

# How equity and social justice relates to WP9

Cancer Control Joint Action



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Cancer Control Joint Action

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# Equity and screening programmes

- Purpose of WP9 is to help to build up and improve organised population-based cancer screening programmes in the MSs
- By organising the screening programme, there are two important implications on equity
  - The process provides an equal chance to each in the target population who could benefit; irrespective of region, social class, ethnic/cultural groups, or religion
  - Assurance that the service has high/standard quality, and evaluation that it produces what it was meant for are integral parts of the programmes

# .....Equity and screening programmes

- Non-population-based (such as ‘opportunistic’) or poorly organised screening introduces inequalities
  - Only a proportion of target population may be covered
  - Overscreening in well-to-do; underscreening in low-resource groups
- There is no other similar remedy than organising the programmes appropriately

# Dimensions in equity

- Attendance to service is an essential component. But it is not enough to analyze at that level only
- Also the quality of the screening process matters
  - If with serious quality problems, service can be ineffective (does not remove inequalities)
  - There are examples of successes as well
  - Wide heterogeneity between/within MSs
- Therefore we need to consider the whole multi-chain screening process and related policy-making perspectives

# WHAT DATA AND RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE PRODUCED ON EQUITY ISSUES?

- Systematic monitoring of cancer screening programmes includes indicators also on equity, in order to identify deprived regions, social class, or ethnicity/religion
- This confirms a basis for interventions and quality improvement
- Current results and practices in programmes in above will be presented

# ....WHAT DATA AND RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE PRODUCED ON EQUITY ISSUES?

- Experiences and essential/good/best practices identified and taken into account when drafting recommendations
- Compare e.g. experiences of how to gain desirable coverage and what interventions have been done on it. With which resources?
- How the various socially vulnerable groups have been considered to gain equal chances to attend

# ....WHAT DATA AND RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE PRODUCED ON EQUITY ISSUES?

- What quality assurance mechanisms are in place? Has the programme demonstrated its achievements? Where are the key barriers and how serious they are?
- Same principles true for considering the general requirements and potential of possible new cancer screening programmes



Thank You