In the EU in 2020, lung cancer was the second-most common cancer among males and the third-most common among females, with an estimated incidence of 97.2 per 100 000 males and 43.9 per 100 000 females. Among all cancers, it has been the leading cause of death for both sexes since 2017. Screening using low-dose computed tomography (LDCT) can detect lung cancer early, reducing mortality by at least 20%.

Among cancers, lung cancer is one of the leading causes of death, but it is treatable if it is detected early. Screening and early detection of lung cancer is an effective approach to reduce mortality and SOLACE will implement and establish lung cancer screening projects in many European countries.

SOLACE – Strengthening the screening of lung cancer in Europe

Start date – end date
01/04/2023 – 31/03/2026

Countries
Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Spain

Overall budget
EUR 12 134 209

EU contribution under EU4Health programme
EUR 9 707 367

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As part of Europe’s Beating Cancer Plan, SOLACE aims to improve lung cancer screening across Europe by:

- supporting EU Member States with the implementation and optimisation of LDCT screening programmes;
- providing a modular framework (toolbox) that tailors screening approaches to national or regional needs so as to address health inequalities, increase life expectancy, improve quality of life and ensure cost-effectiveness;
- bringing together all key stakeholders to design, plan and implement sustainable lung cancer screening.
SOLACE will provide valuable knowledge on how to implement cost-effective lung cancer screening programmes so that high-risk groups and people from all social and economic backgrounds have access to high-quality screening.

Specific outcomes include:

- creation of a Lung Cancer Screening Guideline with Quality Assurance Parameters;
- needs assessments of Member States, taking into account differing epidemiology and at-risk groups;
- periodical information on benefit-harm balance and cost-effectiveness of screening;
- regular review of new approaches;
- pilot projects to assess the feasibility of screenings based on the requirements of national or regional health authorities;
- at least three highly visible conferences on lung cancer screening.

For more info
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Project website
https://europeanlung.org/solace

Europe’s Beating Cancer Plan makes use of the whole range of Commission funding instruments with a total of €4 billion being earmarked for actions addressing cancer. €1.25 billion from the EU4Health programme is being used to support actions and initiatives outlined in the Cancer Plan.

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