

ELSF meeting

Vienna 060605

Cancer – a global problem

- 2002 10,9 million new cases
- 2020 16 million new cases
- 2002 6,7 million deaths
- 2020 10,3 million deaths
- 2002 24,6 million people living with cancer
- 2020 ?

Cancer – an increasing problem

- More new patients
- More patients living with cancer
- Global view of the patient – more needs
- Science offers increasing innovations

European cancer care

- Fragmented
- Insufficient global view of the patient
- Complexity is increasing over time
- No systematic implementation of new diagnostic and treatment methods

European cancer research

- Fragmented
- Iteration of research
- Lack of coherence
- Insufficient collaboration
- Limited effect on cancer care and prevention

Research problems

- Expansion of knowledge in basic research, restrictions for clinical research
- Gap between basic and clinical research
- Difficulties to implement new knowledge in the clinic
- Suboptimal evaluation of diagnostics and treatments in routine care, outcome research

Innovation is suboptimal

A pan-European comparison regarding
patient access to cancer drugs

Nils Wilking and Bengt Jönsson

Analysis of introduction of anticancer
drugs in 19 European countries

Conclusion: pronounced inequities

Innovation

- Translational research
- Structures for clinical implementation of new technologies
- Evaluation – outcome research

Corner stones

- Global view
- Multidisciplinarity
- Translational research

Research process

- Basic research
- Tumour biology
- Preclinical research
- Clinical research
- Implementation in routine care
- Evaluation, outcome research

Research process is not harmonized

- Rapid development in basic research
- Clinical research involving patients: a bottle neck
- Long time duration from a discovery to clinical implementation
- 2-5% of cancer patients participate in clinical trials

Translational research

- Shorten time duration from discovery to clinical implementation
- Bridging basic and clinical research
- Bench – bed – bench
- Multidisciplinary research collaboration

Lines of development - research

- Basic research
- Preclinical laboratory research
- Clinical trials
- Patient databases
- Biobanks
- Platforms for biomics
- Epidemiologi, outcome research

Important research areas

- Molecular genetics
- Molecular pathology/cytology
- Imaging – molecular imaging
- Organ preservation – multimodal treatment
- Radiotherapy – physical innovations and radiobiology

Important research areas, cont

- Medical treatment: targeted therapy, hormonal treatment, immunotherapy – vaccines, gene therapy
- Treatment prediction
- Psychosocial oncology
- Supportive care

OECI – Organisation of European Cancer Institutes

A non-governmental organisation

A non-profit organisation

A European Economic Interest Grouping,
a legal entity

Linking more than 80 cancer institutes in
Europe

OECl

- A common vision of future European oncology
- Concept: comprehensiveness by integrating prevention, care, research, development and education
- Harmonized infrastructures – a prerequisite for scientific collaboration

Comprehensive cancer centers

- Cancer hospitals
- Coordinated cancer centers, virtual centers

OECl activities to strengthen research

- Working group for education: focus on comprehensiveness and translational research
- Working group for clinical guidelines
- Working group for accreditation: prevention, care, research and education
- Working group for pathology – molecular pathology
- Tubafrost programme – biobanking
- Working group for new technologies

OECl accreditation project

- Database of cancer centers in Europe
- Accreditation methodology: prevention, care, research, education
- Labelisation of centers
- Benchmarking

Ongoing work

- Questionnaire for description of measurable infrastructures, about 380 questions
- Database of cancercenters, Stockholm
- Accreditation manual, France and Holland
- Collaboration with FECS organisations and EORTC
- Time schedule 3 years

European cancer research

- Establish comprehensiveness
- Harmonize infrastructures for translational research
- Stimulate collaboration in research funding
- Stimulate collaboration between research groups
- Stimulate collaboration between centers

Coordination

- Research networks
- Establish comprehensiveness
- Collaboration between centers
- National coordination
- Collaboration at the European level
- All centers and nations are too small!