

## **Subgroup on Proton Therapy Centres meets for first time**

The Subgroup on Proton Therapy Centres met for the first time on Monday 22 October. The group was set up under the Steering Group on Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable Diseases.

Representatives of 12 Member States, Norway and Iceland shared available evidence on the clinical applications and cost-benefits of proton therapy; centres currently in operation, construction or planning; and the national context as regards regulation, provision and cost reimbursement. Expert input was also provided from the European Reference Network EURACAN and the European Particle Therapy Network. The meeting was jointly chaired by DG SANTE and the European Investment Bank, and also attended by DG ENER and the Joint Research Centre.

The meeting kick-started a broader fact-finding exercise by the EIB on the current state of play of availability and use of proton therapy centres across the EU. The subgroup will build on these results to move forward with the objectives and tasks defined in its mandate. Although presenting their excuses for this meeting, an additional three Member States as well as DG RTD will contribute to this effort.