



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE

Directorate F – Health and Food
Disease Prevention

Ispira
JRC.F.1/SB

1st October, 2025

Subject: The official European QA scheme for Breast Cancer Services is available for implementation

Dear Conformity Assessment Bodies,

The Joint Research Centre of the European Commission is pleased to announce the release of the first official version of the [European Quality Assurance \(QA\) Scheme for Breast Cancer Services](#) (the European scheme).

Purpose of the scheme

The European scheme defines a European standard of care for breast cancer within the context of organised, population-based cancer screening. Its requirements cover the entire breast cancer pathway—from screening and diagnosis to treatment and supportive care thereby ensuring the continuity of care for women across Europe.

Its widespread adoption will help ensure equitable access to high quality breast cancer care across the EU, reducing disparities and supporting patient mobility within European health systems.

Overview of the scheme

The European scheme is:

- Evidence-based and patient-centred, with a focus on continuity of care.
- Voluntary, modular, and flexible, allowing services to adopt it gradually.
- Designed to interact with existing certifications, where relevant.
- Supported by practical tools, which will include a self-assessment to help services evaluate their readiness.

Offering certification services for the European scheme

Conformity Assessment Bodies operating in the healthcare field are invited to evaluate their interest to certify breast cancer services in accordance with the [European Scheme](#).

The European cooperation for Accreditation (EA) has endorsed this scheme, where the European scheme shall be applied for the accreditation of Conformity Assessment Bodies certifying under the European Commission Initiative for Breast Cancer Care (ECIBC).

By becoming Conformity Assessment Bodies for the European scheme, such bodies would play a critical role in improving breast cancer screening and care thereby contributing to equity in the access of quality cancer care across Europe, through the wide application of these evidence-based quality standards.

Access to the scheme and resources

We invite you to visit the [European Commission's web hub](#) where you can:

- Access the online version of the European QA scheme,
- Find additional supporting tools and updates related to the European QA scheme and subscribe to the [newsletter](#) for the latest updates and developments.

Contact information

For questions, further information, or to express interest in becoming a conformity assessment body under the European scheme, please contact: JRC-CANCER-CARE-QA-SCHEMES@ec.europa.eu

Please share the information on this European initiative within your network to support its dissemination across Europe.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Healthcare Quality Group
European Commission – Joint Research Centre

Contact: JRC-CANCER-CARE-QA-SCHEMES@ec.europa.eu