

Rational use of innovations in national cancer policy and their incorporation into national cancer control programmes (NCCPs) and/or strategies



CanCon
Cancer Control Joint Action

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Why is cancer management important?

Management of cancer is inherently complex

Only through adequate planning health systems can begin to respond to population needs by addressing the whole span of the cancer management:

- health promotion (primary prevention)
- screening (secondary prevention) and early detection,
- diagnosis and treatment introduced quickly and effectively,
- cover all the needs of cancer patients post treatment ranging from survivorship support to life prolonging treatments and all types of palliative care.

National Cancer Control Programmes are a logical response to this important challenge

What are National Cancer Control Plans/Programmes and why do they matter?

*“A public health programme designed to **reduce cancer incidence and mortality and improve quality of life of cancer patients**, through the systematic and equitable implementation of evidence-based strategies for the prevention, early detection, diagnosis, treatment and palliation, making the best use of available resources”*

*“The establishment of national cancer control programmes offers the **most rational means of achieving a substantial degree of cancer control**, even where resources are severely limited”.*

WHO (2002). National Cancer Control Programmes, Policies and managerial guidelines. 2nd Edition. Accessed 15 Nov 2016. Available at: <http://www.who.int/cancer/media/en/408.pdf>

What are the aims of National Cancer Control Plan?

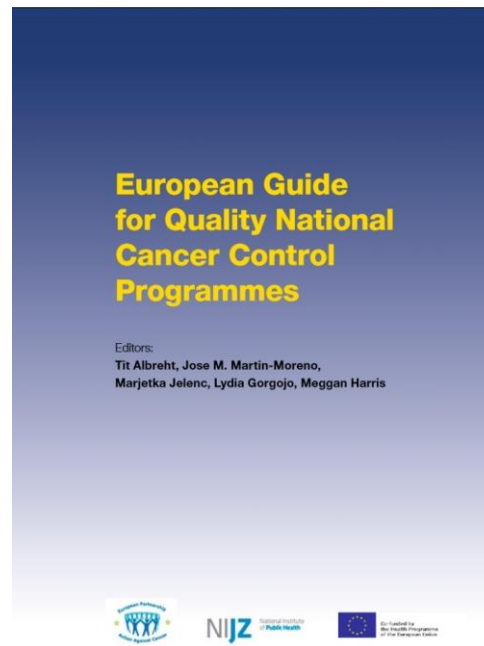
This complex task requires action at all levels of the health system and beyond, including aspects related to:

- Leadership and vision
- Policy development and management
- Financing, resource generation and allocation
- Coordination of health and social services
- Social participation, including patient participation
- Better use of scientific evidence
- Monitoring
- Evaluation

What are the Objectives?

- Better structuring of cancer control management and of all its key elements
- Making cancer care and its management more transparent
- Increasing the involvement of all stakeholders
- Justifying and promoting the integration of new models of care and elements of cancer management

Summary of the components of an effective and high quality NCCCP



European Guide for Quality National Cancer Control Programmes

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Partnerships can drive change to policy that have benefits across the health system

Health systems and governments

- ❖ clear management
- ❖ transparent need and use of resources needed
- ❖ oversight and integration

Citizens and patients

- ❖ Primary prevention
- ❖ Health promotion
- ❖ Cancer screening
- ❖ Diagnosis and treatment
- ❖ Psychosocial oncology care
- ❖ Survivorship and rehabilitation
- ❖ Palliative and end-of-life care

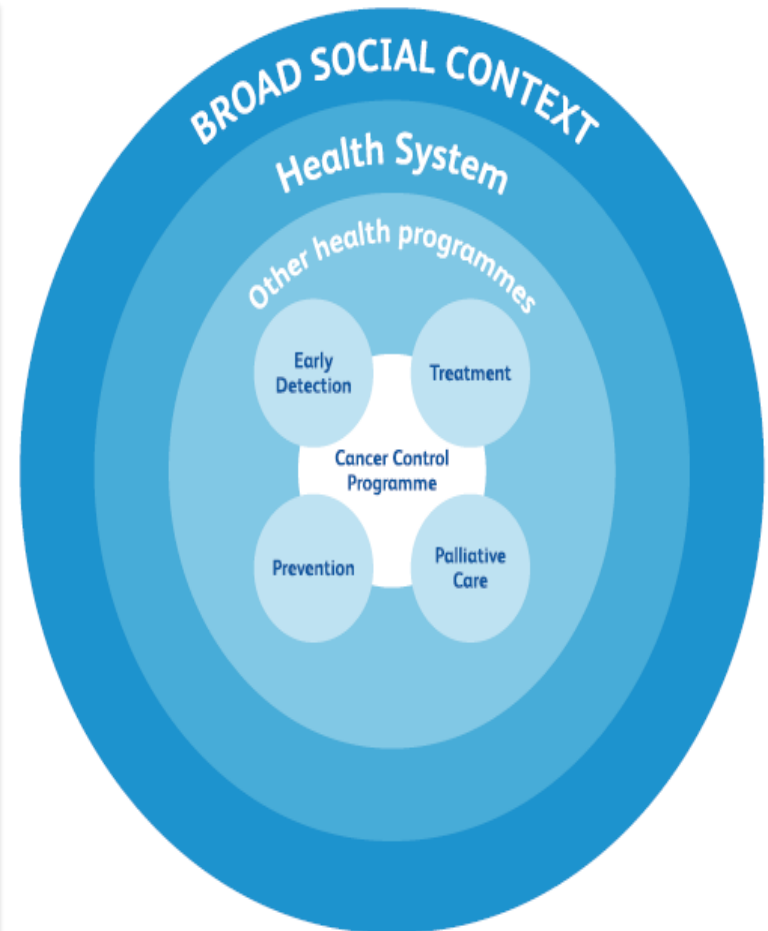
Health care providers

- ❖ Successfully treated patients
- ❖ Satisfaction of patients and their families
- ❖ Disease detected at an early stage (screening)
- ❖ Better management and planning of cancer services
- ❖ Sustainable financing of comprehensive cancer services
- ❖ Better infrastructure
- ❖ Adequate human resources
- ❖ Developed national cancer research agenda
- ❖ Access to innovative cancer treatments

Elements of a comprehensive and a well-balanced NCCP

The most important aspects of a quality NCCP are:

- ✓ Primary prevention
- ✓ Health promotion
- ✓ **Cancer screening**
- ✓ **Diagnosis and treatment**
- ✓ Psychosocial oncology care
- ✓ Survivorship and rehabilitation
- ✓ Palliative and end-of-life care
- ✓ **Governance (management and planning of cancer services)**
- ✓ **Financing**
- ✓ **Cancer resources (human resources, infrastructure, health technology, cancer specific expenditure)**
- ✓ **Cancer data and information**
- ✓ **Research**
- ✓ **Access to innovative cancer treatments**
- ✓ Patient orientation/patient empowerment



Source: Adapted from National Cancer Control Programmes Policies and managerial guidelines 2nd Edition, WHO 2002

Mapping of cancer care and pathways

- For the reasons of complexity and comprehensiveness of cancer care, it is necessary to do proper **mapping of cancer care** and develop adequate **cancer patient pathways**
- This is necessary also in order to draw attention to **all the needs** of cancer patients, which cannot be limited only to immediate diagnosis and treatment
- **National Cancer Plans/Strategies** are also one of the important instruments in trying to organise and structure cancer care
- Such a structure can provide the **framework** allowing the proper planning of the necessary **resources (human, financial, infrastructural)**

Two key blocks in cancer control

Health promotion and prevention

Cancer care, rehabilitation,
survivorship and palliative care
issues

Innovations as a part of comprehensive cancer care

Innovations are envisaged in the Guide in several of the chapters, but most importantly in the chapters on care and on cancer research.

We need to be aware and take into account:

- The **intensity of research in cancer** and
- The developments and advances in the **organisation and delivery of cancer care**

Policymakers need to develop a system for a seamless incorporation of innovations in the current and forthcoming cancer care.

A mechanism needs to be developed at the national level, whereby:

- There is a **rational, timely and cost-effective introduction of innovations** into current care guidelines and protocols
- Networking of professionals and researchers needs to walk hand in hand with the decision makers and evaluators participating in the **assessment of societal impacts**

Options for the modifications in approaches in the future

1. Traditionally, cancer policy used to be based on a generalised population approach.
2. Developments and advances in the field of genomics are a challenge in showing the need for a stratification of populations as a whole and also the sub-populations of patients.
3. Stratification of screening for cancer for detection of pre-cancerous disease and early stages might become more common
4. Stratification of patients for the purposes of treatment is already a reality to an important degree
5. This might not be a threat but mostly an opportunity to increase the focus in diagnosis and treatment with the aim of improving outcomes and quality of cancer care.

Thank You