

# PRESS RELEASE

18th July 2022

## EpiCURA obtains Gold accreditation, a guarantee of quality and safety!

EpiCURA has received a Gold accreditation attesting to the care quality and safety provided to patients, regarding international norms of excellence. Awarded by Accreditation Canada on the basis of version 4 of its standards, this label strengthens EpiCURA's positioning in Mons-Borinage and Ath regions and confirms its status as a key player in the Belgian hospital landscape !

### EpiCURA is accredited, "finally! »

EpiCURA began its accreditation journey in 2018. A path strewn with pitfalls due to the COVID-19 crisis, which imposed an additional delay on the process, forcing Accreditation Canada to postpone the scheduled assessment visits within the institution. The pandemic, although exhausting, did not discourage the hospital's teams. The staff kept going and worked hard on a daily basis to improve practices, all departments combined, deploying all their energy to care for COVID and non-COVID patients. A little later than expected, this consistency in the teams' professionalism of is now rewarded ! "We are delighted to have obtained this approval, which officially attests to the care's quality and safety that EpiCURA provides to its patients. This is great recognition for the approximately 3,000 professionals who work at EpiCURA on a daily basis. It is thanks to them that the hospital group is a key player in the Belgian hospital landscape, and an institution in which patients can trust !"

> François Burhin, EpiCURA's CEO

### A label of trust for patients

In addition to the recognition and pride that accreditation instils in the institution's staff, it participates in the demonstration that EpiCURA is a hospital group in which patients can trust, offering a qualitative and safe dimension at each stage of care. François Burhin, EpiCURA's CEO, emphasizes: "Continuous improvement is one of EpiCURA's priorities, a hospital group which was, is and will remain a reliable and forward-looking one, constantly seeking progress for the patients' benefit".

#### What is "accreditation", exactly?

The accreditation of a hospital establishment is a method of external evaluation, generally voluntary, carried out by an authorized independent organism. It refers to a professional approach by which a care establishment provides proof that it satisfies, in its operation and practices, a set of formalized requirements presented in the form of a reference system.

It is important to differentiate accreditation and authorization to operate. On the one hand, the authorization to operate is legal and guarantees that the minimum conditions are met by the hospital. Accreditation, on the other hand, is a voluntary process allowing the analysis of the functioning of the institution aiming to continuously improving the care's quality and safety offered to patients and visitors.

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