The 2003 Council Recommendation on Cancer Screening and the European Initiative on Breast Cancer

Conference "Putting Science into Standards"
Ispra 20-21 October 2015

Michael Hübel, Head of Unit - Programme Management and Diseases -DG Health and Food safety
30 years of EU action against cancer

- **1985** - European Council in Milan, the Heads of State decide to launch the first "Europe Against Cancer" programme

EU added value in the field of cancer

Support to Member States

Prevention of Cancer - Primary Prevention (including work on health determinants)

Secondary Prevention/Screening (Guidelines, European Initiative on Breast Cancer)

Cancer Data and Information

Research
**Aim**: Integrated cancer plans in all Member States to contribute to reducing the cancer burden in the EU – Target: 15% incidence reduction by 2020. 25 of the 28 Member States had a plan or strategy by 2014.

**EPAAC Cancer joint action (2010-2013)**

- Health Promotion and **cancer prevention**, including screening,
- Identification of best practice in cancer-related **healthcare**,
- The collection and analysis of comparable **data** and information,
- A coordinated approach to cancer **research**.
CanCon Joint Action - Workpackages

1. Coordination
2. Dissemination
3. Evaluation
4. Guide
5. MS Platform
6. Integrated Cancer Control
7. Community level cancer care
8. Survivorship
9. Screening
• **Addressing the major risk factors:** tobacco, alcohol, nutrition and physical activity

• **EU tobacco control policy** – Tobacco products and advertising, second-hand smoke, campaigns.

• **Occupational and environmental factors**, such as exposure to carcinogenic and mutagenic substances, and air quality.

• Focus on prevention of occupational diseases, including cancer in the EU Strategic Framework on **Health and Safety at Work** 2014-2020

• Specific EU regulations on the **protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens or mutagens at work**
1. Do not smoke. Do not use any form of tobacco.

2. Make your home smoke free. Support smoke-free policies in your workplace.

3. Take action to be a healthy body weight.

4. Be physically active in everyday life. Limit the time you spend sitting.

5. Have a healthy diet:
   - Eat plenty of whole grains, pulses, vegetables and fruits.
   - Limit high-calorie foods (foods high in sugar or fat) and avoid sugary drinks.
   - Avoid processed meat; limit red meat and foods high in salt.

www.cancercode.eu
In December 2003, the Council adopted a Recommendation on cancer screening.

- sets out principles of best practice in the early detection of cancer.

- invites Member States to take common action to implement national population-based screening programmes for breast, cervical and colorectal cancer,

- with appropriate quality assurance at all levels.
To assist Member States with the implementation of screening programmes, the Commission has published European Guidelines for quality assurance in breast, cervical and colorectal cancer screening.

Supplements
Fourth Edition
Guidelines on Breast Cancer Screening and Diagnosis
(published 2013)
European Commission Initiative on Breast Cancer

- Implemented by the Joint Research Centre
- The project will develop the **new version of the European Guidelines** for Quality Assurance in Breast Cancer Screening and Diagnosis
- And a voluntary European **Quality Assurance** scheme for Breast Cancer Services underpinned by accreditation and evidence-based guidelines
Guidelines Development Group
Provides evidence to Quality Assurance Scheme

Quality Assurance Scheme Development Group
Supports guidelines implementation

Structural cooperation between the 2 working groups
Policy coordination - Expert Group on Cancer Control

The European Commission Expert Group on Cancer Control, was established by a Commission Decision in June 2014. The Group provides advice and expertise to the Commission:

- preparation of legislative proposals and policy initiatives (Commission's right of initiative)
- the implementation of existing EU legislation, programmes and policies.

Members:
Member States, Patients' Representatives, NGOs (prevention), scientific societies, as well as industry and WHO/IARC
Issues for the future

- Cross border health services
- Screening and early diagnosis – scope, cancer sites, guidelines
- Survivorship and Rehabilitation
- Personalized Medicine
Thank you!

http://ec.europa.eu/health