ECIBC - European Commission Initiative on Breast Cancer

Joint Research Centre

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ECIBC at a Glance

EUROPEAN COMMISSION INITIATIVE ON BREAST CANCER
The Joint Research Centre (JRC)

- Belongs to the European Commission
- Supports European policies with scientific evidence:
  - At the service of policymakers and citizens
  - Independent from any economic interest
- 3000 staff > 75% scientists
Rationale

• 2003 - Council Recommendation for national population-based screening programmes for breast, colorectal and cervical cancer in accordance with European Guidelines

• 2008 - European Parliament and Council ask the Commission to **develop new guidelines based on scientific evidence** and **quality assurance scheme** for screening and care

• Major discrepancies in the quality of care and access to care across EU
Objective

ECIBC aims to:

- Improve quality of care
- Reduce inequalities in accessing care for breast cancer across Europe.

Applies to:

- Population based organised screening programmes
To improve the quality of breast cancer screening, diagnosis, and care and to contribute to reducing inequalities in accessing breast cancer services across Europe:

- European breast cancer guidelines on screening and diagnosis; and a
- Quality assurance scheme for breast cancer services covering the entire care pathway providing quality indicators and requirements
Components

1. Guidelines for screening and diagnosis based on scientific evidence

2. Standards and requirements of quality for breast centres covering the entire pathway of care

- National contacts in 35 countries
- 52 experts and patients representatives in two working groups
- 113 million women potentially involved for screening between 45-74 years old
- 74 evidence-based recommendations
- 86 requirements
- Recommendations tailored for three user profiles: healthcare professionals, policymakers, women
- A collection of international guidelines on treatment, follow-up and palliative care
Key Features

• Applies to population-based screening programmes
• Guidelines and quality assurance scheme - regularly updated
• Scientific evidence based, transparent process, reproducible methodology
• Coverage of the entire care pathway with particular attention on women/patients' needs / women versions in lay language
• Voluntary application and step-wise approach
• Provision of supportive instruments to facilitate practical implementation
• Standardised auditing mechanism included
ECIBC (first version) completed:
  • Publication of the QA Scheme Manuals (30 June 2021)
  • Guidelines - 2° updating round ongoing

Testing of individual Quality Assurance Scheme components
(Feasibility exercise and Pilot run in 2021-2023)

• QA Scheme update
• Ready for full implementation (expected for 2024)
• In 12 countries ECIBC products (guidelines or requirements) already in use
  and or /planned
European Commission Initiatives on Cancer - population based screening: Outlook

- 2003 - Council Recommendation on national population-based screening programmes for breast, colorectal and cervical cancer in accordance with European Guidelines
- Upcoming amendment - ongoing:
  - considers the new EU Cancer Screening Scheme that shall help to ensure that 90% of the EU population who qualify for breast, cervical and colorectal cancer screenings are offered screening by 2025
  - shall include an extension to gastric, lung and prostate cancer
ECIBC - visit us at:

Breast cancer guidelines and quality assurance

European guidelines on screening and diagnosis
Evidence-based breast cancer guidelines developed by the European Commission.

International guidelines on breast cancer care
Catalogue of guidelines on treatment, rehabilitation, follow-up and palliative care.

European quality assurance scheme
Quality assurance for breast cancer services covering the entire breast cancer pathway.

Thanks

Any questions?
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