

# Europe's Beating Cancer Plan

Call for proposals on Networks of Expertise – (CR-g-24-96)

**Matthias Schuppe, Deputy Head of Unit  
DG Health and Food Safety**

**#EUCancerPlan #HealthUnion**





Objective under Europe's Beating Cancer Plan:

- **Flagship initiative 5. Delivering high quality cancer care:**

1. Creation of National Comprehensive Cancer Centre(s) in all Member States;
2. **New cancer Reference Networks on cancer and cancer conditions in addition to the four existing ERNs;**
3. EU cancer 'Treatment Capacity and Capability Digital Mapping' project.

# ENSURING HIGH STANDARDS IN CANCER CARE



## 2024 EU4Health Work Programme call

➤ CR-g-24-96 — **Supporting** the establishment of new Networks of Expertise on cancer and cancer conditions:

- Type of applicants targeted: Academia and education establishments, research institutes, hospitals, public authorities, expert networks, civil society organisations associations, foundations, NGOs and similar entities
- Indicative publication date: 17.09.2024
- Budget: EUR 1 000 000

A preparatory Joint Action ([JA JANE](#)) developed the concepts and laid the foundations for the new NoEs (October 2022 - September 2024).

Activities will complement the Joint Action on new Networks of Expertise JANE-2 (CR-g-23-40.1-2).

# Joint Action on Networks of Expertise JANE-2

## Objectives

The aim of the action is to establish seven EU Networks of Expertise (NoEs) for cancer care-related issues that require cross-border cooperation and European-level know-how. The topics covered by the new NoEs will be:

- Personalized primary prevention
- Adolescents and young adults with cancer
- Survivorship
- Complex & poor prognosis cancers
- Palliative care
- Hi-tech medical resources
- Omic technologies



JANE-2 partners with other Joint Actions and networks, including the Joint Action on EU Network of Comprehensive Cancer Centres, (JA CraNE), the CSA action on Comprehensive Cancer Infrastructure in Europe (CCI4EU), and the European Reference Networks (ERNs).



## Examples of actions that can be funded

- The implementation of **targeted projects** involving patient organisations, civil societies and non-government organisations complementing the Member States' actions in the implementation of the NoEs;
- the establishment of **best practices**, public health and treatment **guidelines**, or other actions that can benefit patients;
- preparation and roll out of **innovative practices** (pilot tests);
- support actions such as **training and twinning**, health **communication** or health **literacy**.





## Expected Results And Impact

To enable stakeholders (in particular civil society, patient and health professional organisations), to **contribute to the delivery of the joint action on new networks of expertise** launched under the EU4Health work programme 2023, through:

- establishing within the NoEs **supporting actions for patients, families, caregivers** and other participants in the fight against cancer.
- help Member States to **improve cooperation among their cancer services and with health professionals and patient advocates** (by for instance addressing skill gaps and better equipping the health workforce in cancer care)
- improve and deepen the **cooperation with the non-governmental sector.**

# Joint Actions JANE and JANE-2:

Background information,  
objectives and expected results

# JANE

## Joint Action on Networks of Expertise on Cancer



**EC contribution:** EUR 4 000 000

**Duration:** October 2022 – September 2024

**Project Lead:** Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale Tumori

**Number of beneficiaries:** 16

**Who are the beneficiaries:** INT (IT), Sciensano (BE), CIPH (HR), INCA (FR), BMG (DE), NHRF (GR), OOI (HU), SAM LT (LT), MFH (M), OUS (N), MSCJ (PL), DGS (PT), IOCN (RO), OIL (SI), Kronikgune (ES), MOTOL (CZ).

The Joint Action also involves **20 Affiliated Entities**.

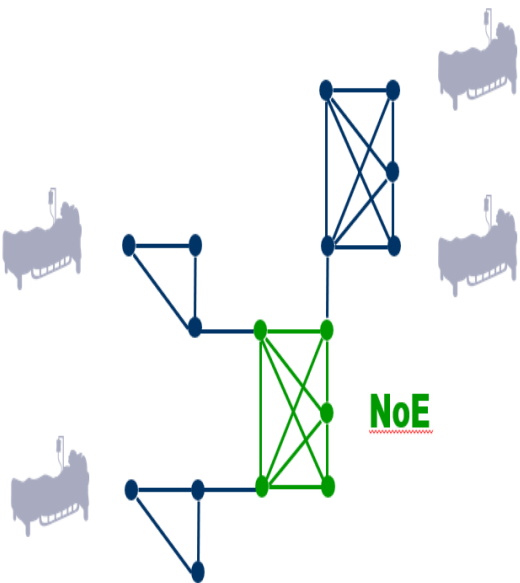
All are public bodies including cancer institutes, university hospitals, research institutes, ministries of health.





# Context and Objectives

- JANE and JANE-2: part of a series of complementary Joint Actions rooted in Europe's Beating Cancer Plan.
- **Ambition of JANE:** to shape seven new European Networks of Expertise (NoEs) for cancer care-related issues requiring cross-border cooperation and European-level know-how, building on previous and ongoing EU networking experiences, and finding solutions rooted in the European oncology community.
- **Main goals :**
  - lay foundations and prepare groundwork to launch the NoEs (scope, objectives, endorsement criteria, governance, synergies ...);
  - critically evaluate existing models of current and future EU networking aimed at optimizing functioning of new NoEs;
  - set up five transversal task forces focused on issues related to healthcare networking in the cancer domain in the EU today:



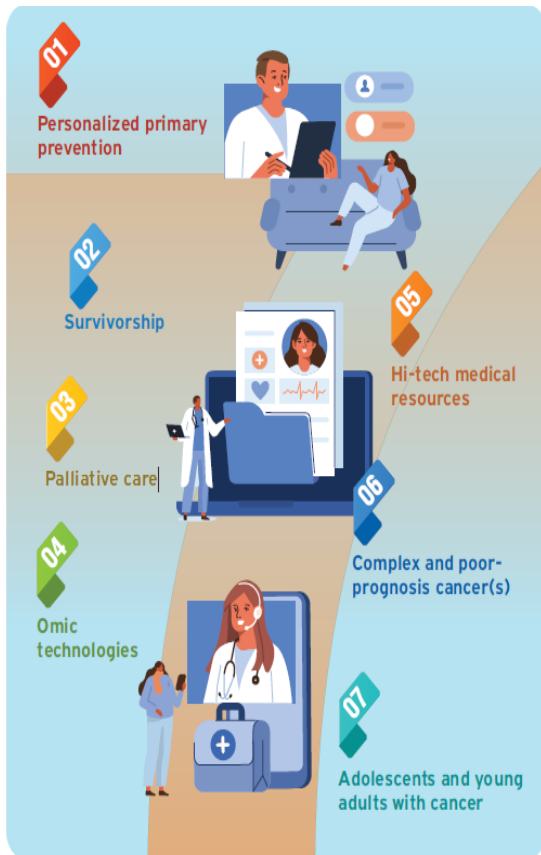
- integration between healthcare & research
- integration between EU networking & MS
- integration between IT infrastructure & AI tools
- the ERN model
- patient involvement in EU health networking

# Expected Results and Benefits to Patients and Society

By fostering coordinated relationships within the European oncology community, the aim of JANE is to find solutions that allow patients across the EU to benefit from increased knowledge and expertise and more accessible health services.

Joint Action outputs will be shared with the European oncology community and Member States, through a Green Paper, submitted for publication, and a JANE closing conference (24-25 September, 2024).

Healthcare networking could become a privileged hallmark of the EU, targeting the health of its citizens in a highly coordinated way.



# JANE-2

## Joint Action on Networks of Expertise

**EC contribution:** EUR 40 500 000

**Duration:** 48 months, estimated October 2024 – September 2028

**Project Lead:** Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale Tumori, Milan, Italy

**Number of beneficiaries:** 29 beneficiaries

**25 Member States** (Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden), **two associated countries** (Iceland, Norway) and **two candidate countries** (Moldova, Ukraine) **involved**.

The Joint Action also involves **92 Affiliated Entities**.

All are public bodies including cancer institutes, university hospitals, research institutes, ministries of health.



Co-funded by the  
European Union

<https://jane-project.eu/>



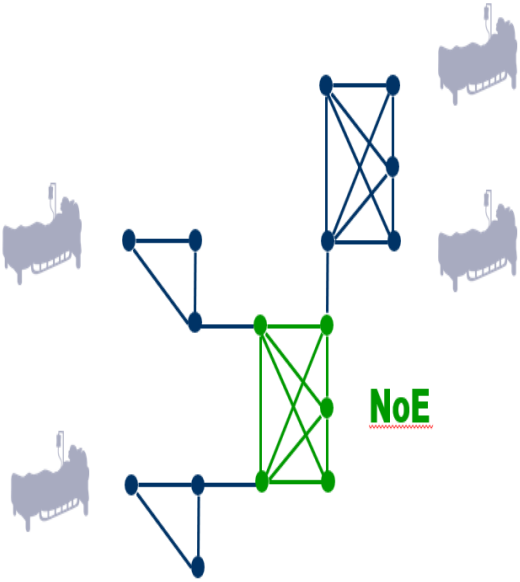
European  
Commission

## Concept and objectives – JANE-2

➤ The aim of JANE-2 is to give rise to the 7 NoEs conceived within JANE by elaborating the recommendations set by Europe's Beating Cancer Plan, in the following areas:

- complex and poor-prognosis cancers;
- palliative care;
- survivorship;
- personalized primary/secondary cancer prevention;
- omic technologies;
- hi-tech medical resources;
- adolescents and young adults with cancer

➤ They correspond to challenging cancer areas which should especially benefit from cross-border cooperation throughout the EU, i.e. from health networking



# Concept and Objectives – JANE-2



- Ambition of NoEs is to be viewed as **high-profile EU networks** assembling the best expertise and facilities available in EU on subjects of interest, designed to **support** national networks, comprehensive cancer centres and all cancer healthcare providers in:
  - selected areas of healthcare and clinical decision-making,
  - rationalization of equitable access to available resources,
  - regulation and public policy,
  - maximizing and shaping the EU and national investment and vision in terms of research infrastructures and platforms.
- Unlike European Reference Networks for rare cancers and National Comprehensive Cancer Centres - both directly linked to patients – the NoEs created in JANE will **provide services & tools** to the European cancer community, each focused on its specific subject.

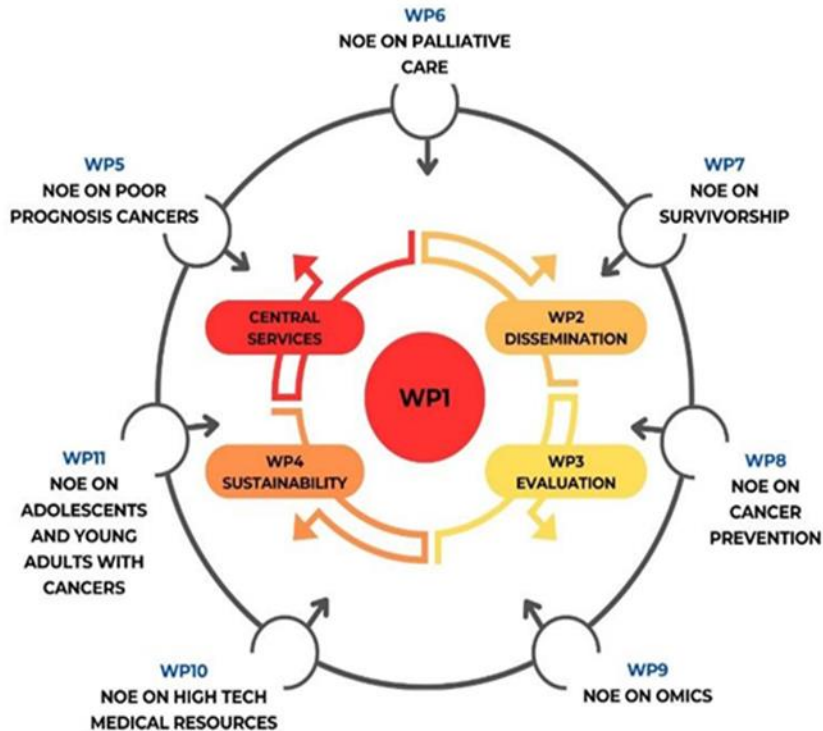


## Core activities – JANE-2

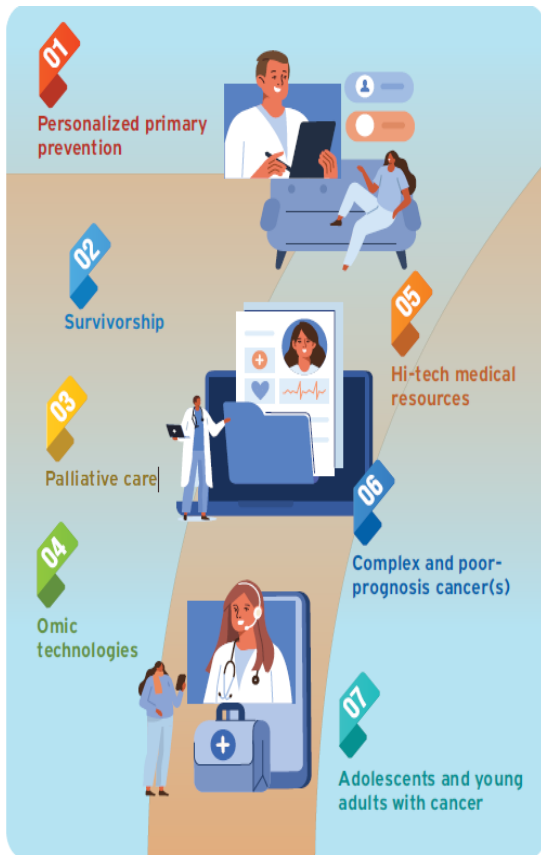
➤ **Services and tools** provided by the NoEs will include:

- producing/supporting **clinical practice guidelines** and/or general recommendations for medical professionals, patients, the public;
- **raising public awareness** and carrying out **advocacy/policy actions**;
- developing **healthcare organizational models**, bearing in mind the variegated nature of EU Member States;
- developing **educational initiatives/tools** for medical professionals and patients;
- promoting **research**;
- developing **quality criteria** for **accreditation/endorsement** mechanisms;
- **engaging patients** and the public.

➤ To deliver services to the cancer community, NoEs will ultimately need to formally incorporate not only healthcare providers, but also **other stakeholders**, i.e. scientific and professional societies, patient organisations, research institutes devoted to items such as public health, health economics, molecular biology etc.



## Expected Results and Benefits to Patients and Society – JANE-2



- Networking is a great added value of European health care. NoEs will be an attempt to implement a completely new kind of health networks.
- By pursuing complementarity, JANE-2 will endeavour to translate into synergies any areas of potential overlap with other EU networks (i.e. EUnetCCC, ERNs), but also European and national scientific and professional societies, PAGs etc.
- Ultimate goal of JANE-2 is to ensure that, by the end of the JA, NoEs are largely independent and able to collaborate with each other, with other EU networks (EUnetCCC, ERNs) and with entire European oncology community (including scientific/professional societies, patient advocacy groups, etc.).