

KICK-OFF OF WORK PACKAGE 7, COMMUNITY-LEVEL CANCER CARE

Brussels, 5 June 2014

Meeting Report

The meeting was chaired by Tit Albrecht, Leader of Work Package 7 and Coordinator of the CANCON Joint Action.

The CANCON objectives were briefly described, as well as the objectives of the Work Package 7. The main deliverable of WP 7 are patient pathways for cancer patients in primary level care. There are many reasons for this shift to primary care – the reasons can be economic or wishes of the patients and family to have local care. The first challenge is in continued cancer care. The second is in full reintegration into normal, premorbid life. There will be no duplication of topics between the Survivorship Work Package (WP 8) and WP 7, as WP 7 will deal with issues related to early diagnosis and organisation of care. The WP will focus firstly on mapping of pathways, then also on future opportunities in the field, providing good practices. The importance of education will also be stressed in the chapter.

All participants agreed that the situation regarding involvement of GPs and the primary level in cancer care is divergent across various Member States. It will be very important to address issues of economics and inequality (which will be dealt with as a transversal issue in the Guide).

The digital communication platform targeting youth will also be a deliverable of WP 7. This deliverable stems from the fact that the elderly are more often targeted for information on cancer prevention and early diagnosis and not the youth population. One or two frequent cancers should be selected for the tool. Potential ideas include questionnaires to support users, allowing them to save the results of self-assessment and potentially consult their GP for more information. A more detailed proposal will be presented at the next WP 7 meeting.

A pilot programme will take place in Slovenia on patient pathways for cancer patients at primary level. Another pilot may potentially be carried out by NCPHA, but this is pending confirmation and will be decided by the end of the summer.

There were presentations from NIVEL, NTNU and NCPHA, all Associated Partners of WP 7, on the work of their organisations and their roles in CANCON. WP 4, Guide Coordination,

also made a presentation on the process of the Guide compilation. The presentations will be made available on www.cancercontrol.eu .

The next steps to be taken are between the WP 7 Coordination Team and NIVEL/NTNU to specify more specific tasks and deadlines. The pilot projects also need to be confirmed and defined in greater detail. All interested Collaborating Partners should specify their specific interests to the WP Leader in order to coordinate inputs on specific tasks.

Participants agreed that a revision to the planned meeting timetable is necessary. A revised list will be sent out to all WP 7 Partners.

The next WP 7 meeting is provisionally scheduled to take place in the Netherlands to be hosted by NIVEL in autumn/winter 2014 (tbc).