Developing the future in comprehensive cancer care

Accreditation and designation

Biobanks and molecular pathobiology

Prevention and early diagnosis

Education and training

Eurocan platform

Cost benefit

Communication and dissemination

Start-OECI
OECI OBJECTIVES

The OECI is a network of cancer institutes aiming to improve the quality of cancer care and translational research in Europe also from an organisational viewpoint. Although physicians, nurses and researchers, constitute the core of cancer care and research, a smooth organisation, efficient logistics and state of the art complex infrastructure are needed to accelerate the production and application of personalised care approaches. A coordination among cancer institutes at a European level can contribute to the production and dissemination of knowledge in order to reduce fragmentation, increase competitiveness with the ultimate goal to find new and better treatments, provide more comprehensive care and improve patients’ quality of life through an evidence-based medicine with a holistic approach.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR THE OECI

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT IN ONCOLOGIC CARE AND RESEARCH

In order to have a significant impact on the quality of care, the OECI has the objective to include 50% of the membership of the OECI in its Accreditation/Designation programme within 2015. Up to September 2013, 10 OECI Members received the OECI Accreditation and Designation certificate and 18 Members are into the process. The certified Members represent the so-called “OECI QUALITY PROGRAMME AND NETWORK”.

EUROPEAN UNION

The bottom-up approach of the Accreditation/Designation programme contributes to the visibility of the OECI at a European level and enables the Grouping to start a lobby for structural financing of cancer centres at National and EU levels.

ORGANISATIONAL QUALITY

As a European Organisation of Cancer Centres, the OECI works on organisational expertise and improvement, in order to strengthen the operational structure that facilitates translational research and integrated care. In addition to the Accreditation/Designation programme, a detailed and focused benchmarking on services among members is under development in order to transfer best practices among members and to disseminate them to the cancer community.

MOLECULAR PATHOBIOLOGY AND BIOBANKS

In view of the crucial role of the pathology departments, of the expected “flood” of new markers and diagnostics in a scope of “OMICS”, the OECI already acts in close cooperation with the EurocanPlatform, the European Association for Cancer Research, the IMPACTS network, the European Society of Pathology, the EORTC. The OECI is strengthening its activities in molecular pathobiology so to support its members by developing this field and also organising focused training activities.

SURVIVORSHIP CARE

In view of the huge number of cancer survivors, partly due to increasing success rates of treatments, the OECI is stimulating cooperation on survivorship management which is specifically multidisciplinary for its nature. “Comprehensive Cancers Centres” should play a leading role in the development of survivorship care and programmes throughout Europe. The OECI intends to demonstrate its “expertise” on this topic in the coming years.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Educational activities will especially take place in the above mentioned fields in order to strengthen the aims of the OECI and disseminate the generated knowledge. A special programme on educational activities in Central and Eastern European Countries is under development in collaboration with the European School of Oncology.

COMMUNICATION AND DISSEMINATION

Regular updating and reports of the OECI activities appear on the website which is not necessarily cutting edge, but sufficiently state of the art site technology. The e-cancermedicalscience is the official OECI e-Journal hosting original papers, news, reports, video.

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Past President
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Elected Member
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Elected Member
Emmanuel Mitry
Paris, France

OECI Director
Special Assistant to the President
Claudio Lombardo - Genoa, Italy
Established in 1977 to promote greater cooperation among European cancer centres and institutes in the field of cancer collaborative research, the “Organisation of European Cancer Institutes” held its first General Assembly in 1980. Its founders designed a structure aimed at promoting efficient partnership across Europe, notwithstanding its linguistic barriers and traditional research heterogeneity. In 2005 the Organisation was remodeled into OECI-EEIG “Organisation of European Cancer Institutes - European Economic Interest Grouping”, so to keep with the ongoing European developments.

The OECI Central Office is located in Brussels; the Office of the President has its seat in Amsterdam while the Coordinating Secretariat and Liaison Office is located in Genoa. The OECI is a network presently regrouping 70 cancer centres and institutions across Europe, dynamically working in crosscut expertise projects organised by involving the OECI Working Groups, Activities and Members. Currently, there are 6 main Working Groups and 2 Activities, as specified in the enclosed cards.

OECI-EEIG Central Office

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The Accreditation/Designation WG (A&D) aims at defining consensual European quality standards and criteria supporting the concept of Comprehensive Cancer Centres with integration of care, research and education. The WG developed a tool for professionals enabling the performances of cancer institutes to be assessed both internally and externally. In order to strengthen joint public/private research in Europe for more competitive cancer research, thanks to the A&D programme, the OECI is producing a database of cancer centres detailing the available infrastructures and human resources to allow the identification of the structures where accelerated development of innovative treatments or high-quality clinical research is feasible.

10 OECI Members already received the A&D Certificate and 18 Members are into the A&D process. The OECI Accreditation and Designation process is also open to non-OECI members.

For more details contact: oeci@oeci.eu
The Communication and Dissemination Activity (CADA) aims at facilitating exchanges of information among scientists and clinicians within the OECI Institutes, helping people working on common projects, on developing and sharing trial protocols, data, meta-analyses, more generally, any activity which needs connectivity and communication. The Activity is developed together with ecamermedicalscience, the official Journal of the OECI and in which web visitors can read on science and watch videos from 203 countries connecting on eCancer.eu. This Activity aims also at better disseminating the initiatives of the OECI and its Members, WGs and Activities, through the publication of leaflets illustrating the OECI as a whole as well as the single initiatives. The WG is also the main contact for the OECI participation to research projects where a communication and dissemination activity is required.

As a registered Publisher, the OECI produced specific titles downloadable at www.oeci.eu/Publications.aspx
The Biobanks and Molecular Pathobiology WG (BAMP) aims at promoting new developments in histopathology, cytology and molecular testing applying new updated tumor classifications and prognostic criteria based on modern technologies such as molecular testings. The WG focuses on education, training and on the optimal organisation in Cancer Institutes involving young pathologists and molecular biologists, as well as on providing support for staff members in less developed areas, which need to be updated on these new approaches in cancer diagnosis including sample collection and storage. Regular annual meetings are organised with the support of OECI Cancer Centres and in conjunction with other European Cancer Societies such as the European Society of Pathology, the EORTC, the IMPACTS Network, BBMRI. The WG contributes to establish an efficient infrastructure for the OECI multi-centre research and diagnosis platform. The WG aims to define and adopt agreed rules for access and exchange of biological samples and for laboratory standard approaches.

Further initiatives are carried out with the other European organizations to give better opportunities also in the development of reliable research capacities in archive tissues.
The OECI WG on Cancer Prevention and Early Diagnosis (CPED) explores the following objectives:

- to foster links with and influence other European activities concerned with cancer prevention;
- to develop additional standards on cancer prevention for consideration by the OECI designation and accreditation programme;
- to survey current levels of service, educational and research activities relating to cancer prevention and early detection among OECI members;
- to provide a mechanism for the development of prevention research collaborations between OECI member organisations and to secure the necessary funding.
The Education and Training WG (ETWG) aims at coordinating and implementing the educational activities of the European Cancer Institutes by promoting the establishment of a European Area for E&T in oncology, and by stimulating tighter relationships among OECI members, while defining a better connection with external bodies, such as the European School of Oncology, EACR, ECCO and ESMO, among others. Through the ETWG’s plan of activities, the OECI helps in finding practical solutions to tackle existing fragmentation in training and sharing knowledge among CCCs, facilitating the launch of educational programmes on new emerging fields and following the needs expressed by the cancer community.

In the coming years the educational programme is planning to increase the involvement of central and eastern European Countries by encouraging them to host significant events amplifying the cooperation among all Countries in Europe.
The **START-OECI Activity** is an evidence-based “state of the art” instrument on cancer diagnosis and treatment, created to support oncologists and physicians in their everyday oncology practice. In order to provide more comprehensive care and improve patients’ quality of life through an evidence-based medicine, START-OECI works according to a consistent methodology, whereby each chapter results from a definite, internal collaborative process. The chapter is published online and in Critical Reviews in Oncology and Haematology as well as in specific series of Volumes which are published directly by the OECI. The first volume can be downloaded from www.oeci.eu. About 30% of the START Contributors belong to OECI Members or Associate Members.
The EurocanPlatform WG (EP) is a NoE of European Comprehensive Cancer Centres financed by the EC within the 7FP; through membership and personal involvement, it is closely linked to the OECI. The EurocanPlatform works towards the decreasing of cancer mortality by cooperation of major Comprehensive Cancer Centres and is aiming to bring translational research results to a new level. It connects the necessary resources and provides know-how for the entire research continuum: basic research, early and late translational research, clinical research, epidemiological research, implementation in care and population based outcome research. A strong focus is related to discovery-driven translational cancer research in five selected tumours: breast, head-neck, lung, malignant melanoma and pancreatic cancer. Joint structures and programmes for early detection contribute to optimal treatment, while novel prevention research programmes will integrate prevention activities in clinical cancer centres as well as public prevention.
The OECI Cost-Benefit (COBE) Working Group facilitates careful and explicit balancing of clinical benefits and financial impact of cancer treatments. The primary objectives of the WG is to demonstrate remits of cost-benefit analyses in oncology and to establish standards in budget impact analysis for OECI members. The WG is also paying attention to those recent developments in health economics, for example value based pricing, budget impact expertise, which have the special interest of the members and for the European cancer community. A Steering Committee of the WG has been established following a survey among the OECI Members.

A first Symposium took place in Brussels on May 15th 2013 as part of the OECI 2013 Oncology Days.
Austria
• Comprehensive Cancer Center, Vienna
  (www.ccc.ac.at)
• Medical University of Graz, University State Hospital Graz - Comprehensive Cancer Center (CCC), Graz
  (www.ccc-graz.at)

Belgium
★ Institut Jules Bordet, Centre des Tumeurs de l’Université Libre de Bruxelles, Brussels
  (www.bordet.be)
★ Oncologic Center, UZBrussel, Brussels
  (www.uzbrussel.be)
• Cliniques Universitaire Saint-Luc - Centre du Cancer, Brussels
  (www.centreducancer.be; www.saintluc.be)

Czech Republic
★ Masaryk Memorial Cancer Institute, Brno
  (www.mou.cz)
★ Masarykova Univerzita, Brno
  (www.muni.cz)

Denmark
• Danish Cancer Society, Institute of Cancer Biology, Copenhagen
  (www.cancer.dk)

Estonia
★ North Estonia Medical Centre, Tallinn
  (www.regionaalhaigla.ee)
★ Tartu University Hospital, Tartu
  (www.kliinikum.ee)

Finland
• Helsinki University Central Hospital, Helsinki
  (www.hus.fi)

France
★ Centre Alexis Vautrin, Nancy
  (www.alexisvautrin.fr)
★ Centre G.F. Leclerc, Dijon
  (www.cgfl.fr)
★ Centre Leon Berard, Lyon
  (www.centreleonberard.fr)
★ Centre Paul Strauss, Strasbourg
  (www.centre-paul-strauss.fr)
★ Centre Henri Becquerel, Rouen
  (www.becquerel.fr)
★ Institut Curie, Paris
  (www.curie.fr)
★ Institut Gustave Roussy, Villejuif
  (www.igr.fr)

Germany
★ Charité Comprehensive Cancer Center, Berlin
  (www.cccc.charite.de)
★ Deutsches Krebsforschungszentrum, Heidelberg
  (www.dkfz.de)
★ University Cancer Centre Carl Gustav Carus, Dresden
  (www.uniklinikum-dresden.de)

Hungary
★ National Institute of Oncology, Budapest
  (www.oncol.hu)
★ National Koranyi Institute of TB and Pulmonology, Budapest
  (www.koranyi.hu)

Italy
★ Azienda Ospedaliera Arcispedale S. Maria Nuova, Reggio Emilia
  (www.asmn.re.it)
★ Centro di Riferimento Oncologico (CRO) - Istituto Nazionale Tumori, Aviano
  (www.cro.it)
★ Centro di Riferimento Oncologico della Basilicata (CROB), Potenza
  (www.crobp.it)
★ European Institute of Oncology (IEO), Milan
  (www.ieo.it)
★ European School of Oncology (ESO), Milan
  (www.eso.net)
★ Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori (INT), Milan
  (www.istitutotumori.mi.it)
★ Fondazione San Raffaele, Milan
  (www.hsr.it)
★ IRCCS Azienda Ospedaliera Universitaria San Martino - IST - Istituto Nazionale per la Ricerca sul Cancro, Genoa
  (www.hsanmartino.it)
Istituto Nazionale per lo Studio e la Cura dei Tumori Fondazione ‘G.Pascale’, Naples (www.fondazionepascale.it)

Istituto Regina Elena (IRE), Rome (www.ifo.it)

Istituto Superiore di Oncologia (ISO), Genoa (www.consorziioso.it)

Istituto Tumori Giovanni Paolo II, Bari (www.oncologico.bari.it)

Istituto di Ricerche Farmacologiche Mario Negri IRFMN, Milan (www.marionegri.it)

Istituto di Ricerca e Cura del Cancro di Candido, Turin (www.irc.candiolo.it)

Istituto Oncologico Veneto (IOV), Padua (www.ioveneto.it)

Istituto FIRC di Oncologia Molecolare (IFOM), Milan (www.ifom-firc.it)

Istituto Scientifico Romagnolo per lo Studio e la Cura dei Tumori (IRST), Meldola - Forlì (www.irst.emr.it)

Institute of Oncology, Vilnius University, Vilnius (www.vuoi.lt)

Rikshospitalet-Radiumhospitalet Medical Center, Oslo (www.rikshospitalet.no)

Wielkopolskie Cancer Centre, Poznan (www.wco.pl)

Instituto Portugues de Oncologia Francisco Gentil EPE do Porto, Porto (www.ipporto.min-saude.pt)

Instituto Portugues de Oncologia Francisco Gentil EPE do Coimbra, Coimbra (www.croc.min-saude.pt)

Instituto Portugues de Oncologia Francisco Gentil EPE do Lisboa, Lisbon (www.ipolisboa.min-saude.pt)

Institute of Oncology «Prof. Dr. Al Trestioreanu», Bucharest (www.iob.ro)

Oncology Institute “Prof. Dr. Ion Chiricuta”, Cluj-Napoca (www.iocn.ro)

SC RTC Radiology Therapeutic Center, Otopeni (www.amethyst-radiotherapy.ro)

Blokhin Russian Cancer Research Centre, Moscow (www.ronc.ru)

Tatarstan Cancer Centre, Kazan (www.oncort.ru)

P.A. Herzen Moscow Cancer Research Institute, Moscow (www.mnioi.ru)

Serbia - Montenegro

Institute of Oncology Sremska Kamenica Novi Sad, Sremska Kamenica (www.onk.ns.ac.rs)

Slovakia

Slovak Comprehensive Cancer Centre, Bratislava (www.exon.sav.sk)

Slovenia

Institute of Oncology Ljubljana, Ljubljana (www.onko-i.si)

Spain

Fundacion Instituto Valenciano de Oncologia (IVO), Valencia (www.ivo.es)

Institut Català d’Oncologia, Barcelona (www.iconologia.net)

Instituto Madrileño de Oncología (IMO), Madrid (www.grupoimo.com)

Sweden

Karolinska University Hospital and Institute, Stockholm (www.ki.se)

The Netherlands

Erasmus MC Daniel den Hoed Cancer Centre, Rotterdam (www.erasmusmc.nl)

Integral Kankercentrum Noord-Nederland, Groningen (www.iknl.nl)

Netherlands Cancer Institute - Antoni van Leeuwenhoek Hospital, Amsterdam (www.nki.nl)

Maastricht University Medisch Centrum, Maastricht (www.mumc.nl; www.azm.nl)

Turkey

Dokuz Eylül University, Institute of Oncology, Izmir (www.deu.edu.tr)

Ukraine

R.E. Kavetsky Institute of Experimental Pathology, Oncology and Radiobiology, Kiev (www.nas.gov.ua)

United Kingdom

Beatson Institute for Cancer Research, Glasgow (www.beatson.gla.ac.uk)

Cambridge Cancer Centre, Cambridge (www.cambridgecancercentre.org.uk)

Christie Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Manchester (www.christie.nhs.uk)

Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, London (www.imperial.nhs.uk)

King’s Health Partners Integrated Cancer Centre, London (www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk)

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