



ECICC: European Commission Initiative on Colorectal Cancer

What is ECICC?

The European Commission Initiative on Colorectal Cancer (ECICC) is a person-centred initiative to improve colorectal cancer care in Europe. With this aim, ECICC will develop evidence-based guidelines and a quality assurance scheme for health-care services involved in the colorectal cancer care pathway.

Why ECICC?

Colorectal cancer is the first most commonly diagnosed cancer and the second cause of death from cancer in Europe. In the EU, there were 378 445 new cases, and 173 233 people died from colorectal cancer in 2018.* Moreover, there are persistent differences in the survival rate of patients across Europe, with below-average survival consistently observed in some countries. These differences suggest that there are health inequalities that could be reduced through coordinated European action.

* Source: ECIS – European Cancer Information System, from <https://ecis.jrc.ec.europa.eu> [accessed on 30/04/2020, © European Union, 2020].

What is the aim?

ECICC aims to provide individuals with a quality assurance scheme developed using a person-centred approach and based on scientific evidence. The scheme will cover the entire colorectal cancer pathway, from prevention, screening in asymptomatic individuals and diagnosis through to treatment, rehabilitation, management of recurrence and palliative care.

How will it benefit people and patients?

ECICC will empower individuals and patients by focusing on their actual needs. With ECICC, they will benefit from high-quality healthcare services in screening and throughout the care pathway, based on the latest scientific evidence. This will be transparent and easy to understand, enabling them to make informed decisions about their health.

How can I get involved?

ECICC applies an inclusive, bottom-up approach. Anyone is welcome to participate in calls for feedback on specific documents, and for expressions of interest, such as applying for ECICC working group membership. Feedback and cooperation with academia, patients' organisations, professionals, associations and local institutions are vital to ECICC: feedback from users will support the future development of the guidelines and scheme, allowing continuous adjustment and improvement. ECICC aims to monitor and evaluate its impact on key outcomes at individual, population and service level. This monitoring has been planned from the very beginning and collaboration with all stakeholders is a vital part of that.

Appointment of working group members will be launched through an open call and is expected to be finalised by the end of 2020

Want to find out more?

Please email us at:

jrc-cancer-policy-support@ec.europa.eu

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Joint Research Centre (JRC)

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Health in Society

Via E. Fermi 2749 • 21027 Ispra (VA) • Italy

Tel.: +39 0332 78 5570