

Short summary of Cancer plan III, Denmark

The main elements are:

- Introduction of a national screening programme for colorectal cancer
- Introduction of a special “fast track diagnosis path way” for patients with unspecific symptoms of severe illness that might be cancer (to supplement the 34 fast track diagnosis and treatment path ways for patients with a specific cancer diagnosis)
- A national programme for rehabilitation and palliative care based on evidence based clinical guidelines
- Better end of life care and more hospices
- More focus on the relatives of cancer patients – especially when the relatives are children. National guidelines will be developed in this area

Cancer plan II focused very much on the specific treatment whereas “Cancer plan III” focuses more on initiatives before and after treatment. An important element in Cancer Plan II was the agreement that led to the introduction of 34 fast track diagnosis and treatment path ways for specific cancer forms. The fast track pathways were implemented by the end of 2008.

“Cancer plan II” led to the introduction of fast track pathways, which is described in English here: <http://www.sst.dk/English/cancer%20pathways.aspx>