



CraNE

European Network
of Comprehensive Cancer Centres

Newsletter

January 2024

Welcome to the 4th Newsletter of the CraNE JA

With these Newsletters we aim to keep you informed about the progression of CraNE Joint Action (JA) and all current affairs. Keep scrolling to find out more about us!

In this issue, get informed about the CraNE JA Steering Committee Meeting held on 23 November 2023, the third WP6 hybrid meeting organized on 28 November 2023 in Luxembourg, the CraNE 1st Joint Action Meeting that took place online on 29 November 2023, as well as the Governmental Board online meeting held on 1 December 2023. Furthermore, be informed of the CraNE Stakeholder Forum held in Oslo on 7 December 2023 and the Stakeholder Forum which took place on 15 December 2023 in Slovakia. Additionally, learn more about the World Pancreatic Cancer Day which is organized annually on 16 November and the Cervical Cancer Elimination Day of Action which was celebrated on 17 November 2023.

Finally, we would like to announce Europe's Beating Cancer Plan: Joining Forces event in Brussels on 31 January 2024.

● CraNE JA Steering Committee 23 November 2023

The CraNE JA Steering Committee took place online on **23 November 2023** with the purpose of overviewing the progress made towards objectives and results of the CraNE JA project so far, focusing on the challenge to **structure Comprehensive Cancer Centers-CCCs, Network of CCCs and establish the requirements to build Comprehensive Cancer Care Networks-CCNs.**

● The 3rd CraNE JA WP6 Meeting 28 November 2023, Luxembourg

On **28 November** the third WP6 meeting took place in the **National Cancer Institute (INC) in Luxembourg**. 50 participants from 37 organizations were attending, including guests from the JRC and DG Sante and DG RTD. During the meeting, the results of the five tasks were presented, discussed and agreed as well as the preparations for the following activities were initiated.

In particular, the first draft version of the handbook of how to set-up a **quality assured CCCN** received high inter-

est from the participants. So did the final **Set of Quality Indicator for Lung Cancer Care** as well as the update on the **development of a Lung Cancer Patient Pathway** with a focus on patient-centeredness in CCCNs.

In addition, we were pleased to receive a detailed update from the two pilot centers of the Lower Silesian Oncology Centre (Wroclaw, Poland) and the Lung Cancer Network (Luxembourg), which are implementing a CCCN for Lung Cancer. Last but not least the Antwerp University Hospital (UZA) presented their first preliminary results on the feasibility study to analyze guideline adherence with the help of automatic collection of guideline-based Quality Indicators on the example of Pancreatic Cancer. The **Set of Quality Indicator for Pancreatic Cancer** developed in the **Joint Action iPAAC** are the foundation of this pilot.

We are looking very much forward to continue the great collaboration within WP6. The next WP6 meeting will take place on **01 July 2024** and will be hosted by **National Institute of Public Health (NIH), Warsaw, Poland.**

● CraNE 1st Joint Action Online Meeting 29 November 2023

The CraNE 1st Joint Action online meeting took place Wednesday, **29 November 2023** from 09:30 to 13:30 CET. Online participation was possible via Zoom.

The meeting addressed the following key topics:

- Status of the CraNE JA and specifically pointed out financial information (financial report included)
 - Open issues such as:
 - One pager for Governmental Board
 - Solutions for small Member States
- Status and an overview of all Work Packages (WP2 – WP 8)
- AOB and concluding comments

● CraNE JA Governmental Board Online Meeting 1 December 2023

On behalf of the CraNE JA WP4 Team, the 2nd CraNE JA Governmental Board Meeting took place on Friday, **1 December** from 09:00 CET to 16:00 CET **online** via Webex. The main topics discussed were the development of the Maturity Model by WP4 Team and the presentation of the new JA, temporarily named CraNE 2 by Thomas Dubois.

● **CrāNE JA Stakeholder Forum**
7 December 2023, Oslo

The CrāNE JA Norwegian (OUS) and French partners (INCa) organized the **Stakeholder Forum of the CrāNE JA** project which took place on 7 December from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm in Oslo. This meeting was held in a plenary seating, in an Auditorium of the Institute for Cancer Research, Oslo University Hospital. Presentations were also broadcasted for online attendants.

The CrāNE JA project Stakeholder Forum was a crucial step to bring all relevant stakeholders together, discuss challenges and define a clear roadmap for the successful establishment of the European Network of CCCs. The participation and contributions of all partners were vital to the success of this initiative. In the forum participated representatives on behalf of (a) the European Commission, (b) the Scientific Cancer Society of Norway, (c) all CrāNE JA partners.

The participants had the opportunity to attend and discuss the opinions of scientists working on the field as well as of all the range of various approaches regarding the EU Network of CCCs. The first day (7/12) two round tables and one voting session took place. The voting process focused on what the participants believe as realistic and feasible about the standards and the processes to be followed towards improving the inclusiveness of the EU Network of CCCs.

The second day (8/12) the discussion run through a step by step interpretation of the points set by the WP7 writing group. All criteria and aspects were analyzed in order to achieve consensus in respect to the vision of the EU Network of CCCs. In particular, the meeting included the following sessions:

1. *Importance and potential of building the EU Network of CCCs*
2. *Building a framework for the future EU Network of CCCs*
3. *Ensuring equal access to CCCs through organization and networking*
4. *Expectations for the implementation of the new EU Network of CCCs*
5. *Concluding remarks*



Apart of the consensus achieved on the aforementioned issues related to CrāNE JA, a clear and open discussion about “CrāNE 2” took place. It was a great opportunity to bridge the results (more or less shaped) of the current JA to the next JA, towards cohesiveness and responsiveness for the benefit of EU citizens.

The Forum has proved very fruitful and very useful in terms of networking. The Hosts developed a well-structured process and a friendly though professional context that resulted to a successful Forum, which created added value for the JA and the participants.

● **National CrāNE JA Stakeholder Forum**
15 December 2023, Slovakia

A creative meeting of leading professionals in health policy making, healthcare provision, research, development & education in oncology as well as patients’ organizations took place at the Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic on 15 December 2023.

The Stakeholder Forum for the European project CrāNE JA took place **under the auspices of the President of the Slovak Republic** and focused on the integration of clinical care, research, innovations & education in the EU Network of CCCs. It also mapped out the current situation and the challenges for Slovakia in order to build a national comprehensive cancer center in Slovakia to improve care and simplify the introduction of quality diagnostic and treatment including expert training, research, clinical trials & education on all levels.

Co-coordinators of CrāNE JA activities in Slovakia – **Mária Rečková** and **Soňa Čierniková** from the National Oncology Institute opened this important event. **The National Oncology Institute**, an integrated part of the **National Cancer Institute** actively participates in the CrāNE JA. During the Stakeholder Forum, the President of the Slovak Republic **H.E. Zuzana Čaputová** and Deputy Head of the Unit for Cancer and Health at the European Commission, DG Santé **Matthias Schuppe**, sent their heartfelt greetings to the attendees via video message. In the conference hall, the Minister of Health of the Slovak Republic **Zuzana Dolinková** and the Scientific Coordinator of the CrāNE JA **Tit Albreht**, welcomed and greeted the auditorium.

Among the presenters at the Stakeholder Forum was the Scientific Coordinator of CrāNE JA **Tit Albreht**, the General Manager of the Cancer Center Board at Oslo University Hospital CCC **Per Magnus Mæhle**, who is a Co-coordinator of WP7 and Co-coordinator of the Subtask 5.3.1 in WP5 of the CrāNE JA, the Co-coordinator of the ECHoS project (Establishing of Cancer Mission Hubs: Networks and Synergies) **Hugo Soares** and the Head of Accreditation Section from the Department of International Accreditations at Masaryk Memorial Cancer Institute CCC in Brno **Olga Sapožnikov**. After the presentations, discussions in Expert panels followed, with the participation of all relevant Stakeholders, including State Secretaries from both the Ministry of Health



of the Slovak Republic and the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic, the State Secretary to the Vice-premier of the Slovak Republic for the Recovery and Resilience Plan and EU Funds.

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CANCER DAYS - UPCOMING EVENTS



CANCER AWARENESS DATES

► World Pancreatic Cancer Day 16 November 2023

World Pancreatic Cancer Day is recognized every year on the **third Thursday in November**. This awareness day is about bringing everyone together to spread the word about this disease and the need for earlier diagnosis.



◆ Europe's Beating Cancer Plan: Joining Forces 31 January 2024, Brussels

The "Europe's Beating Cancer Plan (EBCP)" was published three years ago aiming to fight against cancer and support disease control and care quality improvement across the EU.

A high-level event will take place on **31 January 2024**, from 14:30 to 18:30 CET in the Charlemagne building, Brussels.

The meeting will focus on presenting Europe's efforts around four key action areas: *prevention, early detection, diagnosis & treatment and quality of life of cancer patients and survivors, while reducing inequalities and enhancing research & innovation, digital and personalized medicine.*

[Online Registration](#)

◆ The 36th German Cancer Congress 21-24 February 2024, Berlin

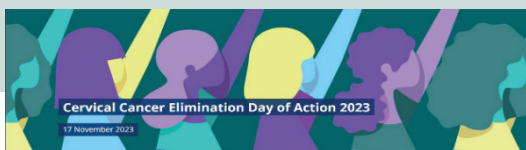
The 36th German Cancer Congress will be held in Berlin from 21-24 February 2024 at the CityCube under the motto "Shaping progress together".

The event will be hosted by both the Deutsche Krebsgesellschaft (**German Cancer Society**) and the Stiftung Deutsche Krebshilfe (**German Cancer Aid Foundation in Bonn**) for the 5th time.



During the congress, several specialists and experts are going to discuss and address the challenges we face in the field of oncology care.

► Cervical Cancer Elimination Day of Action 17 November 2023

Cervical Cancer Elimination Day of Action is a global healthcare awareness event observed on the **17th of November** every year, intended to eliminate the disease and encourage new initiatives to end cervical cancer.



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Our Next
Newsletter