



## High-level Conference

### **“BEACON: Mobilising Collaboration among Stakeholders to Optimise the Growing Potential of Data for Tackling Cancer”**

**Warsaw, Poland**

**Maria Skłodowska-Curie National Research Institute of Oncology**

**May 16th/17th, 2024**

#### **Background**

The theme of Stakeholder Conference will be: *“Mobilising Collaboration among Stakeholders to Optimise the Growing Potential of Data for Tackling Cancers.”*

Cancer remains one of the most significant health challenges in Europe and beyond. In 2020, 2.7 million people in the European Union were diagnosed with the disease, and another 1.3 million people lost their lives to it; worldwide, it accounted for nearly 10 million deaths in 2020, or nearly one in six deaths. Incidence continues to vary across the European Union, from 458/100,000 in Bulgaria to 718/100,000 in Ireland in 2019. Tackling these disparities and improving cancer care depends on a number of factors.

The possibilities of tackling cancer continue to grow at a rapid rate, with a new understanding of the underlying mechanisms combined with new tools for diagnosis and treatment, and with a widening understanding of the powerful societal and personal factors influencing cancer incidence and treatment, ranging from widening use of NGS to more carefully planned screening programs and the ever more intensive and productive use of personalised medicine.

#### **Cancer Care Beacon**

In response to this concerning scenario, the EU funded a project entitled Cancer Care Beacon. BEACON focuses on three iterative pillars: (1) mapping of capacity and capabilities across cancer centers in the European Union; (2) creating decision support tools that will assist our four stakeholders: patients in finding the best centers, providers in sharing resources and expertise, researchers in sharing data, and policymakers in aligning funding allocation with patients' priorities; and (3) getting training and accreditation to reflect the quality of their cancer care.

One of the core outcomes of the event is to develop a roadmap to scale current capacity and capabilities of cancer centers in order to address existing cancer disparities for access and diagnostics for ALL as well as public health Genomics.

#### **Objective:**

The conference provides a chance to re-align priorities to evaluate the needs of patients, healthcare professionals and health systems to facilitate improved and safer therapies.



There is also space and necessity for enhanced collaboration between EU regulatory and payer groups. This would have the aim of identifying core outcomes other than survival that can be incorporated into trials, as well as healthcare systems, to generate data throughout the lifecycle. In effect, it allows us to develop this roadmap.

**Attendees:**

Attendees will be drawn from key stakeholders whose interaction will create a cross-sectoral, highly relevant and dynamic discussion forum. These participants will include public health decision makers, representatives from the Commission, Members of the European Parliament, patient organisations, and European umbrella organizations representing interest groups and associations actively engaged in the field of Personalised Medicine. Each session will comprise panel discussions as well as Q&A sessions to allow best possible involvement of all participants.

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**Programme – Day 1**  
**Thursday, May 16th, 2024**

**Moderator: D. Horgan, EAPM Executive Director**

12:00-13:00: registration, coffee, networking

<b>13:00-15:00 Plenary Session 1: Stetting the Scene</b>
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Significant disparities and inequalities in survival and outcomes from country to country. Some of the reasons for this inequity are: a) the differences in decision-making economic issues, b) poorly implemented or non-existent screening programs, c) missing or limited information and education about cancer, d) patchy provision of cancer services; e) substantial differences in the qualifications and the number of oncologists and specialist healthcare staff, and f) distinct cultural and educational status. The session will examine the different elements of this.

Welcome: **Beata Jagielska**, *Director, Maria Skłodowska-Curie National Research Institute of Oncology (Confirmed)*

*Minister of Health, Poland (tentative)*

Setting the Scene:

CAN.HEAL: **Marc Van den Bulcke**, *Project Coordinator, CanHeal. (Confirmed)*

OECI: **Iwona Lugowska**, *Early Phase Clinical Trials Unit and Department of Soft Tissue/Bone Sarcoma and Melanoma, Maria Skłodowska-Curie National, Research Institute and Oncology Centre (MSCI), Warsaw, Poland (Confirmed)*

CRANE: **Tit Albrecht**, *Scientific Co-Ordinator of the Joint Action on co-ordinator of the Joint. Action Cancon (Cancer Control) (Confirmed)*

BEACON: **Roberto Grasso**, *Psychologist, Department of Oncology and Hemato-Oncology, University of Milan (Confirmed)*

*Industry Speaker from MSD*

Q&A

15:00 -15:30: coffee break
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**15:30 – 17:00: Plenary Session II: Public & Private Sector Collaboration**

**Setting the Scene:**

IDERHA: **Philip Gribbon**, *Head of Discovery Research at Fraunhofer Institute for Translational Medicine and Pharmacology (ITMP) (Confirmed)*

INCISIVE: **Gianna Tsakou**, *Maggioli SPA (Confirmed)*

EATRIS-ERIC: **Anton Ussi**, *Operations Director for EATRIS C&S. (Confirmed)*

Liquid Biopsy: *AstraZeneca*

Diagnostics: **Benjamin Gannon**, *Vice President, International Guardant Health*

JANE: **Salvatore Provenzano**, *Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori di Milano (Confirmed)*

*Discussion*

**17:00 – 17.30 Concluding Remarks from Day 1 & Overview of Day II**

**Beata Jagielska**, *Director, Maria Skłodowska-Curie National Research Institute of Oncology (Confirmed)*

**Denis Horgan**, *Executive Director, Denis Horgan (Confirmed)*

**Conference Dinner at 19.30 for invited Speakers**

**Programme – Day 2**

**Friday, May 17th, 2024**

**09:00 – 11:00: Plenary Session III: Benchmarking in comprehensive cancer care & decision Support tools**

Exploring the Data: **Aline Machiavell**, *Data Scientist, SporeData (Confirmed)*

**How can the EU contribute to tackling this?**

Cancer Core Europe: **Alejandro Piris**, *Head of the Scientific Coordination/ Management Area at the Vall d'Hebron Institute of Oncology (VHIO) in Barcelona (Spain). (Confirmed)*

ESMO: **Paweł Sobczuk**, *Maria Skłodowska-Curie National Research Institute of Oncology, Warsaw, Poland (tentative)*

Role of the EU Health Data Space: **Aleksandra Wesolowska**, *Programme Officer, DG Connect, European Commission (Confirmed)*



Cancer Mission Hubs: **Anabela Isidro**, *Member of the Board · AICIB - Agência de Investigação Clínica e Inovação Biomédica (Confirmed)*

Followed by Q&A.

11:00 – 11:30: **Coffee**

11:30 – 13:00: **Plenary 3: Focus on Central Europe**

***CAN.HEAL & BEACON Session***

France: **Frédérique Nowak**, *Operational coordinator of the French Genomic Medicine Initiative 2025, INSERM (Confirmed)*

Belgium: **Marc Van den Bulcke**, *Project Coordinator, CanHeal. (Confirmed)*

Italy: **Dario Monzani**, *Researcher, Department of Psychology, Educational Science and Human Movement (SPPEFF), Università of Palermo, Italy. (Confirmed)*

Spain: **Rossana Alessandrello** - *Value Based Procurement Director, AQUAS (Confirmed)*

Germany: **Stephan Ossowski**, *Institute of Medical Genetics and Applied Genomics, University of Tübingen, Germany. (Confirmed)*

Followed by Q&A.

13:00 – 14:00: **Lunch**

14:00– 15:30: **Plenary 3: Focus on Central Eastern Europe**

***CAN.HEAL & BEACON Session***

Poland: **Iwona Lugowska**, *Early Phase Clinical Trials Unit and Department of Soft Tissue/Bone Sarcoma and Melanoma, Maria Skłodowska-Curie National, Research Institute and Oncology Centre (MSCI), Warsaw, Poland (Confirmed)*

Latvia: **Mārcis Leja**, *Professor of Medicine, Director of the Institute of Clinical and Preventive Medicine, University of Latvia (TBC)*

Bulgaria: **Jasmina Koeva**, *President of the Bulgarian Alliance for Personalised and Precision Medicine (Confirmed)*



Romania: **Delia Nicoară**, *Public Health Specialist at The Oncology Institute "Prof. Dr. Ion Chiricuță", Cluj-Napoca, Romania (Confirmed)*

Industry: Novartis

15:30 -16:00: Coffee
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16:00 -17:00: Closing Session: Looking towards the EU Elections
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**Marc Van den Bulcke**, *Project Coordinator, CanHeal. (Confirmed)*

**Beata Jagielska**, *Director, Maria Skłodowska-Curie National Research Institute of Oncology. (Confirmed)*

**Roberto Grasso**, *Psychologist, Department of Oncology and Hemato-Oncology, University of Milan. (Confirmed)*

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