

New unit at Adapei

Adapei Var-Méditerranée has just been selected to create a residential unit of six places for autistic adults in very complex situation. This is a new and local response for people currently without a solution, which will prevent them from breaking their course. This unit, called UR-22, will be attached to the MAS (Specialized host house) named Les Acacias in Pierrefeu du Var, 20 km from Toulon. 22 positions are open to form the team that will take up this challenge in brand new equipment six specialized educators, six AES/AMP (accompanied educational social worker / medico-psychological aid) and ten caregivers. Adapei launches a call to mobilize the most candidates and be ready for the opening of the unit.

<https://adapei-varmed.fr/mission-ur-22>

Treatments



Photo doc Franz Chavaroché

News for BLADDER CANCER

In the case of metastatic urothelial cancer, maintenance immunotherapy may be offered immediately after chemotherapy.

UA study presented in 2020 at ASCO (1) questioned the interest, in the case of metastatic bladder cancer, of planning maintenance immunotherapy with avelumab, immediately after first-line treatment, to maintain the effectiveness of chemotherapy. The convincing results of this study were presented at the Onco UroVar congress in early October in Toulon, by Dr Ophélie Cassuto, medical oncologist at the Saint-Georges clinic in Nice.

A disease that is very aggressive

"Metastatic urothelial cancer is a very aggressive disease with a high risk of progression. Median patient survival is only 14 to 15 months. It is treated with conventional chemotherapy (cytotoxic with

platinum-based combinations) and, possibly, second-line immunotherapy which intervenes in the event of ineffectiveness of chemotherapy or recurrence. While chemotherapy destroys (cancer) cells that renew themselves too quickly, immunotherapy will allow to boost the immune system in order to fight the cancer »

A great number of patients however, cannot access this second-line immunotherapy because their condition is already too degraded, due to cancer or comorbidities.

Very well tolerated

"Maintenance immunotherapy with avelumab presented in the study takes place immediately after chemotherapy, without waiting for recurrence as is the case for second-line immunotherapy. It is possible provided that the chemo has allowed for a control of the disease that is to say a stabilization or an improvement of lesion » continues Dr Cassuto. This maintenance immunotherapy

" It allows to increase overall survival patients from 14 to 21 months.

is very well tolerated, but there are contraindications (which are not the same as for chemotherapy), especially for patients with autoimmune diseases or under immunosuppression.

(eg transplant patients).

From now on refunded

The results of the study are convincing: *" Maintenance immunotherapy with avelumab increases overall patient survival by 14 to 21 months"* says Dr. Cassuto. Avelumab therefore received marketing authorization (MA) in France for this indication in January 2020 and has now been reimbursed for a few months. *" This is a good thing, because there is a real need to improve the overall survival of these patients. »*

C. MARTINAT
cmartinat@nicematin.fr

1- American society of clinical oncology, the most important cancerology congress in the world.