

# Flash Report

## Sub-group on Cancer under the Expert Group on Public Health

### 23 April 2024

The Sub-group on Cancer under the Commission Expert Group on Public Health (PHEG) held a virtual meeting, co-chaired by DG RTD and DG SANTE. The representatives of 19 Member States, plus Norway and Iceland, attended the meeting together with several Commission services and agencies.<sup>1</sup>

#### Updates on the EU Cancer Mission (RTD) and the Europe's Beating Cancer plan (SANTE)

Firstly, DG RTD presented a summary of past and upcoming activities of the Cancer Mission; among the latter, the Info Days on the recently adopted Mission Work Programme 2024, which will take on 26 April 2024 and the launch event for the pilot Mission bus roadshow that will be on 9 May 2024. DG RTD also highlighted the new Cancer Mission Implementation website.

Then, DG SANTE provided an overview of the latest policy developments concerning the Europe's Beating Cancer Plan (EBCP), and in particular on (i) Council Recommendation on Vaccine-preventable Cancers, (ii) Commission Recommendation on clinical audits of medical radiological practices, and (iii) Commission Recommendation on reducing human health risks associated with the use of sunbeds. DG SANTE also briefly illustrated past and upcoming events; among the latter, a workshop on the Study on job retention and return to work of cancer patients and survivors, which will be broadcasted on 25 April 2024 and an event on the right to be forgotten that will take place on 14 May 2024.

#### EU4Health Working Programme, including results of screening projects (HaDEA, DG SANTE, Praise-U, Togas, Solace)

First, HaDEA presented the upcoming calls related to the EU4Health Annual Work Programme of 2024.

Then, DG SANTE provided an update on cancer screening activities under EU4Health, and in particular on (i) Council Recommendation on cancer screening adopted in December 2022, (ii) CanScreen-ECIS, (iii) Third EU Cancer Screening Report, (iv) Joint Action EUCanScreen: implementation of cancer screening programmes, (v) European guidelines and quality assurance schemes, (vi) European Cancer Imaging Initiative, and (vii) #GetScreenedEU.

After that, an in-depth overview was given on three different projects: (i) Praise-U, (ii) Togas, which encouraged Member States to participate in a survey on gastric cancer screening and to an outreach meeting in Porto (PT) on 12 September 2024, and (iii) Solace, which invited Member States to nominate a representative from their

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<sup>1</sup> Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE); Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (DG RTD); Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (DG CNECT); Directorate-General for Environment (DG ENV); European Statistical Office (ESTAT); Joint Research Centre (JRC); European Health and Digital Executive Agency (HaDEA).

Ministries of Health or responsible National Agencies for the 'National Expert Teams', intended as an effective tool for the implementation of the project at national level. Lastly, a brief discussion on additional cancer screening actions was held.

#### Overview of the work by the Cancer Mission Board (Cancer Mission Board)

The Vice Chair of the Cancer Mission Board gave an overview of the Board, including its main activities.

#### Synergies with other EU initiatives – Horizon 2020: Transcan-3-ERA-Net Project (TRANSCAN)

A TRANSCAN representative gave an overview of the Horizon 2020: TRASCAN-3-ERA-Net Project, highlighting the participants in the projects and the major research results.

#### AOB

No additional point was raised.