



European  
Commission

# Europe's Beating Cancer Plan: *Making a difference*

MAY 2024

Three years after its adoption, [Europe's Beating Cancer Plan](#) is already making a positive impact on people's lives by boosting collaboration and forging a path towards **better prevention, early detection, treatment and care** as well as **improving the quality of life of cancer patients and survivors**.

## Better understanding cancer through research and innovation

Cancer is complex. The EU Cancer Plan and the EU Horizon Mission on Cancer support efforts to **increase understanding of the biological processes, risk factors and health determinants that drive cancer**. The sharing of this knowledge helps target measures and increases the impact of Cancer Plan actions.



### ✓ European Commission Knowledge Centre on Cancer

Sharing best practice implementation and issuing guidelines to feed the design and roll-out of new actions.



### ✓ European Cancer Imaging Initiative

An EU 'atlas' of cancer-related images, making anonymised images accessible, improving personalised medicine.



### ✓ European Initiative to Understand CANcer

Support to innovation and advancing the understanding of cancer mechanisms.

## Stopping cancer before it starts

**Prevention is more effective than any cure**, and many cancers can be prevented thanks to vaccination. The EU Cancer Plan is **reducing unnecessary suffering** and making progress towards the elimination of cervical cancer.



### ✓ Proposal for a Council Recommendation on vaccine-preventable cancers

Supporting efforts to **extend routine gender-neutral vaccination against human papillomaviruses (HVP) and vaccination against Hepatitis B**.



## Better prognosis and more treatment options thanks to earlier detection

Early detection through screening offers the **best chance of treating cancer** and increases treatment options. To support decision making, an upgraded European Cancer Information System has begun monitoring and assessing national cancer screening programmes.



### ✓ New EU-supported Cancer Screening Scheme

Improve cancer screening access, quality and diagnostics, following advice from the European Commission's Group of Chief Scientific Advisors and new science based screening guidelines.

## Improving cancer care and reducing inequalities

Everyone has the right to **affordable, preventive and curative healthcare of good quality**, no matter where they live. The EU Cancer Plan is helping to train the workforce, personalise cancer care and enhance cross-border cooperation.



### ✓ European cancer inequalities registry

Identifying trends, disparities and inequalities between Member States and regions to inform targeted investment and interventions at EU, national and regional level.



### ✓ EU Network linking recognised National Comprehensive Cancer Centres

Sharing capabilities and expertise across the EU, reducing inequalities and duplication, including specialised care for children with cancer.



### ✓ New Networks of Expertise

For specific, challenging cancer conditions, to find solutions already rooted in the European oncology community.