

**Business
Solution**

**Market
Intelligence**

Product

**AMI Enterprise
Discovery**

Context

The National Institute of the Cancer (INCA), created in law on August 9th, 2004 has been operational since May 2005. Created by a plan of national mobilisation against cancer, the Institute coordinates all parties and organisations involved in the fight against cancer and promotes, at an international level, policies of health.

It supports the needs of patients by facilitating the distribution of new information and innovation and by creating awareness of the disease, respectful of the individuals needs and assuming responsibility for all their requirements throughout its course. Patients are directly involved in the work of the Institute, which is also responsible for actions related to prevention and tracking.

The Institute implements and coordinates the policy of research on cancer and manages programs in collaboration with INSERM, CNRS and other leading institutions. It facilitates the integration of French research into European and international programs. The Institute monitors and evaluates the actions of a network of organisations. Developed on an inter-regional basis, these constitute meeting points to ensure consistency across all organisations involved in cancer research.

It is done in an effort to guarantee that each patient receives the highest possible quality of care by determining best practices, by making sure that the patient is dealt with in a multi-field way and by managing the coordination of respective local plans. It also works to support the teams involved and to modernise equipment.

Scientific Intelligence Monitoring Project

One of the missions for the INCA is to become the defacto reference source regarding information about all aspects of cancer, for patients and their close relatives, health professionals, and the general public. To support this objective, the decision was taken to set up a formal intelligence gathering plan allowing the INCa to :

- Have the information necessary to enable better decision making within the framework of its strategic, scientific and technological missions.
- Disseminate reliable and up to date information to its partners and the general public,
- Anticipate questions from members of the general public.
- Optimise collaboration between departments.

The intelligence gathering plan was thus defined as a system making it possible to collect information on cancer, validate it and share it across the various departments of the INCA. The provision of information to partners and the general public is also undertaken by these same departments within the framework of their various missions and after re-processing of information obtained.

Detailed attention was paid at two points in the design and the installation of the device. It is about the qualification of the sources of information and the expertise on the documents gone up by the device of day before.

The specialised sources of information are of varied types and formats. It was therefore necessary to qualify the sources using four levels of proof:

- General public sources and online discussion groups,
- Non-Government Sources,
- Government Sources and State Agencies,
- Scientific Publications validated by qualified peers.

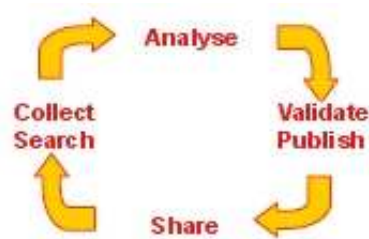
The objective was to have a prior indication as to the reliability of information according to its source. At the time of sorting the results of the collected data each document is analysed and a level of confidence and relevance is applied according to its content and origin. The process is managed by a dedicated team of Researchers.

In certain cases, documents are submitted to experts. These may be documents relating to subjects that require immediate attention or form the basis of a significant change to the existing core foundation knowledge in a particular area: for example, a study confirms that a particular substance does have a cancerous risk factor associated with it, a treatment is regarded as effective and can be used as a standard treatment or a new technique can be used for examination or tracking. This expertise is operated by batch documentation, a batch having to contain at least two documents of comparable nature.

In the longer term, an accessible data base of up to date information on all aspects of cancer is being developed for the general public and professionals. The Intelligence team also has the role of producing the documentary resources necessary for full exploitation of the data (thesaurus, online document products etc,...).

Automation of the entire process

Taking into account the huge range of sources publishing information relating to cancer and the volume of documents having to be analysed, validated and then distributed, the INCa very quickly sought a software solution that would allow them to automate the entire process.



The product selected was AMI Enterprise Intelligence and INCa's requirements have formed the basis certain functional developments within AMI Enterprise Intelligence. The following operations are carried out:

- Full automation of data collection based on scenarios corresponding to all the various aspects of cancer (histology of tumours, localisation etc), diagnostic treatments, examinations, research, problems of public health for which the organisation is responsible, epidemiology, and aspects of everyday life. The number of sources referenced is more than 100 and this is constantly evolving. The service is multilingual in order to take full account of the various international sources.
- More punctual and accurate processes for validating documents identified by the automated collection.
- Selection, enrichment and publication of the documents collected via a workflow of validation by experts and correspondents of the INCA. Particular care is taken in the selection of recognised documents, "grey" literature is considered in a specific way.
- Recording of indexed documents, of all formats, and merged in a specific and self-evolving classification plan..
- Distribution of the selected information within the INCA.

Each operation is carried out using one of the respective applications within AMI Enterprise Intelligence.

An operational and effective solution

Currently, three analysts are in charge of this process and use the data collection and publication functionality of AMI Enterprise Intelligence. The sources are analysed daily and the selection and distribution of information is carried out in the morning. The documents are made available to collaborative users of the INCa service via an Extranet. In the short term provision is being made to make information accessible to the general public via the Institute's website.

Daily volumetric stats are as follows (for 98 declared sources):

- Number of collected documents: from 35 to 50 according to days of the week.
- Number of distributed documents: from 20 to 35

The system has been in productive use since October 2005. After six months use 2250 key documents are available online to INCa staff and their partner organisations, divided across a classification comprising 25 headings. Almost all the information collected comes from primary sources, i.e. those which actually produced the information originally and do not, on the whole, result from specialised Portals or aggregated newswires.

