



# **EPAAC Steering Committee**

## **21 March 2012**

### **Update from the Joint Research Centre**

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# **Two projects in support to DG SANCO**

- a) First voluntary EU accreditation scheme for breast cancer services**
  
- b) Development of the European Cancer Information System**

# **a) First voluntary EU Accreditation Scheme for breast cancer services**

# Important Reference Points

- Editorial board of the breast cancer screening guidelines
- European Cancer Network (ECN)
- European Cooperation for Accreditation (EA)
- Patient Organisations (e.g. Europa Donna)
- EPAAC

# Some open questions

- Scope of accreditation – screening, diagnosis, treatment, post-treatment, surveillance, . . .
- Accreditation via specific patient pathways in cancer control (e.g. screening, diagnosis, . . .) or via specific expert domains (e.g. mammography, pathology, etc.)
- Choice of standard(s) (ISO 15189, ISO 17025, ISO 9001, ECCC/EUSOMA, EUREF, SenoNetwork, OECI, DKG/DGS, . . .)
- Application and extent of the “flexible scope” for accreditation

# Current thinking

## Possible dual structure:

- Part of process covered by direct accreditation from national accreditation bodies - NABs (e.g. ISO 15189 – sections 4 and 5 covering quality management system and competence of the laboratory)
- Other part (processes not covered by ISO 15189 – such as therapy, assistance to patients and carers, etc.) to be certified via a Conformity Assessment Body

# Immediate next steps

- Meeting with European Cooperation for Accreditation (20 April) to address open issues and discuss formal role within the accreditation project
- Consolidation of a project proposal
- Organisation of a workshop with stakeholders to discuss proposal and obtain consensus of opinion
- Formation of a project steering committee comprising experts and stakeholders
- Formation of Member States' national contact points network for keeping Member States' authorities up to date on the project and for providing feedback into the project

## **b) Development of the European Cancer Information System**



# Important considerations

- Significant inroads already made in recent projects/initiatives
- The contemporaneous completion of a number of such projects (EUROCOURSE, EUROCHIP 3, EUROCARE 5)
- The current availability of good quality and robust data resources and portals – EUCAN, EUROCAN, EUROCIM, European Cancer Observatory, . . .

# Building on the foundation stones already laid

- Utilisation of the current infrastructure and results/recommendations of recent projects
- Active engagement of all the major stakeholders
- Recognition of the key role provided by the European Network of Cancer Registries (ENCR) in providing the cancer data
- Full coordination of new projects under a single aim
- Consensus-based approach to the system design
- Flexibility to adapt/grow to future needs



# Steering the future implementation

JRC will continue to build on the progress already made in line with the consensus achieved during the editorial board review of EPAAC's WP 9 proposal (Malpensa, 7 February 2012).

In practical terms, JRC will oversee the process towards the implementation of the European Cancer Information System in close liaison with all stakeholders and provide full support to the governance and technical coordination mechanisms.

Importantly, JRC will provide the level of long-term sustainability that could not be achieved via short-term (rolling) projects.



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**Thank you for your attention**