



Successful patient participation in cancer research

Including patients in cancer research is vitally important in order to better focus research on actual needs and improve its value. By integrating both those giving and receiving cancer treatment, research projects can be better designed to address the real demands of patients. This therefore improves project implementation. Including patients early on in the development stage of the research process also leads to greater acceptance of research results and generates greater support for projects.

Activities within the scope of the German Presidency of the Council of the EU

Patient participation is one of the primary objectives of the Trio Council Presidency shared by Germany, Portugal and Slovenia. As part of the German Council Presidency, the research ministers from Germany, Portugal and Slovenia adopted the “Europe: Unite Against Cancer” declaration on 13 October 2020. The ministers discussed joint approaches to strengthening cancer research in Europe beforehand at the affiliated research policy conference.

Federal Ministry of Education and Research strategy process

In order to further support this important process of strengthening patient involvement in cancer research, the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) has launched an initiative in cooperation with its Trio partners, which aims to ensure that patient participation becomes standard throughout Europe. The BMBF took the first step towards this goal on 14 October 2020 in a dialogue with international representatives of patients’ organisations, cancer researchers and experts in participatory research. During these talks, the participants laid out the basic principles for successful patient participation in cancer research.

Workshop on principles for successful participation

An online workshop will be held on 10 December 2020 to discuss and refine the basic principles for successful patient participation in cancer research with a wider range of stakeholders. If you are interested in taking part in the workshop, please sign up using the attached registration form. Please tell us your name, your institution and which two discussion sessions (see here for the meeting agenda) you would like to take part in.

Please note that the event is limited to 60 participants.