

Covid-19 Guidelines published in Lancet Journal - Press Release

Brussels, 28th May

To address the growing concern of cancer patients for factual resources and information during the Covid-19 crisis, the European Cancer Patient Coalition launched **our Covid-19 web hub in April**. The new web hub provides important information for our member organisations, cancer patients and their carers. ECPC, in collaboration with [48 physicians from 27 countries](#), have included a section on Covid-19 and cancer patient guidelines among their resources. These guidelines have now been featured in The Lancet journal under '*Summary of international recommendations in 23 languages for patients with cancer during the COVID-19 pandemic.*' The article is currently available [online](#) and the print version will be available in June.

These comprehensive guidelines have been translated into **24 languages**¹ and have been summarised into six sections for a more readable and accessible approach:

1. General guidelines for Covid-19 and cancer patients
2. Specific guidelines cancer patients can take to avoid Covid-19
3. What to do if you or someone you know displays symptoms
4. Guidance on how to manage mental health during the pandemic
5. Trusting your doctor and following the advice they give you
6. Protocols for patients presenting at cancer centres

Dr. Davide Mauri of the Department of Medical Oncology, University Hospital of Ioannina, Greece and lead contributor to the guidelines stated: '*With these guidelines and their translations, we aim to provide a robust message to as many cancer patients we can at global level. The production of valid guidance for patients is determined both by their level of scientific strength and their capability to reach the target audience. I must thank the physicians who volunteered their time and efforts helping with the translation in 24 languages. Having our work feature in The Lancet Oncology further contributes to their success and I am very happy to have led this collaboration. Supporting patients and finding the best way to communicate with them is our mission.*'

Kathi Apostolidis, President of ECPC added: '*At ECPC, we are very happy to be involved in this collaboration and to contribute to the dissemination of such international and comprehensive guidelines as a part of our web hub. The translations will be a valuable information source, in their own language, for cancer patients in Europe and beyond and they will help us reach cancer patients across continents with relevant news and advice. I would like to thank Assoc. Prof. Davide Mauri for his initiative and all the contributors, who offered their expertise and time voluntarily, for helping us maintain the cancer patient community well informed under these difficult times.*'

The full list of guidelines are available for download now from the ECPC [Covid-19 web hub](#).

¹ Arabic, Bulgarian, Catalan, Chinese, Croatian, Czech, Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Japanese, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian(to be translated) Serbian, Slovenian, Spanish, Swedish and Urdu



About the European Cancer Patient Coalition

European Cancer Patient Coalition (ECPC) is the voice of cancer patients in Europe. With over 450 members, ECPC is Europe's largest umbrella cancer patients' association, covering all 28 EU member states and many other European and non-European countries. ECPC represents patients affected by all types of cancers, from the rarest to the most common.

Notes to editors:

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