also called impotence.

ethics

déontologie

The study of moral values or principles, including responsible conduct and what is fair.

E cont.

Ewing's sarcoma

sarcome d'Ewing

A cancer that most often occurs in and around the bones.

excision

excision

A surgical procedure to remove diseased tissue. A surgeon may cut out cancerous tissue, as well as tissue surrounding it.

experimental cancer treatment

traitement expérimental contre le cancer

Medical therapies supplementing or replacing conventional methods (surgery, chemotherapy, radiation, and immunotherapy).

external beam radiotherapy

radiothérapie externe

The use of x-rays directed from a machine outside of the body.

extragonadal germ cell tumour

tumeur germinale extragonadique

A type of tumour that forms from developing sperm or egg cells that travel from the gonads to other parts of the body.

eye cancer

cancer de l'œil

A type of cancer that occurs in the eye. May affect the eye muscles (e.g. rhabdomyosarcoma) or the eye itself (called intraocular cancers).

F

faecal occult blood test	test de recherche de sang occulte dans les selles (test RSOS)
A test that checks stools or bowel motions for microscopic traces of blood.	
faeces/stools	matières fécales ou selles
Waste matter (excrement) discharged from the bowel through the anus (bowel movement).	
fallopian tube cancer	cancer de la trompe de Fallope
A type of cancer that occurs in the fallopian tubes, the tubes that carry the ova (eggs) from the ovary to the uterus.	
familial	familial ou familiale
Indicates that a condition that can be inherited from the generations of a family through one or more genes.	
familial cancer	cancer familial
A cancer that can be inherited from the generations of a family.	
fasting	à jeun
Abstaining from food and drinks.	
febrile neutropenia	neutropénie fébrile
The development of a fever, often with signs of infection, in a person with neutropenia (an abnormally low level of neutrophils in the blood). A common side-effect of chemotherapy	
fine needle aspiration	aspiration à l'aiguille fine
A biopsy that uses a thin hollow needle to remove a tissue sample. Often performed on the breast.	
FISH (fluorescence in situ hybridisation)	hybridation in situ en fluorescence (FISH)
A way of measuring HER2 levels in cancer cells. FISH positive (FISH+) means excessive amounts are present, classed as HER2+.	
flat urothelial carcinoma	carcinome urothélial
A tumour that grows in the lining of the bladder.	
flatulence	flatulence
Wind or gas.	
follicle	follicule
A cavity in the ovary that contains a maturing egg.	

F cont.

fraction

fraction

The division of the total dose of radiotherapy into several smaller doses that are delivered over a period of days.

frozen section

section congelée

A sample of fresh tissue which is frozen until it is hard enough to cut into sections.

full blood count (FBC)

numération formule sanguine (NFS)

A test that counts the number of red blood, white blood cells and platelets in the blood. Sometimes called a complete blood count.

functioning tumour

tumeur fonctionnelle

A type of neuroendocrine tumour that secretes hormones.

G

gallbladder cancer

cancer de la vésicule biliaire

A type of cancer that occurs in the gallbladder, a small pear shaped organ on the underside of the liver that secretes bile.

gap fee

frais de santé non remboursés

The difference between the Medicare Benefits Schedule fee and the doctor's fee.

gastric cancer

cancer de l'estomac

See stomach cancer.

gastrinoma

gastrinome

A pancreatic neuroendocrine tumour that secretes too much of the hormone gastrin.

gastroenterologist

gastro-entérologue

A doctor who specialises in diseases of the digestive system.

gastrointestinal stromal tumours

tumeurs stromales gastro-intestinales

A type of tumour found in the stomach's connective tissue and muscle.

general anaesthetic

anesthésie générale

Medication which causes a person lose consciousness and fall asleep prior to a procedure.

general practitioner (GP)

médecin généraliste

A doctor who diagnoses, refers and treats the health problems of individuals and families in the community. Sometimes called family doctors.

genetic counsellor

conseiller ou conseillère en génétique

A health professional trained to help people understand and adapt to the implications of a genetic contribution to diseases, such as cancer.

genetic risk factors

facteurs de risques génétiques

Genetic variants which contribute to the risk of developing common and complex diseases, such as cancer and diabetes.

G cont.

genetic testing

dépistage génétique

The study of a person's DNA in order to identify genetic differences or susceptibility to particular diseases or abnormalities.

genome

génom

The entire collection of genes found in an organism.

germ cell tumours

tumeurs germinales

Tumours that form from reproductive cells.

germ cells

cellules germinales

Cells that produce eggs in females and sperm in males.

gland (adj. glandular)

glande (adj. glandulaire)

An organ or group of cells that makes certain fluids (hormones, saliva, sweat) that are used in the body or excreted.

Gleason score

score de Gleason

A system for grading prostate cancer tumours according to size and severity, depending on how the tumour cells look under a microscope.

glioblastoma

glioblastome

A type of malignant brain tumour.

glioma

gliome

Any tumour that starts in the connective tissue (the glia) of the nervous system.

glucagonoma

glucagonome

A pancreatic neuroendocrine tumour that secretes too much of the hormone glucagon.

goal

but

An overarching statement about the desired outcome.

gonadotropin-releasing hormones (GnRH)

hormone de libération des gonadotrophines

Long-acting hormones used to slow and stop the function of the hormones.

grade

stade tumoral

A score describing how quickly a tumour is likely to grow.

graft

greffe

Healthy tissue taken from one part of the body to replace diseased or injured tissue at another part of the body. May also include the use of donor tissue.

G cont.

granulocyte-colony stimulating factor (G-CSF) facteur de croissance des colonies granulocytaires (G-CSF)

A protein that helps increase the bone marrow production of infection-fighting white blood cells called neutrophils.

gynaecologist

gynécologue

Refers to any cancers of the female reproductive tract. This includes cancers of the uterus, ovary, cervix, vagina, vulva, placenta and fallopian tubes.

gynaecological cancer

cancer gynécologique

A doctor who specialises in diseases of the female reproductive system.

H

haematologist	hématologue
---------------	-------------

A doctor who specialises in diseases of the blood, bone marrow and lymphatic system.

haematology	hématologie
-------------	-------------

The branch of medicine that studies the blood.

haematuria	hématurie
------------	-----------

Blood in the urine.

hairy cell leukaemia	leucémie à tricholeucocytes (LT)
----------------------	----------------------------------

A rare, slow-growing type of blood cancer where the bone marrow makes too many B cells (lymphocytes), a type of white blood cell that fights infection. These excess B cells are abnormal and look "hairy" under a microscope.

harassment	harcèlement
------------	-------------

Any form of behaviour that offends, humiliates, intimidates or creates a hostile environment.

head and neck cancer	cancer de la tête ou du cou
----------------------	-----------------------------

Refers to any cancers of the mouth, sinuses, nose or throat.

health care team	équipe soignante
------------------	------------------

A group of health professionals who are responsible for managing a patient (doctors, nurses, dietitians, physiotherapists, social workers, etc.).

health system	système de santé
---------------	------------------

All activities that have the primary purpose to promote, restore and/or maintain health.

heartburn (indigestion)	brûlure d'estomac (indigestion)
-------------------------	--

The sensation of tightness or burning in the chest, caused by reflux (stomach acid backing up into the oesophagus and throat).

HER2 (human epidermal growth factor receptor 2)	récepteur 2 du facteur de croissance épidermique humain (HER2)
---	--

A protein involved in the growth of cells. Around 15-20% of breast cancer cells have higher than normal levels of HER2 (HER2+) which stimulates them to grow.

herbal medicine	phytothérapie
-----------------	---------------

The use of herbs taken by mouth or applied to the body.

H cont.

hereditary

héréditaire

Where something is passed on from one person to another (parent to offspring) through genes.

hereditary cancer

cancer héréditaire

Where the tendency to develop cancers is inherited.

hereditary non-polyposis colorectal cancer (HNPCC) cancer colorectal héréditaire sans polypose

A condition in some families where the tendency to develop bowel (and some other) cancers is inherited. About 1% of all bowel cancer is due to HNPCC.

hernia

hernie

The protrusion of an organ or tissue out of the body cavity in which it normally lies, due to a weakness of the muscle coverings.

Hickman line

cathéter Hickman

A type of central venous access device inserted into a vein in the chest.

high-grade abnormality

anomalie grave

Changes to the cells of the cervix that are more serious than low-grade abnormalities. They may lead to cancer in some women.

histology

histologie

The study of cells and tissues using a microscope.

histopathology

histopathologie

The study of changes in tissues caused by disease.

HIV (human immunodeficiency virus)

VIH (virus de l'immunodéficience humaine)

A virus that weakens the immune system and causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome).

Hodgkin lymphoma

lymphome hodgkinien

A type of lymphoma.

homoeopathy

homéopathie

An alternative therapy that claims to stimulate a healing response and strengthen the body's ability to heal itself.

hormone (adj. hormonal)

hormone (adj. hormonal(e))

A substance made by a gland, which helps to regulate and coordinate growth, metabolism and reproduction. Carried in the bloodstream.

H cont.

hormone receptors

récepteurs hormonaux

A cell protein that binds a specific hormone. For example, some breast cancer cells have hormone receptors, which means that oestrogen and/or progesterone make them grow. These cancers are called 'hormone receptor positive' breast cancers (ER+ and PR+).

hormone replacement therapy (HRT)

traitement hormonal de substitution

Drug therapy that supplies the body with hormones that it is no longer able to produce. Used to relieve menopausal symptoms.

hormone therapy/treatment

traitement hormonal

Drugs used to treat women with hormone receptor-positive breast cancer. Hormone therapies work to either reduce the amount of hormone in the body, or to stop it from working. Common hormone therapies used in Australia include tamoxifen, and the aromatase inhibitors anastrozole (Arimidex), letrozole (Femara) and exemestane (Aromasin).

human papilloma virus (HPV)

virus du papillome humain (VPH)

A genital infection spread through genital skin contact during sexual activity. The virus passes through tiny breaks in the skin.

hypercalcaemia

hypercalcémie

Higher than normal levels of calcium in the blood, usually caused by metastatic cancer in the bones.

hypopharyngeal cancer

cancer de l'hypopharynx

A type of cancer that occurs in the hypopharynx, the area where the larynx and oesophagus meet.

hysterectomy

hystérectomie

Surgical removal of the uterus.



ileal conduit

dérivation urinaire

A small passageway created from a piece of bowel and connected between the ureters and a stoma on the abdomen wall. It takes the place of the bladder, allowing urine to flow through it and the stoma into a bag on the outside of the body.

ileostomy

iléostomie

An operation which brings part of the small bowel to an opening in the abdomen. Similar to a colostomy.

immune cells

cellules immunitaires

White blood cells (leucocytes).

immunocompromised

immunodéprimé

Weakening of the immune system, caused by some diseases and treatments, such as chemotherapy.

immunoglobulin (Ig)

immunoglobuline

A protein that is produced by plasma cells and fights infections. There are five main types: IgA, IgD, IgE, IgG and IgM. Also known as antibodies.

immunosuppressant

immunodépresseur

A medication that reduces the actions of the immune system.

immunosuppression

immunodépression

Medically-induced or disease-related suppression of the immune system.

immunotherapy

immunothérapie

Targeted therapies that use the immune system to fight cancer.

incisional biopsy

biopsie par incision

A procedure where a small area of tissue is taken to identify the composition or make-up of a lesion or abnormality.

inconclusive

non conclusif

Leading to no conclusion or definite result.

indirect discrimination

discrimination indirecte

When a person with a disability, such as cancer, is disadvantaged by a policy, rule or practice that seems fair.

indolent

indolent ou indolente

Slow growing.

I cont.

inflammatory breast cancer	cancer du sein inflammatoire
A rare and aggressive form of invasive breast cancer that affects the blood vessels in the skin of the breast.	
inflammatory carcinoma	carcinome inflammatoire
A type of breast cancer that usually presents with a noticeable warmth and reddening of the breast skin. There may also be puckering of the skin and swelling of the breast.	
infusaport	Infusaport
See intravenous access device.	
infusion	perfusion
A slow injection of a substance into a vein or other tissue. Often known as a 'drip'.	
inguinal lymph node dissection	dissection des ganglions lymphatiques inguinaux
Surgical removal of lymph nodes from the groin area.	
inoperable	inopérable
Unable to be removed by surgery. Also called irresectable or unresectable.	
inpatient	patient hospitalisé
A person who stays in hospital while having treatment.	
insomnia	insomnie
The inability to fall or stay asleep for a prolonged period of time.	
insulin	insuline
A hormone secreted by the pancreas to regulate the amount of sugar (glucose) in the blood.	
insulinoma	insulinome
A type of pancreatic neuroendocrine tumour that secretes too much insulin.	
integrative medicine (integrative therapies)	médecine intégrative (traitements intégratifs)
The use of both evidence-based complementary therapies as well as conventional medicine.	
intensity modulated radiation therapy (IMRT)	radiothérapie conformationnelle avec modulation d'intensité (RCMI)
A type of external radiotherapy in which the radiation beams are aimed from several directions, while the intensity (strength) is controlled by computers.	

I cont.

interferon

interféron

A substance that occurs naturally within the body. It enhances the immune system's ability to fight viruses.

interleukins

interleukines

Substances (produced by the body or synthetic) which stimulate the growth of white blood cells and help the immune system to fight cancer.

internal radiotherapy

radiothérapie interne

Radiation delivered directly to the tumour from within the body.

intolerance

intolérance

Inability to digest a particular food properly.

intramuscular injection

injection intramusculaire

An injection into a muscle.

intraoperative

injection intrapéritonéale

Injection into the abdominal cavity

intrapleural

injection intrapleurale

Injection into the chest cavity

intrathecal

injection intrathécale

Injection into the fluid around the spine

intravenous (IV)

injection intraveineuse

Injected into a vein.

intravenous access device

accès veineux central

A system for giving drugs directly into a large vein near the heart. Used particularly for chemotherapy drugs, blood or nutrition (intravenous feeding). It may also be used to take blood samples. Also known as drug delivery system, central venous catheter, central line.

intravesical chemotherapy

chimiothérapie intravésicale

Chemotherapy that is put directly into the bladder through a tube. It is often used for treating non-muscle invasive bladder cancer.

I cont.

invasive breast cancer

cancer invasif du sein

A form of breast cancer that has spread from the original location (milk ducts or lobules) into the surrounding breast tissue and possibly into the lymph nodes and other parts of the body. Invasive ductal cancer begins in the milk ducts. Invasive lobular cancer begins in the lobules of the breast

invasive cancer

cancer invasif

Cancer that has spread beyond the layer of tissue in which it developed and is growing into surrounding, healthy tissues. Also called infiltrating cancer.

iodine

iode

An element found in food that allows the thyroid gland to produce hormones. Found in foods such as seafood, some dairy products, eggs and iodised salts.

irradiation

rayonnements

See radiotherapy.

irresectable

non résécable

Unable to be removed by surgery. Also known as inoperable or unresectable.

J

jaundice

jaunisse

A condition in which the skin and the whites of the eyes become yellow, urine darkens, and the colour of stool becomes lighter than normal. Occurs when the liver is not working properly or when a bile duct is blocked.

K

Kaposi sarcoma

sarcome de Kaposi

A type of cancer caused by Kaposi sarcoma-associated herpesvirus (KSHV) in which lesions grow in the skin, lymph nodes, lining of the mouth, nose, and throat, and other tissues of the body.

kidney (renal cell) cancer

cancer du rein (cellules rénales)

A type of cancer that occurs in the lining of tubules (very small tubes) in the kidney. Also called kidney cancer or renal adenocarcinoma

kilojoule

kilojoule

A measure of the energy value of foods. Equivalent to 1,000 joules

L

laminectomy

laminectomie

Surgery that enlarges the spinal canal to relieve pressure on the spinal cord or nerves. Also known as decompression surgery or laminectomy.

Langerhans cell histiocytosis

histiocytose langerhansienne (HL)

A group of rare disorders in which too many Langerhans cells (a type of white blood cell) grow in certain tissues and organs including the bones, skin, and lungs, and damage them. Also called LCH.

laparoscopy/laparoscopic surgery

laparoscopie/chirurgie laparoscopique

Surgery undertaken through small cuts in the abdomen using a tiny telescope called a laparoscope for viewing. Also called keyhole surgery or minimally invasive surgery.

laparotomy

laparotomie

A surgical incision made in the wall of the abdomen.

laryngeal carcinoma

carcinome du larynx

A type of cancer that forms in tissues of the larynx, the area of the throat that contains the vocal cords and is used for breathing, swallowing, and talking.

laryngectomy

laryngectomie

The surgical removal of all or part of the larynx.

laryngoscopy

laryngoscopie

A procedure to view the vocal folds and the glottis. An endoscopy of the larynx.

late effects

effets secondaires tardifs

A health problem that occurs months or years after a disease is diagnosed or after treatment has ended.

late stage cancer

cancer à un stade avancé

A term used to describe cancer that is far along in its growth, and has spread to the lymph nodes or other places in the body.

latency period/interval

temps ou durée de latence

The time between exposure to an infectious organism or a carcinogen and the clinical appearance of disease. Also referred to as an incubation period.

L cont.

laxative

laxatifs

Substances used to treat or prevent constipation. They loosen stools and increase bowel movements. Also called purgatives or aperients.

lentigo maligna melanoma

lentigo malin

An early form of melanoma in which the malignant cells are confined to the tissue of origin, the epidermis. Also called 'in situ' melanoma.

lesion

lésion

An area of abnormal tissue. May be benign or malignant.

leucocyte (or leukocyte)

leucocyte

Cells in the blood that fight infection. Also called a white blood cell.

leucopenia

leucopénie

A condition where the number of white blood cells circulating in the blood is abnormally low.

leukaemia

leucémie

A cancer that affects the blood and bone marrow.

libido

libido

Sex drive or the desire for sex.

life expectancy

espérance de vie

How long, on average, a person is expected to live based on current age and sex-specific death rates. It is often expressed as the number of years of life a person born today is expected to live.

linear accelerator

accélérateur linéaire

The device most commonly used for external beam radiation treatments for patients with cancer.

liver cancer

cancer du foie

A type of cancer that occurs in the liver.

liver function test (LFT)

bilan hépatique

The measurement of various chemicals in the blood made by the liver.

lobectomy

lobectomie

The surgical removal of a lobe of an organ. For example, of the thyroid, lung, liver or brain.

L cont.

lobular carcinoma in situ (LCIS)

carcinome lobulaire in situ

A form of non-invasive breast cancer, confined to the lobules of the breast.

lobules

lobules

Ball shaped sacs in the breast that produce milk.

local anaesthetic

anesthésie locale

A medication used to block the feeling of pain in a specific location in the body. It does not cause lack of consciousness .

local excision

excision locale

A surgical procedure to remove a small area of diseased tissue.

local recurrence

récidive locale

Cancer that has recurred at or near the same place as the original tumour, usually after a period of time during which the cancer could not be detected.

local therapy

thérapie locale

Treatment to a specific area of the body. For example, surgery or radiotherapy.

localised cancer

cancer localisé

Where the cancer has only spread into nearby tissues. It has not spread to any lymph nodes or other body areas.

locally advanced breast cancer

cancer du sein localement avancé

A form of breast cancer that has spread beyond the breast to the chest wall or the skin of the breast, or to many lymph nodes in the underarm area (axillary nodes), but not to other organs.

low-grade abnormality

anomalie à faible risque

A less serious abnormality on a pap smear test. Sometimes referred to as mild dysplasia or cervical intraepithelial neoplasia 1.

lumbar puncture

ponction lombaire

A procedure where fluid is taken from the spine in the lower back through a hollow needle, usually for diagnostic purposes.

lump

grosseur

Any mass in the body.

L cont.

lumpectomy

tumorectomie

See breast conserving surgery.

lung cancer

cancer du poumon

Cancer that occurs in the tissues of the lung, usually in the cells lining air passages. The two main types are small cell lung cancer and non-small cell lung cancer.

lung function tests

exploration fonctionnelle respiratoire

Tests to measure how well a person's lungs work. Includes measuring lung size and air flow or how well gases such as oxygen get in and out of the blood. Also called pulmonary function tests.

lymph node dissection

ablation du ganglion lymphatique axillaire

A surgical procedure in which the lymph nodes are removed and a sample of tissue is checked under a microscope for signs of cancer.

lymph nodes

ganglions lymphatiques

Small lumps of tissue containing white blood cells. They filter lymph fluid, which is composed of fluid and waste products from body tissues.

lymphadenectomy

lymphadénectomie

A surgical procedure to remove one or more lymph nodes (or groups of lymph nodes), which are then evaluated for the presence of cancer. Also called a lymph node dissection

lymphatic system

système lymphatique

A network of tissues and organs that help rid the body of toxins, waste and other unwanted materials. The primary function of the lymphatic system is to transport lymph, a fluid containing infection-fighting white blood cells, throughout the body.

lymphoedema

lymphœdème

The accumulation of excessive amounts of protein-rich fluid which results in swelling of one or more regions of the body. Occurs when the demand for lymphatic drainage exceeds the capacity of the lymphatic circulation. Usually affects arms and legs although it may also involve the trunk, breast, head and neck or genital area.

lymphoma

lymphome

Cancer that begins in the lymphatic system (the various lymph glands around the body). The two main types are Non-Hodgkin lymphoma and Hodgkin lymphoma.

L cont.

Lynch syndrome

syndrome de Lynch

A type of inherited cancer syndrome associated with a genetic predisposition to different cancer types. Also called hereditary non-polyposis colorectal cancer (HNPCC).

M

magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)

imagerie par résonance magnétique (IRM)

A non-invasive imaging technology that produces three dimensional detailed anatomical images without the use of damaging radiation. Used for disease detection, diagnosis and treatment monitoring.

maintenance treatment

traitement d'entretien

Additional treatment to prevent or slow recurrence, typically following initial treatment. May include chemotherapy, hormone therapy, or targeted therapy.

male breast cancer

cancer du sein chez l'homme

A rare cancer that forms in the breast tissue of men.

malignant

malin ou maligne

Cancerous.

mammogram

mammographie

An X-ray of the breast. Can be used to detect early signs of breast cancer before there are any symptoms (screening) or to investigate a breast lump (investigation).

mammoplasty

mammoplastie

Refers to a group of surgical procedures, where the goal is to reshape or otherwise modify the appearance of the breast.

margin

marge

The rim of normal tissue surrounding a tumour that has been surgically removed. Clear margins means the entire tumour was removed. Positive margins means the entire tumour was not removed.

M cont.

mass

masse

A lump in the body. May be caused by the abnormal growth of cells, a cyst, hormonal changes, or an immune reaction. May be benign or malignant.

mastectomy

mastectomie

Surgical removal of the breast including the nipple area. Bilateral mastectomy means both breasts are removed.

medical negligence

négligence médicale

When a health care provider is proven to have breached their duty of care to a patient, causing injury or personal loss.

medical oncologist

oncologue médical

A doctor who specialises in diagnosing and treating cancer using chemotherapy, hormonal therapy, and biological therapy.

medical trials

essais médicaux

See clinical trial.

meditation

méditation

A technique of calming the mind that aims for inner feelings of calm and peacefulness.

melanin

mélanine

A dark pigment produced in melanocytes that gives skin its colour.

melanoma

mélanome

Cancer of the melanocytes. The cancer usually appears on the skin, but may affect the eye and mucous membranes. Excessive exposure to ultraviolet radiation contributes to the development of melanoma.

meninges

méninges

The membranes that cover and protect the central nervous system.

meningioma

méningiome

A type of benign brain tumour.

menopause

ménopause

The end of menstruation (periods).

M cont.

Merkel cell

cellule de Merkel

A type of cell that makes up the skin's epidermal layer.

Merkel cell carcinoma

carcinome de cellule de Merkel

a rare type of skin cancer that usually appears as a flesh-coloured or bluish-red nodule, often on the face, head or neck. Also called neuroendocrine carcinoma of the skin.

mesh

filet

A reinforcing material that is sometimes used in surgical procedures.

mesothelioma

mésothéliome

Cancer that affects the protective membrane around the body's internal organs (the mesothelium). It often occurs in the membranes of the lungs.

metabolism

métabolisme

The chemical process by which food is changed into energy in the body.

metastasis (plural: metastases)

métastase (pluriel : métastases)

The spread of cancer to another part of the body.

metastatic breast cancer

cancer du sein métastatique

A form of breast cancer that has spread beyond the breast and lymph nodes under the arm to other parts of the body such as the bones, lungs, liver or, less commonly, brain. Also known as advanced, secondary or stage 4 breast cancer.

metastatic cancer

cancer métastatique

Cancer that has spread to another part of the body. Also called secondary cancer, though the secondary tumours are the same type of cancer as the original cancer.

microcalcifications

microcalcifications

Small deposits of calcium in the breast. They show up as white dots on a mammogram and are sometimes a sign of Ductal Carcinoma In Situ (DCIS).

microsurgery

microchirurgie

The use of microscopes and mini-instruments for surgery on very small structures.

minerals

minéraux

Components of food that are essential for the body, similar to vitamins. For example, iron, calcium and magnesium.

M cont.

models of care

modèles de soins

A model that explains clearly the how, where, who and what health care is provided. It identifies a standard or example, for imitation or comparison, combining concepts, belief and intent.

modified release medication

médicament à libération modifiée

A medication that alters the timing and/or the rate of release of the drug substance. Also called sustained release or slow release.

mole

môle

Describes any pigmented (coloured), fleshy growth on the skin.

monoclonal antibody

anticorps monoclonal

A group of targeted therapy drugs that lock onto a specific protein on the surface of cancer cells and interfere with the cells' growth or survival.

morbidity

morbidité

Sickness, illness.

morphine

morphine

A strong and effective opioid pain reliever that is commonly used to treat people with cancer who have pain.

mortality

mortalité

The death rate, or the number of deaths in a certain group of people in a certain period of time. Mortality may be reported for people who have a certain disease, live in one area of the country, or who are of a certain sex, age, or ethnic group.

MRI (magnetic resonance imaging)

IRM (imagerie par résonance magnétique)

A scan using magnets and radio waves to make a detailed picture of organs or soft tissues in the body.

mTOR inhibitors

inhibiteurs de mTOR

A class of targeted therapy that may increase the benefit of hormone therapy.

mucosa

muqueuse

The moist tissue lining the organs of the body. For example, the digestive tract, lungs and nose.

mucositis

mucosite

Sores in the mouth or throat.

M cont.

multidisciplinary care

soins multidisciplinaires

An integrated team approach to cancer care. Medical, nursing and allied health professionals involved in a patient's treatment together consider all treatment options and personal preferences of the patient and collaboratively develop an individual care plan that best meets the needs of that patient.

multidisciplinary team (MDT)

équipe multidisciplinaire

An integrated team can include a general practitioner, a surgeon, a medical oncologist, a radiation oncologist, a palliative care specialist, a nurse consultant, nurses, a dietician, a physiotherapist, an occupational therapist, a social worker, a psychologist, a counsellor and a pastoral care worker.

multiple myeloma

myélome multiple

Cancer arising in plasma cells.

mutation

mutation

A change in a gene causing a permanent change in the DNA sequence.

mycosis fungoides

mycose fongioïde

The most common type of cutaneous T cell lymphoma (CTCL). A slow growing form of cancer in which some of the body's white blood cells become malignant.

myelodysplastic syndromes

syndromes myélodysplasiques

A group of diseases that affects normal blood cell production in the bone marrow. In MDS, the bone marrow produces abnormal, immature blood cells called blast cells. These cells fail to mature properly are unable to work properly.

myeloid

myéloïde

Relating to bone marrow.

myeloma

myélome

A type of cancer that develops from plasma cells in the bone marrow. Myeloma is often called multiple myeloma because most people (90%) have multiple bone lesions at the time it is diagnosed.

myeloproliferative neoplasms

néoplasmes myéloprolifératifs

Blood cancers that occur when the body makes too many white or red blood cells, or platelets.

N

nasogastric (NG) tube

sonde nasogastrique

A flexible bidirectional tube made of rubber or plastic that is passed through the nose and down through the nasopharynx and oesophagus into the stomach. It can be used to replace fluids when a person is unable to take them in orally or to remove fluids

nausea/nauseous

nausée/nauséeux

Uneasiness of the stomach. Sometimes proceeds vomiting.

neck dissection

curage cervical

A surgical procedure in which the fibrofatty contents of the neck are removed for the treatment of cervical lymphatic metastases.

needs-based approach to cancer care

approche axée sur les besoins en matière de soins contre le cancer

Directing people who live in a rural area to the most appropriate service based on their needs. Some people can be diagnosed, assessed and treated locally, some will need to be assessed elsewhere but can be treated locally. Others will have complex care needs and/or requirements multi-modal treatments provided by a major cancer service.

neoadjuvant therapy

traitement néoadjuvant

A type of induction therapy. Treatment is given as a first step to shrink a tumour before the main treatment is given. May include chemotherapy, radiation therapy, and hormone therapy.

neoplasia

néoplasie

Abnormal and uncontrolled cell growth.

nerve sparing

préservation des faisceaux nerveux

A type of surgery to save nerves.

nervous system

système nerveux

The network of nerve cells and fibres which transmits nerve impulses between parts of the body.

neuroblastoma

neuroblastome

The most common solid tumour of childhood, arising from particular nerve cells which run in a chain-like fashion up the child's abdomen and chest and into the skull following the line of the spinal cord.

neuroendocrine tumour (NETs)

tumeur neuroendocrine

A rare type of tumour that develops from cells of the neuroendocrine system. Some NETs may be called carcinoid tumours.

N cont.

neurologist

neurologue

A doctor who specialises in the anatomy, functions, and organic disorders of nerves and the nervous system.

neuron

neurone

Cells within the nervous system that transmit information to other nerve cells, muscle, or gland cells. Most neurons have a cell body, an axon, and dendrites.

neuropathic pain

douleur neuropathique

A complex, chronic pain state that usually is accompanied by tissue injury. Nerve fibres themselves may be damaged, dysfunctional, or injured. These damaged nerve fibres send incorrect signals to other pain centres.

neurosurgeon

neurochirurgien ou neurochirurgienne

A doctor specialising in surgery of the brain and other parts of the nervous system.

neutropenia

neutropénie

An abnormally low level of neutrophils.

neutrophils

neutrophiles

A type of white blood cell. One of the first cell types to travel to the site of an infection.

nil by mouth

à jeun

A medical term where a patient is not to eat or drink anything.

nodule

nodule

A small swelling or aggregation of cells in the body, especially an abnormal one.

non-functioning tumour

tumeur non fonctionnelle

A tumour found in endocrine tissue which does not make extra hormones. Non-functioning tumours usually do not cause symptoms until they grow large or spread to other parts of the body. Also called endocrine-inactive tumour.

non-Hodgkin lymphoma

lymphome non hodgkinien

A type of lymphoma. Most commonly occurs in a lymph node but it can also occur in the liver, spleen, stomach or bones. There are two classifications: B-cell and T-cell lymphomas. There are more than 60 sub-types.

non-invasive (cancer)

(cancer) non invasif

Describes disease that has not spread outside the tissue in which it began.

N cont.

non-invasive (procedure)

(procédure) non invasive

A procedure that does not require insertion of an instrument through the skin or into a body opening.

non-melanoma skin cancer

cancer de la peau sans présence de mélanome

Skin cancers that are not classified as a melanoma. The two main types are basal cell carcinoma and squamous cell carcinoma.

non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)

cancer bronchique non à petites cellules (CBNPC)

The most common type of lung cancer. It usually grows and spreads more slowly than small cell lung cancer. Common subtypes include squamous cell carcinoma, adenocarcinoma, and large cell carcinoma.

nuclear medicine

médecine nucléaire

A type of medicine that uses small amounts of radioactive substances to take pictures of areas inside the body and to treat disease, such as cancer. In cancer, the radioactive substance may be used with a special machine (such as a PET scanner) to find the cancer, to see how far it has spread, or to see how well a treatment is working.

nurse care coordinator

coordinateur ou coordinatrice des soins infirmiers

A registered nurse who specialises in caring for people with cancer and their families.

nutritionist

nutritionniste

A health professional who provides information and support about nutrition.

oedema	œdème
Abnormally large amounts of fluid in the tissues. Also called swelling.	
oesophageal cancer	cancer de l'œsophage
A type of cancer that occurs in the oesophagus.	
oestrogen	œstrogène
A female hormone. Some cancers need oestrogen to grow.	
oestrogen receptor positive (ER+)	récepteur œstrogénique positif (RE+)
Proteins within cancer cells that bind to female hormone oestrogen and stimulates them to grow.	
oligodendroglioma	oligodendrogliome
A type of malignant brain tumour.	
oncologist	oncologue
A doctor who specialises in the study and treatment of cancer.	
oncology	oncologie
The study, diagnosis and treatment of cancer.	
oophorectomy	ovariectomie
The surgical removal of an ovary. The removal of both ovaries is called a bilateral oophorectomy.	
opioids	opioïdes
The strongest type of pain medicine. Includes morphine, fentanyl, codeine, oxycodone, hydromorphone and methadone.	
osteoporosis	ostéoporose
A decrease in bone mass, causing bones to become fragile and brittle and therefore liable to break.	
osteosarcoma	ostéosarcome
Cancer of the bone. Most often develops in a leg or arm bone. Also called osteogenic sarcoma.	
outpatient	patient ou patiente en soins ambulatoires
A person who receives medical treatment without being admitted into hospital.	
ovarian cancer	cancer de l'ovaire
A type of cancer that develops in an ovary.	
ovaries	ovaires
The female sex organs, which secrete important female hormones and contain the ova.	

P

Paget's disease of the breast

maladie de Paget du sein

A rare form of breast cancer that affects the nipple or areola. Many people also have a breast cancer somewhere in the same breast.

pain medicine specialist

spécialiste des analgésiques

A medical specialist who treats complex pain problems.

pain scale

échelle d'évaluation de la douleur

A scale that helps the patients to show how mild or severe their pain is based on a range of numbers, descriptions or facial expressions.

palliative cancer treatment

traitement palliatif du cancer

Treatment which aims to provide relief from symptoms without attempting to cure the disease. Also called palliative care or palliation.

palliative care

soins palliatifs

Care focused on symptom control and support when cancer cannot be cured.

palliative care specialist (physician)

spécialiste des soins palliatifs (médecin)

A doctor who has specialised in the field of palliative medicine.

pancreatic cancer

cancer du pancréas

A type of cancer that occurs in the pancreas.

pancreatic neuroendocrine tumour (PNET)

tumeur neuroendocrine du pancréas (TNEp)

A neuroendocrine tumour affecting the pancreas.

pancreatitis

pancréatite

Inflammation of the pancreas.

papillary urothelial carcinoma

carcinome urothélial papillaire

A tumour that projects into the hollow of the bladder.

paracentesis

paracentèse

A procedure to drain away excess fluid from the abdomen.

P cont.

parathyroid cancer

cancer parathyroïdien

A rare cancer that forms in tissues of one or more of the parathyroid glands (four pea-sized glands in the neck that make parathyroid hormone, which helps the body store and use calcium).

parenteral nutrition

alimentation parentérale

The delivery of calories and nutrients into a vein.

PARP inhibitor

inhibiteur de la PARP

A type of targeted therapy that blocks an enzyme (PARP enzyme) involved in DNA repair, causing cancer cells to die.

partial mastectomy

mastectomie partielle

See breast conserving surgery.

participant information

informations destinées aux participants

An information sheet that explains everything a participant needs to know about a clinical trial or treatment. Also called a fact sheet.

passive smoking

tabagisme passif

Breathing in second-hand smoke.

pathologist (breast cancer)

pathologiste (cancer du sein)

A doctor who uses a microscope to study the breast tissue and lymph nodes removed during biopsy or surgery to diagnose cancer and other diseases.

pathologist (general)

pathologiste (général)

A doctor who studies diseases to understand their nature and cause. Pathologists examine biopsies under a microscope to diagnose cancer and other diseases.

pathology

pathologie

The study of diseases, especially their causes and nature.

pathology report

rapport pathologique

A document that provides information about cancerous tissue, such as its size and location, hormonal status, how far it has spread, how fast it is growing, and surgical margins.

P cont.

patient-controlled analgesia (PCA) system

système d'analgésie contrôlée par le patient (ACP)

An intravenous system allowing a patient to self-administer a measured dose of pain relief by pressing a button.

pelvic examination

examen pelvien

A way to diagnose pelvic abnormalities, where a health professional examines the organs of the pelvis by feeling them with fingers inserted into the vagina and/or rectum. Also called internal examination.

pelvic exenteration

exentération pelvienne

The surgical removal of the affected organs.

penile cancer

cancer du pénis

Cancer that occurs in the tissues of the penis.

people affected by cancer

personnes affectées par le cancer

People who have had a personal experience of cancer, including patients, people living with cancer, cancer survivors, caregivers and family members.

percutaneous

percutané(e)

Through the skin.

percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy (PEG) tube

tube de gastrostomie endoscopique percutanée (GEP)

A feeding tube inserted directly into the stomach through the abdomen wall.

percutaneous endoscopic jejunostomy (PEJ) tube

tube de jéjunostomie endoscopique percutanée (JEP)

A feeding tube inserted through the abdomen directly into the small bowel (jejunum), bypassing the stomach.

peripheral neuropathy

neuropathie périphérique

Weaknesses, numbness, tingling or pain, usually in the hands and feet, caused by damage to the nerves that are located away from the brain and spinal cord (peripheral nerves). Can be a side effect of chemotherapy.

peripherally inserted central catheter (PICC)

cathéter central inséré par voie périphérique (CCIP)

A type of central venous access device that is inserted into a vein in the arm.

P cont.

peritoneal cancer

cancer du péritoine

A rare type of cancer that develops in the peritoneum, a thin layer of tissue that lines the abdomen. It also covers the uterus, bladder, and rectum.

PET scan (positron emission tomography)

tomographie par émission de positrons (TEP)

A type of scan that produces a three-dimensional image giving details on the structure and function of organs or tissues.

phantom pain

douleur fantôme

Pain felt in a limb or body part even though it has been surgically removed.

pituitary tumour

tumeur hypophysaire

A type of benign brain tumour.

placebo

placebo

A dummy pill or injection, which looks like the new treatment being tested in a clinical trial but contains no active ingredient.

placebo effect

effet placebo

Occurs when someone who is given a placebo (such as a sugar pill) feels an improvement, like a reduction in symptoms.

plasma

plasma

The fluid portion of blood in which the blood cells and platelets are suspended.

plastic surgeon

chirurgien ou chirurgienne plastique

A doctor specialising in surgery to restore skin and tissue to near-normal appearance and function. Also known as a reconstructive surgeon.

plastic surgery

chirurgie plastique

A type of surgery which focuses on reconstructing damaged or deformed parts of the body, or rebuilding parts that have been lost.

platelets

plaquettes

One of three types of cells found in the blood. Platelets help the blood to clot and stop bleeding. Also called thrombocytes.

P cont.

pleura	plèvre
The membrane that covers the ribcage and lines the lungs.	
pleural cavity	cavité pleurale
The space between the two layers of the pleura, which normally contains a small amount of fluid.	
pleural effusion	épanchement pleural
A build-up of fluid in the pleural cavity or space between the pleural membranes	
pleural tap	ponction pleurale
A procedure to remove air or fluid from the chest, using a hollow needle. Also known as thoracentesis.	
pneumonia	pneumonie
A bacterial infection in the lungs which causes some of the air sacs fill up with pus.	
polyp	polype
An abnormal growth that protrudes from a mucous membrane, often on a stalk.	
port-a-cath (port)	port-a-cath
A type of central venous access device. A thin tube put into a vein with an opening under the skin for delivering medicine.	
precancerous	précancéreux(se)
A condition that may become a cancer if it is not treated.	
pre-existing condition	affection médicale antérieure ou préexistante
An illness or injury that existed before applying for an insurance policy.	
premature menopause	ménopause précoce
See early menopause.	
prescription medicine	médicament sur ordonnance
Medicine that can only be given by a pharmacist after receiving authority from a doctor via a prescription.	
primary cancer	cancer primitif
The original part of the body where the cancer first develops.	
primary care	soins de première ligne
Health care provided in the community for people making an initial approach to a medical practitioner or clinic for advice or treatment.	

P cont.

primary central nervous system (CNS) lymphoma lymphome primaire du système nerveux central (LPSNC)

Cancer in the lymph tissue of the brain and/or spinal cord.

primary health care soins de santé primaires

The initial care provided in response to health problems. Usually in community-based settings such as in general practices, community health, other private practices, local government, and non-government service settings, or in the home.

primary health service service de santé primaire

The types of services delivered under primary health care are broad and include health promotion, prevention and screening, early intervention, treatment and management.

primary site site primitif

The part of the body where the cancer first develops.

progesterone progestérone

A female hormone.

progesterone receptors récepteurs de progestérone

Proteins within cancer cells that bind to the hormone progesterone (PR).

prognosis pronostic

The likely outcome of a person's disease.

prophylactic (preventative) mastectomy mastectomie prophylactique (préventive)

Surgery to remove one or both breasts to reduce the risk of developing breast cancer.

prostate prostate

A gland in the male reproductive system that produces most of the fluid that makes up semen.

prostate cancer cancer de la prostate

A type of cancer that occurs in the prostate, the male organ that sits next to the urinary bladder and contributes to semen (sperm fluid) production.

protein protéine

A molecule made up of amino acids that are needed for the body to function properly. Proteins are the basis of body structures such as skin and hair and of substances such as enzymes, cytokines and antibodies.

P cont.

protocol

protocole

Written instructions about how, when, where and who to complete a specific task. Protocols may refer to a clinical care process (i.e. chemotherapy or radiotherapy) or the working relationship between agencies.

psychiatrist

psychiatre

A doctor who specialises in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of mental, emotional, and behavioural disorders.

psychologist

psychologue

A health professional who talks with patients and their families about emotional and personal matters, and can help them make decisions.

psycho-oncologist

psycho-oncologue

A psychologist or psychiatrist who has special training and experience in the treatment of psychosocial aspects of cancer.

psycho-oncology

psycho-oncologie

A field of interdisciplinary study and practice at the intersection of lifestyle, psychology and oncology. It is concerned with aspects of cancer that go beyond medical treatment and include lifestyle, psychological and social aspects of cancer.

psychosocial

psychosocial

Relating to the interrelation of social factors and individual thought and behaviour.

puberty

puberté

The process of reaching sexual maturity and becoming capable of reproduction.

pulmonary

pulmonaire

Relating to the lungs.

pulmonary function tests

exploration fonctionnelle respiratoire

See lung function tests.

pulse analysis

analyse du pouls

A form of diagnosis used in traditional Chinese medicine where the practitioner feels a person's pulse – usually on the wrists – to determine the imbalances in their body.

Q

quality of life

qualité de vie

The general well-being of individuals and societies, encompassing negative and positive features of life. It observes life satisfaction, including everything from physical health, family, education, employment, wealth, religious beliefs, finance and the environment.

R

radiation

rayons

Energy in the form of waves or particles, including gamma rays, x-rays and ultraviolet (UV) rays. This energy is harmful to cells and is used in radiotherapy to destroy cancer cells.

radiation oncologist

radio-oncologue

A doctor who specialises in the treatment of cancer used targeted high energy X-rays.

radiation therapist

radiothérapeute

A health professional who administers radiotherapy.

radical treatment

traitement radical

Treatment given with the intention of curing or eliminating the underlying disease.

radioactive iodine

iode radioactif

A form of iodine often used for imaging tests or as a treatment for cancer. Also called RAI or I131.

radiographer

radiographe

A technician trained in taking x-ray pictures of parts of the body to diagnose illnesses and disorders.

radiologist

radiologue

A doctor who specialises in the use and interpretation of X-rays and other imaging devices (e.g. CT scans) in diagnosing disorders and diseases.

radiology

radiologie

The use of radiation and other imaging technologies to diagnose and treat disease.

R cont.

radiotherapy or radiation oncology

radiothérapie ou radio-oncologie

The use of radiation, usually x-rays or gamma rays, to kill tumour cells or injure them so they cannot grow or multiply.

radiotherapy or radiation oncology (breast cancer) radiothérapie ou radio-oncologie (cancer du sein)

The use of radiation, usually x-rays or gamma rays, to kill any cancer cells that may be left in the breast or armpit after surgery. It is usually recommended after breast conserving surgery. Sometimes it is also recommended after a mastectomy.

randomisation

randomisation

A method used to prevent bias in research. A computer assigns patients into groups by chance, rather than the researchers or doctors choosing the groups.

randomised controlled trial (RCT)

essai contrôlé randomisé (ECR)

A trial in which participants are randomly allocated to receive the new treatment (the intervention) or the standard treatment (the control).

rating of perceived exertion

échelle de perception de l'effort

A scientific way of telling how hard exercise is based on how it feels.

reconstructive surgeon

chirurgien ou chirurgienne de reconstruction

A doctor specialising in surgery to restore skin and tissue to near-normal appearance and function. Also known as a Plastic Surgeon.

recovery room

salle de réveil

A hospital room for the care of patients immediately after surgery.

rectal bleeding

saignements rectaux

Bleeding from the anus.

rectal cancer

cancer du rectum

Cancer that occurs in the rectum.

recurrence

récidive

The return of cancer after a time of remission.

recurrence (breast cancer)

récidive (cancer du sein)

The return of breast cancer after a time of remission. Can be local recurrence (in the same breast or same side chest wall) or distant recurrence (spread to other parts of the body, also known as metastases).

R cont.

recurrent cancer	récidive du cancer
A cancer that grows from the cells of a primary cancer that have evaded treatment.	
referral	orientation ou recommandation (selon le contexte)
The act of referring someone or something for consultation, review, or further action.	
referred pain	douleur projetée
Pain that is felt away from the area that is actually causing the pain.	
reflux	reflux
When stomach acid is released back up into the oesophagus. May cause a sensation of burning or discomfort in the oesophagus	
refractory disease	maladie réfractaire
Disease that does not respond to treatment. Also called resistant disease.	
registered health professional	professionnel de santé agréé
A health care provider who is required to be registered and approved by the government before working in their field.	
registrar	assistant des hôpitaux
An experienced doctor responsible for the care of a number of patients with the assistance of junior doctors (residents). A registrar sits below more senior surgeons, physicians or consultants.	
registration board	commission d'agrément
A board which is authorised by the government to oversee both the registration and professional standards of health care providers.	
rehabilitation	rééducation fonctionnelle
Programs which help to restore people to independence and a full, productive life after illness or injury. May include the use of prostheses, physiotherapy, occupational therapy programs and/or speech pathology, counselling and emotional support, and employment retraining.	
rehabilitation scheme	programme de rééducation fonctionnelle
A process aiming to return an employee to their previous level of work.	
relapse	rechute
The return of a disease, such as cancer, after a period of remission.	

R cont.

remission

rémission

Period of time when the symptoms of the cancer reduce or disappear. May be partial remission (there has been a significant improvement in the cancer) or complete remission (when there is no evidence of active disease). Remission does not always mean that the cancer is cured.

renal cell carcinoma

carcinome des cellules rénales

The most common form of kidney cancer. Cancerous cells develop in the lining of the kidney's tubules, tiny waste-carrying tubes within the kidney.

renal sarcoma

sarcome rénal

A rare cancer that affects the connective tissues of the kidney.

rescue treatment

traitement de rattrapage

A treatment given after a tumour has not responded to other treatments, or any treatment given after cancer recurrence. Also called salvage treatment.

resectable

résécable

Able to be surgically removed.

resection

résection

Surgical removal of a portion of any part of the body.

residual cancer

cancer résiduel

When cancer cells remain after treatment has been given.

respiratory

respiratoire

The parts of the body involved in breathing, including the nose, mouth, throat, trachea (windpipe), and lungs.

resuscitation

réanimation

The process of reviving someone who appears to be dead. For example, by heart massage or artificial respiration.

retinoblastoma

rétinoblastome

An eye cancer that begins in the back of the eye (retina), most commonly in children.

retrospective study

étude rétrospective

Research that looks at what has happened in the past to gain an understanding about why something is occurring in the present.

risk

risque

A measure of how likely a person is to develop a disease or a side effect.

R cont.

risk assessment

évaluation des risques

A process where a health professional will determine both the likelihood of an outcome based on an assessment of factors they know about cancer, its treatment, and individual characteristics. For example, they may consider the risk of recurrence, side effects, or changes to quality of life if a patient receives chemotherapy alone, or with radiation therapy.

risk factor

facteur de risque

A substance or condition that increases an individual's chances of getting a particular type of cancer.

rupture

rupture

When something breaks or splits open. For example, when a pouch created to store urine breaks .

S cont.

sentinel lymph node biopsy

biopsie du ou des ganglion(s) sentinelle(s)

A procedure where the sentinel lymph nodes (first lymph node to which cancer is likely to spread) are removed and examined for the presence of cancer.

seroma

sérome

Fluid that collects in or around a scar after surgery.

Sézary syndrome (lymphoma)

syndrome de Sézary (lymphome)

An erythrodermic form of cutaneous T-Cell lymphoma (CTCL).

side effect

effet secondaire

Something that occurs when treatment affects healthy tissues or organs. Common side effects of cancer treatment include fatigue, pain, nausea, vomiting, decreased blood cell counts, hair loss, and mouth sores.

sigmoidoscopy

sigmoidoscopie

A procedure to examine the sigmoid colon using a flexible tube with a light on it. It helps the doctor check for ulcers, abnormal cells, polyps or cancer. Also called a flexible sigmoidoscopy.

signet-ring tumour

tumeur en bague à chaton

A highly malignant type of tumour typically found in the glandular cells that line the digestive organs. The cells resemble signet rings when examined under a microscope.

skin cancer

cancer de la peau

A type of cancer that occurs in the tissues of the skin. Types include melanoma, basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma and neuroendocrine carcinoma of the skin.

slow release medicine

médicament d'action lente

See modified release medicine.

small bowel cancer

cancer de l'intestin grêle

An uncommon type of cancer that occurs in the small intestine. Types include adenocarcinoma, carcinoid tumours and sarcoma, including gastrointestinal stromal tumour (GIST).

small cell carcinoma

carcinome à petites cellules

A fast-growing type of lung cancer commonly caused by smoking. May also be referred to as oat cell cancer

S cont.

small cell lung cancer (SCLC)

cancer du poumon à petites cellules (CPPC)

A type of lung cancer. There are two types: small cell carcinoma (oat cell cancer) and combined small cell carcinoma.

small lymphocytic lymphoma

petit lymphome lymphocytaire

A slow-growing type of non-Hodgkin lymphoma in which too many immature lymphocytes (white blood cells) are found mostly in the lymph nodes. Also called SLL and well-differentiated lymphocytic lymphoma.

smear test

frottis

A test carried out on a sample of cells from the cervix to check for abnormalities that may be indicative of cervical cancer. Also referred to as a pap test or pap smear.

soft tissue sarcoma

sarcome des tissus mous

A type of cancer that develops from soft tissues like fat, muscle, nerves, fibrous tissues, blood vessels, or deep skin tissues.

somatostatinoma

somatostatine

A very rare type of neuroendocrine tumour that develops in the pancreas or small bowel.

speculum

spéculum

A metal instrument that is used to dilate an orifice or canal in the body to allow inspection.

spinal cord tumours

tumeurs de la moelle épinière

A type of tumour that develops within the spinal canal or within the bones of the spine. May be benign or malignant.

spinal tap

ponction lombaire

See lumbar puncture.

sporadic cancer

cancer sporadique

Cancer occurring in an individual without a family history of cancer.

squamous cell

cellule squameuse

One of the three types of cells that make up the skin's epidermis (top) layer.

squamous cell carcinoma (SCC)

carcinome squameux (CS)

A type of cancer found most commonly on skin, but also in inner linings of the body, for example, a lung.

S cont.

staging

stadification

The process of measuring how far a cancer has spread when it is first diagnosed. It often involves having scans and other tests.

standard treatment

traitement standard

The best proven treatment, based on results of past research.

standardisation

standardisation

The adoption of generally accepted uniform procedures, parts, dimensions, or materials that directly affect the design of a product, project or a service.

stem cell

cellule souche

A 'parent' cell from which blood cells evolve, which grows in bone marrow.

stem cell transplant

greffe de cellules souches

A treatment in which diseased blood cells are destroyed by high-dose chemotherapy or radiotherapy, then replaced by healthy stem cells. The healthy stem cells may come from the bone marrow (bone marrow transplant), from the bloodstream (peripheral blood stem cell transplant) or from the umbilical cord blood (cord blood transplant).

stent

endoprothèse

A device placed in a blood vessel or other passage in the body to keep the structure open.

steroids

stéroïdes

A class of drugs that are mostly used to reduce inflammation.

stoma

stomie

An artificial opening into the body created by surgery to act as an exit for body wastes.

stoma bag

poche de stomie

A bag or pouch used to cover a stoma and collect urine or faeces.

stomach cancer

cancer de l'estomac

A type of cancer that occurs in the tissue of the stomach. It often starts in the cells that line the mucosa.

stomal therapy nurse

stomathérapeute

A registered nurse who specialises in caring for people who have stomas.

stomatitis

stomatite

When the mucous membrane lining the mouth becomes inflamed and ulcers form.

stools

selles

The bulky mass of waste matter that leaves the body through the anus. Also known as faeces.

S cont.

survival rate

taux de survie

The percentage of people in a study or treatment group who are still alive for a certain period of time after they were diagnosed with or started treatment for a disease, such as cancer. Often stated as a five-year survival rate, which is the percentage of people in a study or treatment group who are alive five years after their diagnosis or the start of treatment. Also called overall survival rate.

survivorship

survie

Living with, through, and beyond cancer. According to this definition, cancer survivorship begins at diagnosis and includes people who continue to have treatment over the long term, to either reduce the risk of recurrence or to manage chronic disease.

syringe driver

pousse-seringue

A small, portable pump that is used in palliative care to deliver pain relief and other drugs (often a mixture of two or three drugs).

systemic treatment

traitement systémique

Drugs that treat the whole body. For example, chemotherapy, hormone therapy or targeted therapy.

T

Tamoxifen (Nolvadex)

Tamoxifène (Nolvadex)

A hormone therapy used to treat early and advanced stage breast cancers that are hormone receptor positive. Tamoxifen slows or stops the growth of these tumours by blocking oestrogen from attaching to hormone receptors in the cancer cells.

targeted therapies

traitements ciblés

Drugs that stop the growth of particular types of cancer cells, without harming normal cells. Herceptin and Tykerb are examples of a targeted therapy. Also called biological therapies.

T-cell

cellule T

A type of white blood cell. T-cells regulate the body's immune system in its job of fighting infection and other harmful things in the body.

T-cell lymphoma

lymphome T

A type of cancer that forms in T-cells. Most T-cell lymphomas are non-Hodgkin lymphomas.

TENS (transcutaneous electric nerve stimulation)

TENS (neurostimulation électrique transcutanée)

A pain relief technique involving applying a mild electric current to the skin pain occurs.

terminal

terminal

When illness or cancer cannot be cured and will eventually cause death.

terminal illness/terminal cancer

maladie terminale/cancer terminal

An illness or cancer that cannot be cured. Also called end-stage cancer.

testicular cancer

cancer du testicule

A type of cancer that develops in a testicle. Usually only one testicle is affected, but in some cases both are affected. Also known as cancer of the testis.

thrombocytopenia

thrombocytopénie

A condition in which there is a lower-than-normal number of platelets in the blood. It may result in easy bruising and excessive bleeding from wounds or bleeding in mucous membranes and other tissues.

T cont.

thrombosis

thrombose

A blood clot in a deep vein, usually in the legs.

thymoma and thymic carcinoma

thymome et carcinome thymique

Where cancer cells form on the outside surface of the thymus. Thymoma is linked with myasthenia gravis and other autoimmune diseases.

thyroid cancer

cancer de la thyroïde

A type of cancer that occurs in the thyroid.

tissue banking

banque de tissus

A process involving harvesting, processing, preservation, storage and distribution of various kinds of tissue for clinical and experimental practice. It may also be used to talk about taking tissue to save for future infertility treatment.

tissue biopsy

biopsie tissulaire

Examination of tissue which has been removed from the body under a microscope for abnormalities.

tissue

tissus

A collection of cells that make up each piece, or organ, of the body.

topical treatment

traitement topique

Treatment that is applied to an area of the skin as a cream, lotion or gel.

total body irradiation

irradiation totale

Radiotherapy to the entire body. Given so that all cells in the body receive the same amount of radiation.

toxicology

toxicologie

The study of poisonous substances. A branch of pharmacology.

tracheostomy

trachéostomie

An operation in which a hole is made at the base of the neck into the trachea, and through which a tube is passed to create a clear airway.

transarterial chemoembolisation (TACE)

chimio-embolisation par cathétérisme de l'artère

When chemotherapy is injected directly into a tumour and the blood vessels are closed off so the cancer is starved of oxygen and nutrients.

transfusion

transfusion

The process of transferring body fluid, such as blood, from one person into another.

T cont.

transitional cell carcinoma	carcinome transitionnel
A type of cancer within the renal pelvis and ureter.	
transplant	greffe
The process of taking living tissue or an organ and implanting it in another part of the body or in another body.	
trephine biopsy	biopsie au trépan
See bone marrow biopsy.	
trial of void	bilan urodynamique
Assesses the ability of the bladder to empty.	
triple negative breast cancer	cancer du sein triple négatif
A form of breast cancer that has no hormone or HER2 receptors. This means that neither oestrogen, progesterone nor the HER2 protein help the cancer to grow.	
tumour	tumeur
An abnormal growth or mass of tissue. May be benign or malignant.	
tumour markers	marqueurs tumoraux
Substances found at higher than normal levels in the blood, urine, or body tissue of some people with cancer. Also called biomarkers	
tumour node metastasis (TNM) system	systeme tumeur, nœud, métastases (TNM)
A staging system used by clinicians to describe how advanced a particular cancer is. This system also informs the type of treatment given.	
tumour progression	progression de la tumeur
The course of cancer, as it becomes worse or spreads in the body.	
tumour regression	régression de la tumeur
A decrease in the size of a tumour or the extent of cancer cells in the body.	

U

ulcerative colitis

colite ulcéreuse

Chronic inflammation of the colon that produces ulcers in its lining. Symptoms include abdominal pain, cramps, and loose discharges of pus, blood, and mucus from the bowel.

ultrasound, ultrasound scan

échographie

An imaging method that uses high-frequency sound waves to produce images of structures within the body. The images provide information for diagnosing and treating a variety of diseases and conditions

ultraviolet (UV) radiation

rayons ultraviolets (UV)

A type of energy produced by the sun and some artificial sources, such as solariums. The sun's ultraviolet (UV) radiation is the main cause of skin cancer.

unregistered health practitioner

professionnel de santé non agréé

A health care provider who doesn't need to be registered with a government registration board but can practise in their field as long as they meet professional requirements.

unresectable

non résécable

Unable to be removed with surgery. Also called irresectable or inoperable.

urethral cancer

cancer de l'urètre

A rare type of cancer that occurs in the urethra, the tube that carries urine from the bladder to outside the body. The most common type is squamous cell carcinoma.

urinary incontinence

incontinence urinaire

The inability to hold urine in the bladder due to loss of voluntary control over the urinary sphincters resulting in the involuntary passage of urine.

urologist

urologue

A doctor who specialises in diseases of the urinary or urogenital tract

urothelial carcinoma

cancer urothélial

Cancer that begins in urothelial cells, which line the urethra, bladder, ureters, renal pelvis, and some other organs. Also called transitional cell cancer.

U cont.

uterine cancer

cancer de l'utérus

A type of cancer that develops in the tissues of the uterus, the small, hollow, pear-shaped organ in a woman's pelvis in which a foetus develops. There are two types of uterine cancer: endometrial cancer (which begins in cells lining the uterus) and uterine sarcoma (a rare cancer that begins in muscle or other tissues in the uterus).

uterine sarcoma

sarcome utérin

A type of cancer that develops in the muscles of the uterus or other tissues that support the uterus.

V

vaccine

vaccin

A substance or group of substances meant to cause the immune system to respond to a tumour or to microorganisms, such as bacteria or viruses

vaginal cancer

cancer du vagin

A type of cancer that occurs in the vagina, the canal leading from the cervix (the opening of uterus) to the outside of the body.

vaginal dilator

dilatateur vaginal

Tube-shaped devices designed to stretch the vagina. Often made of plastic and come in various sizes.

vaginismus

vaginisme

The involuntary spasm, contraction or reflex of the muscles surrounding the entrance to the vagina, making penetration impossible and/or painful.

vas deferens

canal déférent

The tube that carries the sperm out of the testes.

vascular tumours (soft tissue sarcoma)

tumeurs vasculaires (sarcome des tissus mous)

A type of tumour formed from blood vessels. For example, hemangioma, Lymphangioma, hemangioendothelioma, Kaposi sarcoma, angiosarcoma, hemangioblastoma,

venous access device

dispositif d'accès veineux

A catheter or other intravenous device surgically placed under the skin to provide access to veins.

verrucous carcinoma

carcinome verruqueux

A rare, slow-growing type of vulvar cancer that looks like a large wart.

V cont.

VIPomas

vipomes

A rare neuroendocrine tumour of the endocrine tissue especially found in the pancreas that secretes vasoactive intestinal peptide (VIP).

vital signs

signes vitaux

Signs of life, specifically: pulse rate, respiratory rate, body temperature, and blood pressure.

vitamins

vitamines

Nutrients that the body needs in small amounts to function and stay healthy. Sources of vitamins are plant and animal food products and dietary supplements.

vulvar cancer

cancer de la vulve

A type of cancer that occurs in any part of the external female genitals. Most commonly develops in the labia minora (inner lips), the labia majora (outer lips), and the perineum (skin between the vagina and the anus).

W

watchful waiting

surveillance active

Closely watching a patient's condition but not giving treatment unless symptoms appear or change.

western medicine

médecine conventionnelle

A system in which medical doctors and other healthcare professionals (such as nurses, pharmacists, and therapists) treat symptoms and diseases using drugs, radiation, or surgery. Also called allopathic medicine, biomedicine, conventional medicine, mainstream medicine, and orthodox medicine.

wide local excision

excision chirurgicale étendue

Surgery to cut out the cancer and some healthy tissue around it.

Wilms' tumour

tumeur de Wilms

A type of cancer that starts in the kidneys. It is the most common type of kidney cancer in children.

withdrawal symptoms

symptômes de sevrage

The unpleasant physical reaction that accompanies the process of ceasing to take an addictive drug.

X

X-ray

rayon X

Radiation, that at low levels can be used to make images inside the body. For example, mammogram is an X-ray of the breast.

Australian Cancer Survivorship Centre

A Richard Pratt Legacy



Australian Cancer Survivorship Centre

Locked Bag 1, A'Beckett Street

Melbourne VIC 8006

Phone: 03 8559 6220

Email: contactacsc@petermac.org

petermac.org/cancersurvivorship

For additional copies of this publication or to
provide feedback, please email:

contactacsc@petermac.org