

Thomas Tursz

Professor Thomas TURSZ was born in Krakow, Poland in 1946.

MD 1972 – PhD 1977, Professor of Oncology at the Faculty of Medicine Paris-Sud (1986).

He is:

- Honorary General Director of the *Institut Gustave-Roussy* (IGR), since October 1st 2010;
- Professor Emeritus of Oncology- University of Paris-Sud/Paris XI since September 1st, 2011.

He has been:

- General Director of the *Institut Gustave-Roussy* (IGR), 1994-2010;
- Director of the Doctoral School of Oncology: “Biology – Medicine – Health”, since 2000;
- President of the French Federation of Comprehensive Anticancer Centres (FNCLCC), 2004-2010;
- Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) of the EORTC (2003-2006) and Vice-President of EORTC Board, 2006-2009;
- President (Chairman) of the OECl (Organisation of the European Cancer Institutes, 2002-2005;
- Elected Member of the European Academy of Cancer Sciences, since 2009;
- Member of several Scientific Advisory Committees of several major Cancer Centers (Cancer Center Karolinska, Stockholm, Sweden, *Institut Jules Bordet*, Brussels, Belgium, *Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori*, Milan, Italy, European Institute of Oncology, Milan, Italy, *Institut Curie*, Paris, France).

Thomas Tursz is both a medical oncologist and a researcher. He was the Director of the *CNRS* Biology of Tumours Laboratory (URA CNRS 1156) at the IGR from 1984 to 1996 and Head of the Department of Medicine from 1992 to 1994. He was President of the International Association for Research on the Epstein - Barr virus and Associated Diseases from 1994 to 1996.

From the clinical point of view, his Department has conducted several important trials in breast, lung cancer and soft tissue sarcomas and was a pioneer in France of cytokines and gene therapy in human clinical trials. Former Secretary of the Soft Tissue and Bone Sarcoma Group of the EORTC, he was Chairman of this Group from 1993 to 1996. In 1994, the first trial on gene therapy in lung cancer using a recombinant adenovirus was initiated in his department at the Institut Gustave Roussy.

Under his Directorship, the Institut Gustave Roussy (IGR) has become a European leader in the field of the molecular and genetic classification of human tumours, and is now one of the very first institute in the field of early clinical trials for innovative targeted agents, and a world leader in the innovative new area of personalized treatments of cancers.

His work has been awarded several prestigious scientific prizes such as the Oncology Award *Prix de Cancérologie* from the French National League against Cancer in 1979, the Bernard-Halpern Immunology Award in 1983, the Rosen Oncology Award from the Medical Research Foundation in 1989 and the *Grand Prix* in Oncology from the French Academy of Medicine in 1992, the Hamilton Fairley Award for Clinical Research from the European Society of Medical Oncology (ESMO) in 1998 and the *Prix du rayonnement français* in 2001.

He is the author of 350 international papers in peer-reviewed journals including Science, Nature, PNAS, JNCI, JCO, J. Biol. Chem., EMBO J., Lancet, Lancet Oncology, Brit Med J.