




European Cancer Patient Coalition

Welcome to the **ECPC Newsletter!** Here you will find an overview of the latest information from the **EU cancer patient community, recent policy developments, upcoming events, and other exciting opportunities.** Check it out 



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COVID19 Vaccination survey



Coronavirus has been with us for more than a year. In line with the **EU vaccine strategy** agreed with Member States, the distribution started progressively and the first doses will go to the priority groups identified by Member States.

At ECPC we would like **to map the situation across the EU** and we have created a survey to gather some relevant information. Thus, we would really appreciate if you could fill it in. It will not take more than 5 minutes!

[Please click here to fill in the survey.](#)

Reactions to EU's Beating Cancer Plan

#EUCancerPlan

ECPC welcomes that the Plan address the debilitating cancer **complications and comorbidities** that impact on the quality of life of cancer patients and are in many **cases fatal** and still too often **neglected** in policy and research.



One day before the World Cancer Day, the European Commission launches the much-awaited [Europe's Beating Cancer Plan](#). ECPC is pleased to see that the fight against cancer remains a **top priority** for the European Commission despite the unprecedented reach and proportion of the coronavirus health crisis. What has the cancer community said?

- [ECPC statement](#): Together in Europe we can defeat cancer.
- [Joint statement](#) together with the European Association of Urology (EAU) & Europa Uomo.
- [Joint statement](#) together with the European Society of Cardiology (ESC).
- [Statement](#) of the European Head & Neck Society.
- [Statement](#) of Matti Järvinen, former ECPC Board Member and ECPC Member.

Did your organisation published a statement on Europe's beating cancer plan?

[Share it with us](#) and we will publish it on our website!

ECPC launches the HTA toolkit: "Patient Involvement in Health Technology Assessment"



Patient Involvement In Health Technology Assessment

A TOOLKIT FOR PATIENTS AND PATIENT ORGANIZATIONS

On the occasion of the World Cancer Day, ECPC launched the new **HTA (Health Technology Assessment) toolkit** '[*Patient Involvement in Health Technology Assessment: A toolkit for patients and patient organizations*](#)'. This toolkit will leverage the existing resources combining **up-to-date information, country specific examples and provide cancer patients and organizations with a practical guide** and a comprehensive overview of how to be directly involved in the work of HTA agencies.

LifeChamps: A collective intelligence platform to support cancer champions



[*LifeChamps*](#) aims at shifting the discrimination barrier for older cancer patients through the integration of different clinical and digital tools.

Prof Bamidis, coordinator of the project: "LifeChamps promotes a **complete solution**, based on new technologies and large-scale data analysis, for the enhancement of the

application of precision medicine in geriatric oncology."

ECPC advocates for patients' needs at the BECA Committee meetings



On 11th January and 28th January 2021, ECPC Board Member **Kathi Apostolidis**, and ECPC Scientific Committee Members **Prof Françoise Meunier** and **Prof Mark Lawler** participated in the [Special Committee on Beating Cancer hearings](#) in which ECPC advocated for the **need of patients and caregivers to be empowered** as well as the need for **equal access to cancer medicines and treatments** and the **reduction of the social disparities** that a cancer experience brings with it.

ECPC leads a new publication of the Journal of Health Inequalities



The new issue of the ***Journal of Health Inequalities*** is now out! Charis Girvalaki, EU Affairs Manager at ECPC has led the publication of an article of this new issue: ***Non-melanoma skin cancer as an occupational disease. What is the impact on the society and the welfare system?*** You can read it [here](#).

What's coming up

14 million reasons to discuss life after cancer: Implementing the Right to be Forgotten across Europe

The banner features a blue background on the left with the text 'REGISTER HERE' in white. On the right, there is a photograph of three people cycling on a path towards a sunset. Overlaid on the right side are several text boxes: the European Cancer Patient Coalition logo and name, the date '19 February 2021', the time '10:30 - 12:30', and 'Online Webinar'. The main title of the webinar is in a blue box, followed by the subtitle 'Implementing the Right to be Forgotten across Europe' and the hashtag '#R2BF'.

REGISTER HERE

European Cancer Patient Coalition

19 February 2021
10:30 - 12:30
Online Webinar

14 million reasons to discuss life after cancer:
Implementing the Right to be Forgotten across Europe

#R2BF

Join us on this webinar! **[14 Million Reasons to Discuss Life after Cancer: Implementing the “Right to be Forgotten across Europe”](#)** will take place on **19 February 2021 from 10:30 to 12:30 (CET)**. It will be co-hosted by MEPs Manuel Pizarro (S&D), Tilly Metz (Greens), Tomislav Sokol (EPP) and Véronique Trillet-Lenoir (RE). Commissioner Stella Kyriakides and Minister Manuel Heitor will also take part in the event.

Precision Medicine in Europe

[REGISTER HERE](#)

UNLOCKING THE
POTENTIAL OF
PRECISION MEDICINE
IN EUROPE

Join us to discuss how to improve cancer care through **broader access to quality biomarker testing**. The virtual event will take place on the **23th February from 14.30 to 15.45 CET**. The International Quality Network for Pathology ([IQN Path](#)), the European Cancer Patient Coalition ([ECPC](#)) and the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations ([EFPIA](#)) will jointly share the findings from the study “**Unlocking the potential of precision medicine in Europe – Improving cancer care through broader access to quality biomarker testing**”.

EU Joint Action on Rare Cancers (JARC) recommendations towards implementing the Rare Cancer Agenda 2030

[REGISTER HERE](#)

European Cancer Patient Coalition CHALLENGE CANCER EU PARLIAMENTARY INTERGROUP

Public event

“EU JOINT ACTION ON RARE CANCERS (JARC)
RECOMMENDATIONS TOWARDS
IMPLEMENTING THE RARE CANCER AGENDA 2030”

24 February 2021
16:00-17:00 CET
Virtual event

We are happy to invite you to our next public event: “**EU Joint Action on Rare Cancers (JARC) recommendations towards implementing the Rare Cancer Agenda 2030**” that will take place next **Wednesday, 24th of February 2021 from 16:00 to 17:00 CET**.

This event, hosted by the [Challenge Cancer Intergroup](#), is an interesting opportunity to discuss about the **implementation of the Rare Cancer Agenda 2030 in the EU**. Would you like to know who will participate in the event? [Have a look at the draft agenda!](#)

ECPC recommends

- **Patient preferences** can inform decisions across the drug life cycle. [A recent PREFER publication](#) introduces a study protocol that outlines steps for how qualitative research can be applied to include patient preferences.
- **Rising Tide Foundation** launches [Patient Arts for Health, Global Exhibition](#) to collect and curate **patient art** offering new insights on what **quality of life** means to you through your art.
- [Why is appropriate healthcare inaccessible for many European breast cancer patients?](#)
- [Patient View survey](#): The Effectiveness of Pharma in Tackling the Covid Pandemic of 2020
- [Rare Disease Day 2021](#) is celebrated this year on 28 February. There are many events you might not want to miss! Check them and remember: **Rare is many. Rare is strong. Rare is proud**

New ECPC members



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