



## ECICC: European Commission Initiative on Colorectal Cancer

### WHAT IS ECICC?

The European Commission Initiative on Colorectal Cancer (ECICC) is a person-centred initiative to improve and harmonise colorectal cancer screening and care in Europe.

With this aim, ECICC will develop evidence-based **guidelines** for the production of a quality assurance scheme for health-care services involved in the colorectal cancer care pathway.

### WHY ECICC?

Colorectal cancer is the second most commonly diagnosed cancer and cause of death from cancer in Europe. Every year, there are a quarter of a million new cases. In 2013, almost 153 000 people died from colorectal cancer in the EU. Moreover, there are persistent differences in the survival rate of patients across Europe, with below-average survival consistently observed in some countries. These differences suggest that there are health inequalities that could be reduced through coordinated European action.

## WHAT IS THE AIM?

ECICC aims to provide individuals with a quality assurance scheme developed using a person-centred approach and based on scientific evidence. The scheme will cover the entire colorectal cancer pathway, from screening in asymptomatic individuals and diagnosis through to treatment, rehabilitation, management of recurrence and palliative care.

The structure of the ECICC scheme will be modular, adaptable and feasible for any national, regional or local set-up to implement. It will also take the potential implementation costs into account.

## HOW WILL IT BENEFIT PEOPLE AND PATIENTS?

ECICC will empower individuals and patients by focusing on their actual needs. With ECICC, they will benefit from high-quality healthcare services in screening and throughout the care pathway, based on the latest scientific evidence. This will be transparent and easy to understand, enabling them to make informed decisions about their health.

## HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

ECICC applies an inclusive, bottom-up approach. Anyone is welcome to participate in calls for feedback on specific documents, and for expressions of interest, such as applying for ECICC working group membership.

Feedback and cooperation with academia, patients' organisations, professionals, associations and local institutions are vital to ECICC: feedback from users will support the future development of the guidelines and scheme, allowing continuous adjustment and improvement.

ECICC aims to monitor and evaluate its impact on key outcomes at individual, population and service level. This monitoring has been planned from the very beginning and collaboration with all stakeholders is a vital part of that.

## TIMELINE

- Appointment of ECICC National Contacts – 2017
- Website set-up – 2018
- Open call for feedback to define ECICC scope – 2018
- Appointment of working group members through an open call – 2019

## WANT TO FIND OUT MORE?

Please email us at:

[jrc-cancer-policy-support@ec.europa.eu](mailto:jrc-cancer-policy-support@ec.europa.eu)

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*Health, Consumers and Reference Materials  
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Via E. Fermi 2749 • 21027 Ispra (VA) • Italy

Tel.: +39 03321 78 9111