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**Validation of a global self-assessment and peer-review quality programme dedicated to comprehensive cancer centres : A method to assess, improve and promote quality of integrated care, research and education in cancer centres.**

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*Abstract:*

**Background:** Oncology is a speciality requiring a combination of multidisciplinary expertises, novel technology, integration of innovation into care and research efforts in order to improve the quality of life and survival of patients. Provision of high-quality care and improvement of disease outcome should be promoted in cancer centres.

**Methods:** The Organisation of European Cancer Institutes developed an Accreditation Programme combining : 1-a quantitative questionnaire assessing the human, technical and financial resources and activities in care, research and education dedicated to oncology; 2- a set of standards and criteria for high-quality cancer management integrated in an electronic tool with a scoring system of compliance; 3- a peer-review process for review of the self-assessment outcome and on-site visits; 4- a report and improvement plan allowing to designate comprehensive cancer centers complying with required criteria for high-quality comprehensive cancer patient management. All components of the Accreditation Programme were tested in 8 different voluntary cancer centres in Europe. The objectives were to assess the feasibility, reproducibility and acceptance of the Accreditation Programme; to improve the standards and criteria in terms of understanding and consensus; to validate the peer review methodology and establish a method for reporting and implementing an improvement plan; to provide with a preliminary system of designation of comprehensive cancer centres based on criteria of high-quality integrated research, care and education.

**Results:** The 2 consecutive pilot tests allowed to validate 1- relevant items for the quantitative questionnaire; 2-criteria and standards for high-quality integrated multidisciplinary cancer patient's management. 3-The impact of the Accreditation Programme on improvement of patients management and professionals involvement.

**Conclusions:** The OECI Accreditation Programme is ready for dissemination. Participation to the Programme allows development of improvement plans for innovative and integrated comprehensive cancer patients management in cancer centres.

**Author Disclosure Information:** M. Saghatchian, None; H. Hummel, None; R. Otter, None; D. de Valeriola, None; W. van Harten , None; A. Paradiso, None; J. Lovey , None; M. Kasler,

None; **P. Fumoleau**, None; **U. Ringborg**, None; **T. Tursz**, None.

**Topic Category (Complete):** Practice Management/Professional Issues

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