

European Perspective Progress from the EU Cancer Mission



Christine Chomienne
Vice-Chair Horizon Europe Cancer Mission Board



The Mission-oriented research and innovation approach

2018



2019



« Missions provide a **solution**, an **opportunity**, and an **approach** to address the numerous **challenges** that people face in their daily lives ».

“The solution is then reached by **stimulating multiple sectors** and multiple forms of **cross-actor collaborations** to work to address those problems using the **entire research and innovation value chain**, from fundamental research to applied research and cutting-edge innovation.



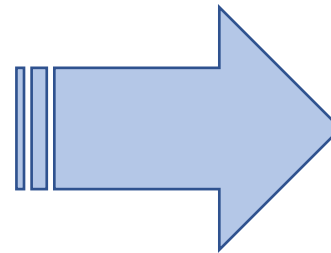
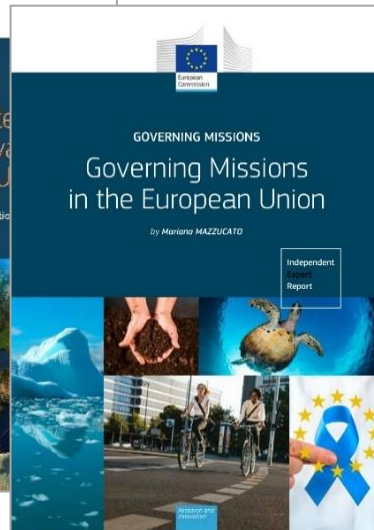
Professor Mariana Mazzucato



2018



2019



09/2020



09/2021





Cancer Mission Board report

Recommendation 9: Achieve Health Equity in the EU across the continuum of the disease

Substantial inequities exist in access to and quality of cancer prevention, screening, early detection, treatment, care and survivorship support between Member States and among different socio-economic and demographic groups (age, gender) within Member States.

The causes of these inequities should be analysed and strategies should be developed to overcome them. This requires an in-depth understanding of their underlying factors at all levels of the health system. In addition, more knowledge is needed to better understand interactions between (multiple) behavioural and environmental risk

Policy support to improve access to health promotion, effective RTW policies, mental health ...asserting the right to be forgotten

Support to screening programmes; policy support and facilitation of collaboration to accelerate and monitor access to new diagnostics, treatments and drugs; **policy support to improve** access to health promotion, **effective return-to-work policies**, mental health and social care for patients, survivors and their families, asserting the 'right to be forgotten' (in line with recommendations 7 and 8).

Cancer Mission Board report

Recommendation 13: Transform cancer culture, communication and capacity building

It is proposed to develop a coherent set of cross-cutting, cross-sector actions to

Europeans still hold on to traditional views and data on cancer, reflected in stigmatisation and discrimination of patients and survivors

become common in cancer care, as in healthcare in general, a paradigm shift is needed towards person-centred, rather than disease-centred, care. This calls for individualisation and co-creating health and wellbeing with patients and their carers. **European citizens and societies still hold on to traditional views on cancer, reflected in stigmatisation and discrimination of patients and survivors, and resulting in substantial preventable disease burden.**

To support the uptake of accurate and up-to-date knowledge about cancer (joining on going efforts, such as for example JRC's Cancer Knowledge Centre), and stimulate communication and understanding on current scientific insights, it is proposed to develop and exploit an EU-wide Cancer R&I Dissemination and Communication Facility using accessible language and citizen-/stakeholder- adapted communication tools.

Furthermore, it is recommended that national and EU-wide capacity building be developed and supported in order to adapt the skills and competences of all stakeholders in the changing field of cancer. This includes **training all stakeholders** and education programmes/campaigns to **raise awareness among the general public including children and adolescents** in line with up-to-date scientific knowledge on cancers, their symptoms, risk factors, preventability, treatment options and impact on patients, survivors, their families and carers, and citizens with an increased risk of cancer.



Cancer Mission Board report

Recommendation 7: Develop an EU-wide research programme and policy support to improve the quality of life of cancer patients and survivors, family members and carers, and all persons with an increased risk of cancer

patients, survivors and their carers, and all citizens with an increased risk of cancer. This research programme should start by gaining a comprehensive understanding of the holistic needs of all (subgroups) exposed to cancer. Together with this, appropriate methods and metrics should be developed to

It is therefore recommended that countries be supported to develop and implement policies and strategies to help cancer survivors assert the 'right to be forgotten', counteract discrimination and strengthen the legal position of individuals with a family history of cancer, cancer patients, survivors and carers

...implementing a health passport for people living with and after cancer, and to help survivors achieve their personal life goals (e.g. related to work, family life). It is therefore recommended that countries be supported to develop and implement policies and strategies to help cancer survivors assert the 'right to be forgotten', counteract discrimination and strengthen the legal position of individuals with a family history of cancer, cancer patients, survivors and carers. Support should also be offered to improve access to health promotion, mental health and social care for each of these groups in all Member States. The research programme and policy support will both link to actions resulting from recommendations 5, 6, 9 and 13, while also feeding the proposed European Cancer Patient Virtual Centre (recommendation 8) and providing evidence and support to the Europe's Beating Cancer Plan.



Cancer Mission Board report

Recommendation 11: Create a European Cancer Patient Digital Center where cancer patients and survivors.

This recommendation involves the creation of a European Cancer Patient Digital Centre (ECPDC), i.e. a virtual network of patient-controlled (national) health data infrastructures, in which cancer patients and survivors can deposit their health data provided by their medical care providers (e.g. imaging, genetics, blood markers, clinical and lifestyle data) in a standardised,

For survivors and their families, the ECPDC will also be a global point of contact, offering guidance and support on returning to work, addressing financial issues and asserting survivors' rights

ECPDC will be a centre of knowledge on cancer, cancer prevention and health promotion, diagnostics, treatment and supportive care. For survivors and their families, the ECPDC will also be a global point of contact, offering guidance and support on returning to work, addressing financial issues and asserting survivors' rights. Data within the ECPDC will serve as a valuable resource for research to improve understanding of cancer and its impact on patients' and survivors' lives, thus contributing to the development of improved diagnostics, treatment, care and quality of life support (recommendations 1 and 2, 4 to 7, 9, 13). In line with the European data strategy put forward by the European Commission, the ECPDC will give a voice to patients and survivors, enable them to enforce their rights, and increase their confidence in sharing their data for cancer research, innovation and policy development.



Cancer Mission Board report

Recommendation 11: Childhood cancers and cancers in AYA: cure more and cure better

Cancer is the leading cause of death in Europe in children above one year of age. This cancer patient population is characterised by multiple types of rare cancers, unique to this population with specific epidemiological, biological and clinical features. Whereas cancers in adults typically result from long-term processes, paediatric cancers develop early in life and over a much shorter period, suggesting that fewer but stronger events play a causal role. In addition to cancers that develop in early childhood, cancers in adolescents and young adults also require special attention, as their biological characteristics are distinct from (early) childhood cancers (and from cancers developing later in life). Given that incidence rates have been increasing continuously over the last decades, it is obvious that we need to

Discrimination of survivors when taking out insurance or mortgage or applying for a job must be banned

not only p... also practical (time from work) and financial
Discrimination of survivors when taking out insurance or mortgage, or applying for a job must be banned.
EU-wide programme to improve the quality of life should be based on broad research among experts by experience. Treatment of up to 60 %, which is related to off-patent, off-label drug supply. Of all cancer medicines developed in the last decade (>150), only 6 % (9) were approved for children. Improving survival requires well-tested novel anti-cancer drugs tailored to specific tumour entities and age groups. A synergistic mission drawing on existing ambitious EU networks and aligned with the Europe's Beating Cancer Plan, **focusing on the complex needs of paediatric cancer patients, survivors and their families** could boost the transformation of paediatric cancer care and generate the evidence needed to advance diagnostic, treatment and survivorship support

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Citizens' feedback

For cancer survivors, support to return to an active and normal life has priority, including reintegrating to work, adapted or not, access to insurances and other financial products and economic support to guarantee the basic need as good living conditions.

Diagnosis & Treat
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ss to treat- ment and
health care facilities.
s to clinical trials and
therapies.
ment to patient's needs,
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d up-to-date information to
istic expectations and

Support quality of life
•The EU...
Information and...
Information for citizens.
•The concept of quality of life is understood differently across EU Member States.
•Include mental health and psychological support in default treatments as psycho-social issues need more attention.
•Attention for family of cancer patients and survivors is needed, not only psycho-social but also practical (time from work) and financial
•Discrimination of survivors when taking out insurance or mortgage, or applying for a job must be banned.
•EU-wide programme to improve the quality of life should be based on broad research among experts by experience.

An EU-based platform should collect and share promotional materials and comprehensive information to support patients, family members and the wider public.

•More education and information for citizens is needed on a range of issues.
•Encourage cooperation across Member States with the EU in a leadership role.
•Citizens and patients need to be more involved in research and developing interventions.
•An EU-based platform should collect and share promotional materials and comprehensive information to support patients, family members and the wider public.



European Commission Two initiatives to fight Cancer Launched in 2021

**DG RTD: Horizon Europe Missions
Implementation Plan September 2021**



**DG Santé: Europe's Beating Cancer Plan
February 2021**

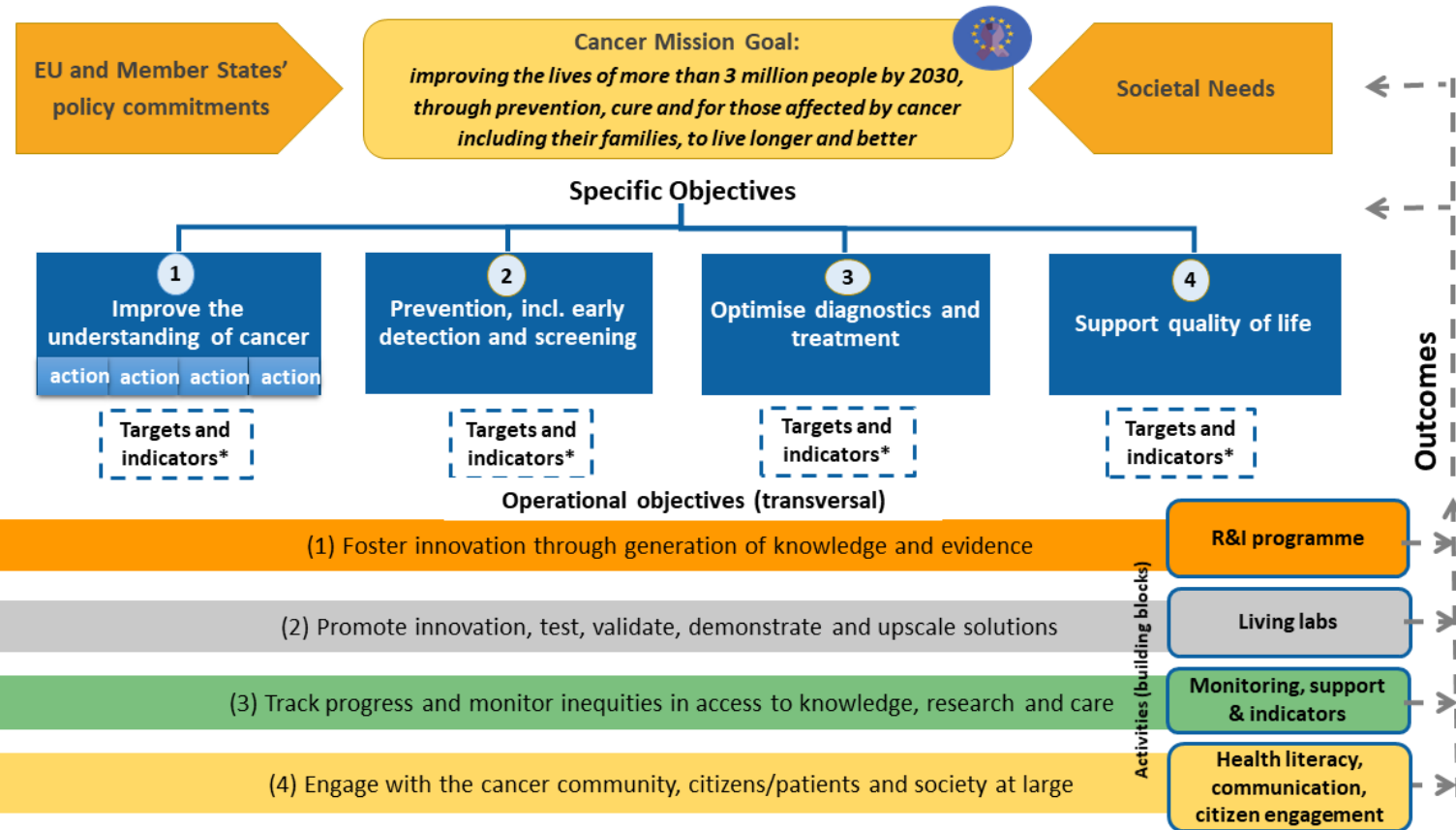


**BECA Committee
European Parliament resolution on strengthening
Europe in the fight against cancer February 2022**





Cancer Mission Implementation Plan



* Quantitative and qualitative targets, based on evidence and monitored through a set of output, outcomes, impact indicators

Competitive Calls

Portfolio approaches
For Pediatric Cancers

New Networks
New Synergies

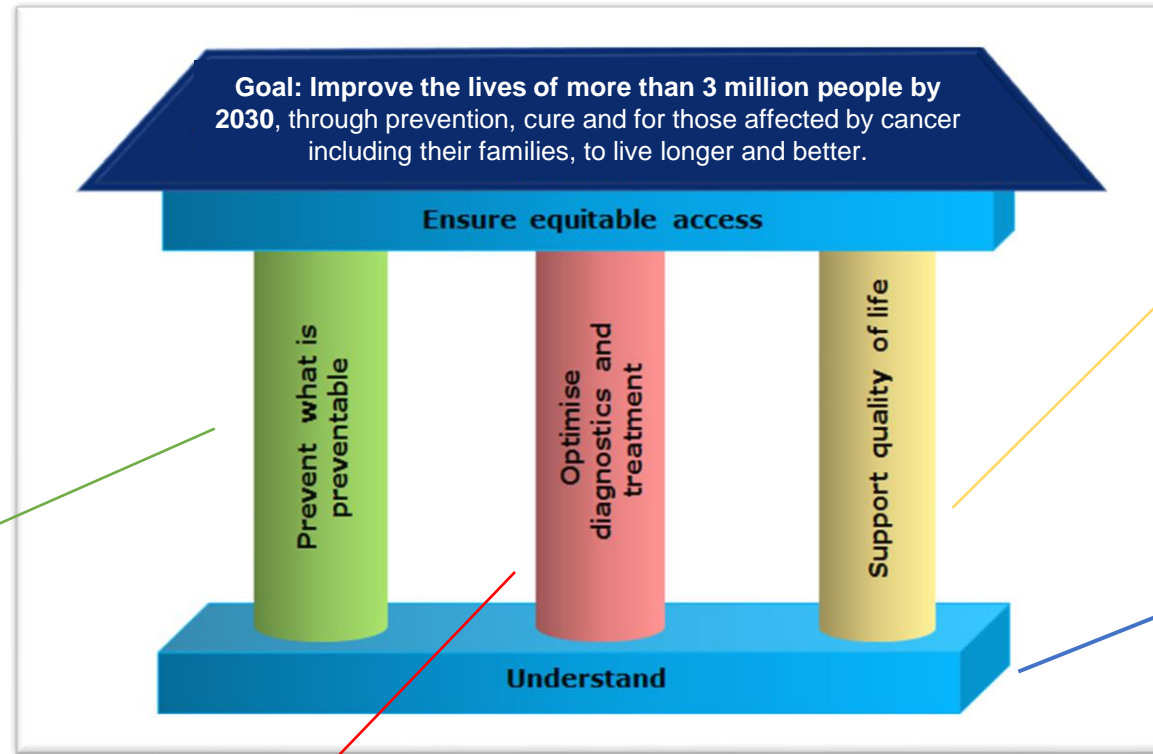
Surveys
Think Tanks
Workshops
Webinars



Cancer Mission: Work Programme 2021-2023

Overall approach

- Apply mission-guiding principles
- Develop mission projects clusters
- Synergies with Europe's Beating Cancer Plan
- Total budget 2021-2023: € 365 M*



- Develop new methods and technologies for screening and early detection
HORIZON-MISS-2021-CANCER-02-01
- Improving and upscaling primary prevention of cancer through implementation research
HORIZON-MISS-2022-CANCER-01-01
- Enhance primary cancer prevention through sustainable behavioural change
HORIZON-MISS-2023-CANCER-01-02

- Pragmatic clinical trials to optimise treatment for cancer patients with refractory cancers
HORIZON-MISS-2022-CANCER-01-03
- Strengthen research capacities of comprehensive cancer infrastructures
HORIZON-MISS-2022-CANCER-01-02
- Pragmatic clinical trials of minimally invasive diagnostics
HORIZON-MISS-2023-CANCER-01-03

- Develop and validate a set of quality of life measures for cancer patients and survivors
HORIZON-MISS-2021-CANCER-02-02
- Towards the creation of a European Cancer Patient Digital Centre
HORIZON-MISS-2022-CANCER-01-04
- Establish best practices and tools to improve the quality of life for childhood cancer patients, survivors and their families in European regions
HORIZON-MISS-2023-CANCER-01-04

- Preparing UNCAN.eu, a European initiative to understand cancer
HORIZON-MISS-2021-UNCAN-01-01
- Better understand healthy versus cancer cells at individual and population level
HORIZON-MISS-2021-CANCER-02-03
- Addressing poorly-understood tumour-host interactions to enhance immune system-centred treatment and care interventions in childhood, adolescent, adult and elderly cancer patients
HORIZON-MISS-2023-CANCER-01-01

Creation of national cancer mission hubs to support the implementation of the Mission on Cancer - HORIZON-MISS-2022-CANCER-01-05



Workshops with young cancer survivors 2023

Main recommendations:



Understanding and managing late-effects in AYA:

- Support long-term clinical studies to better characterise late-effects in AYAs;
- Support research to predict the occurrence or relapse of late effects;
- Support research on fertility issues, including its psychosocial dimension;
- Support research to develop effective approaches to for the management of late-effects;
- Develop targeted education on late-effects for both healthcare workers and patients;

Provision of AYA care:

- Late-effects units should be available in hospitals or cancer care facilities throughout the EU.
- AYAs should be followed by multidisciplinary teams throughout the cancer continuum, both as patients and as survivors;
- Improve health data portability
- Support implementation of “Right to be Forgotten” in all EU Member States;



Network of National Cancer Mission Hubs



- **Helping align** national/regional cancer R&I programmes and national cancer plans towards EU priorities
- Bringing **stakeholders and citizens together** for regular engagement in cancer related activities and **foster policy dialogues** on cancer prevention and control
- **Facilitating cooperation** between Research & Innovation and Health Ministries to enhance meaningful outcomes for citizens
- Providing a **network for long-term collaboration** on the Cancer Mission and Europe's Beating Cancer Plan and national initiatives
- Facilitating **peer-learning and sharing of best practice**



EUROPEAN UNION



Thank you!

#EUmissions

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#MissionCancer

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