Strategic priorities for the OECI

Cancer Care and Research

The Accreditation and Designation Programme, specifically designed for cancer centres, sets to continuously improve cancer care for patients and enhance the experiences of medical professionals who work at cancer centres. The programme consolidates the role of cancer care and research, multidisciplinary, efficient logistic, and state of the art, and brings the best care to those affected by cancer. About half of the OECI Members are already included in or are planning to apply to the A&D Programme. The aim is to develop a quality system to maximise the growth to the programme, extending beyond Europe to other regions in all South America. The OECI quality assurance has been redefined as an end-to-end application specifically designed for cancer centres across the European Union and certified by the International Society for Quality in Healthcare to provide significant impact on the quality of cancer care and research. The certified centres are referred to as “OECI Quality Networks”. Future impact with Europe will include publications of the Programme’s experience from five years of quality assurance and improvement processes, including lessons learned, and cost-benefit analysis of the programme to optimise its future influence to fulfill current cancer patients’ expectations.

The OECI and its associated organisations in the OECI Board and the Working Groups may also promote the concept of “multi-disciplinarity” and “multi-professionality” within the cancer networks across Europe. OECI, in collaboration with the European Network of Cancer Care Organizations (ENCCO) and the European Federation of Medical Centres (EFMC), has introduced a specific workshop on the multidisciplinary cancer care topics during the OECI Biobanks and Molecular Pathobiology Working Group. In addition, the OECI promotes the concept of “multi-disciplinary approach” in cancer care research, and works closely with the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) on the development of multi-disciplinary guidelines, and with the International Society for Quality in Healthcare (ISQua) on the development of quality indicators for cancer care.

Communication and Dissemination

The OECI and its Working Groups collaborate with other European initiatives such as the European Network of Palliative Care (EurONetPC) and the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) on the promotion of palliative care and the development of quality indicators for cancer care. The OECI is also a member of the European Academy of Tumour Biology (EATB), which aims to promote the development of research in the field of cancer biology, and to foster collaboration between academia and industry. The OECI also collaborates with the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) and the European Association for Cancer Research (EACR) on the development of cancer research networks and the promotion of multidisciplinary approaches in cancer care research.

Quality improvement in cancer care and research is a major goal today, being addressed by professionals, researchers and policy makers. Today, innovative approaches are being taken to develop, share, and disseminate current knowledge, research, and experience in cancer care and research. The OECI, particularly its Working Groups, aims to improve the quality of cancer care and research, and to ensure that cancer patients receive the best possible care. The OECI collaborates with other European organisations, such as the European Network of Cancer Care Organizations (ENCCO) and the European Federation of Medical Centres (EFMC), on the development of multi-disciplinary guidelines and quality indicators for cancer care. The OECI also collaborates with the International Society for Quality in Healthcare (ISQua) on the development of quality indicators for cancer care.

Organisation of European Cancer Institutes

OECI members in the Accreditation and Designation Programme

The OECI is currently geared towards creating a “network of cancer networks” where primary and secondary networks of cancer centres in Europe collaborate, exchange results and share best practices. The OECI is part of the Presidential proposal of an OECI evolution that may better answer to the need of the cancer networks.

The OECI is a non-governmental, non-profit Organisation founded in Vienna in 1970 and remodelled in 2005 into OECIEEG, a European Economic Interest Grouping. Today, the OECI reorganises 93 Members, which include some of the most prominent European Comprehensive Cancer Centres.

Several major cancer centres from the Russian Federation, Turkey, Ukraine and Latin America are also members of our Organisation in order to benefit from our Accreditation and Designation Programme.