

# How patient empowerment relates to WP9

**Cancer Control Joint Action**



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Ahti Anttila | Stakeholders meeting Brussels | 12 May, 2015



# Roles of patient empowerment in cancer screening

- Spread information about cancer screening; its benefits, harms and outcomes. Information should be balanced and support the abilities of the screening invitees to make well-informed own decisions
- Advocating quality-assured cancer screening
- Support those diagnosed with cancer (which can happen also in cancer screening, or soon after it...)
- Participate in other societal levels, too

# Dimensions

- Any screenee – with a negative or positive result – is a ‘patient’
  - Even a screening test is medical service
  - There is legislature on patients and how medical services have to deal with them
  - ‘Patients’ conform a continuum from normal to borderline or pre-cancer, and to invasive cancer
- Cancer patients organisations have also a special role

# WHAT RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE PRODUCED ON PATIENT EMPOWERMENT?

- Not sure yet if we can cover the whole spectrum of what patients or cancer patients groups could do (little systematic evidence available yet)
- We are considering, for example, how patients or cancer patients could get involved in the national or regional advisory board on cancer screening
- Then these groups would get involved in organizational issues and, particularly important, in developing communication strategies

Thank You