

#HealthUnion
#EUCancerPlan

**DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES FOR PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT AND
REHABILITATION FOR CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES IN PAEDIATRIC
ONCOLOGY CLINICS IN MEMBER STATES AND COUNTRIES ASSOCIATED TO THE
EU4HEALTH PROGRAMME**



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BACKGROUND AND POLICY CONTEXT

- Europe's Beating Cancer Plan: Focuses on childhood cancer, aiming to enhance the multidisciplinary cancer workforce.
- Current Situation: Significant lack of psychosocial care for children with cancer in many European countries. By 2030 an estimated 750,000 pediatric cancer survivors in Europe will need such care.
- Role of Psycho-Oncologists: They work alongside oncologists to provide therapy and guide patients toward positive treatment perceptions. Psycho-oncological care is crucial at all disease stages, improving patients' quality of life by addressing their psychological state and supporting their families.

OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE

#	Key Point	Description
1	Establish a Support Service	Create a service in pediatric oncology clinics to provide psychological and social support to children and their families during cancer treatment.
2	Target Demographic	Support infants, children, adolescents, and young adults from 0 months to 24 years old.
3	Identify Capabilities and Gaps	Identify different capabilities available across Europe and regularly assess gaps and needs at national and regional levels.
4	Focus on Quality of Life	Enhance the quality of life and well-being of young cancer patients, their families, siblings, and relatives through comprehensive support.

5	Provide Comprehensive Support	Include mental, psychosocial, and nutritional support alongside clinical oncology, surgery, radiology specialties, and nursing services.
6	Support Europe's Beating Cancer Plan	Contribute to the implementation of Europe's Beating Cancer Plan to support childhood cancer.
7	Implement EU4Health Programme Objectives	Align with the EU4Health Programme's general objectives to strengthen health systems by improving their resilience and resource efficiency.

SCOPE

COMPREHENSIVE PSYCHOSOCIAL CARE: FOCUS ON ESTABLISHING A UNIFIED SYSTEM FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL SUPPORT FOR PEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY PATIENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

ASSESSMENT AND IMPROVEMENT: CONDUCT THOROUGH ASSESSMENTS OF CURRENT SERVICES TO IDENTIFY BEST PRACTICES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENHANCEMENT.

EXPECTED IMPACT

Objective	Develop a social service for psychosocial support and rehabilitation for children and their families in pediatric oncology clinics across the EU and associated countries
Europe-wide Psychosocial Care Standard	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establish a standard to ensure high-quality psychosocial care throughout the pediatric oncology treatment trajectory.• Ensure smooth transition from pediatric to adult care.• Eliminate inequalities in access to care.
Improve Cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enhance cooperation among cancer services in Member States and EU4Health associated countries.• Address skill gaps and equip the health workforce with trained personnel in cancer care.
Overcoming Consequences of Treatment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Address issues arising from drastic separation from the usual environment.• Manage physical discomfort, late effects of treatment, low self-esteem, and lack of self-confidence.

Type of applicants targeted / Budget / Expected duration

| Academia and Education Establishments

| Research Institutes

| Hospitals

| Expert Networks

| Civil Society Organisations

| Associations

| Foundations

| NGOs

| Private Entities (for profit/not for profit)

| International Organisations

| Member States' Authorities

| Municipalities and National Authorities in the Health Domain

EUR 7 400 000 / 36 MONTHS

Thank you

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