



SEPTEMBER  
CHILDHOOD CANCER  
AWARENESS MONTH



# How can EU4Health and Horizon Europe programmes improve access to diagnosis, treatment and care for paediatric cancer patients?

Meeting of MEPs Against Cancer (MAC) & Invited Stakeholders  
8 September 2020, Online Webinar

The first stakeholder meeting of the MEPs Against Cancer (MAC) interest group at the European Parliament for the legislature 2019-24 looked at **how EU policy and funding programmes, specifically the #EU4Health and the #CancerMission, can accelerate action to beat childhood cancer sooner in Europe and beyond.**

The meeting was organised by ECL as the MAC Secretariat in partnership with European organisations representing childhood cancer stakeholders: [SIOP-Europe](#), [CCI Europe](#) and [PanCare](#). The purpose of the event was to mark Gold September #ChildhoodCancerAwarenessMonth.



The meeting was chaired and moderated by the MAC leadership: Co-Chairs [Véronique Trillet-Lenoir](#) (RE, France) and [Loucas Fourlas](#) (EPP, Cyprus) and Vice-Chairs [Miriam Dalli](#) (S&D, Malta) and [Petra De Sutter](#) (Greens/EFA, Belgium). The event also featured panel interventions from MEPs with key roles on the legislative files in question, European Commission officials and a parent and survivor representing CCI-Europe.

**Prof. Pamela Kearns, SIOP-Europe President** presented 'Paediatric Cancers in EU4Health Programme - Where to invest?'



## 4 Key paediatric cancer recommendations for EU4Health Programme:

### 1. Address inequalities in the survival of children and adolescents with cancer across Europe through measures to ensure pan-European accessibility to best practice in diagnostics, treatments and long term follow up:

- Ensure long-term sustainability of the European Reference Network on Paediatric Cancer (and other ERNs).
- Introduce a facilitated framework for delivery of practice-changing clinical trials focused on improving standards of care.

### 2. Foster improved access to innovative therapies for children and adolescents with cancer across Europe - a population with major unmet needs in an area of relative market failure, by improving the regulatory environment such as the Paediatric Regulation.



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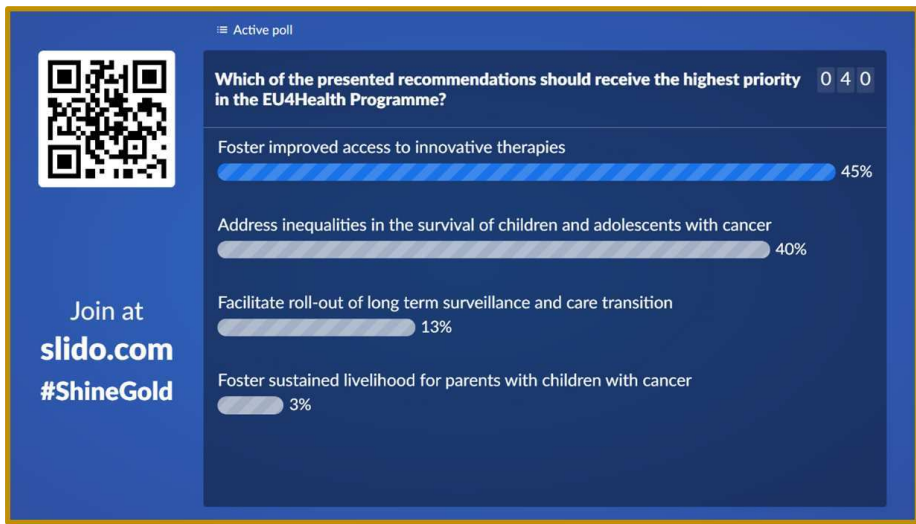
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#CancerMission

**3. Facilitate roll-out of appropriate long-term surveillance and care transition structures** specifically formulated for the expanding population of childhood cancer survivors, estimated at around 500,000 in Europe today, based on models such as the Survivorship Passport.

**4. Foster sustained livelihoods for parents of children with life-threatening illnesses including cancer** to uphold children’s rights for parental presence throughout their disease by, for instance, empowering appropriately resourced parent and patient organisations.

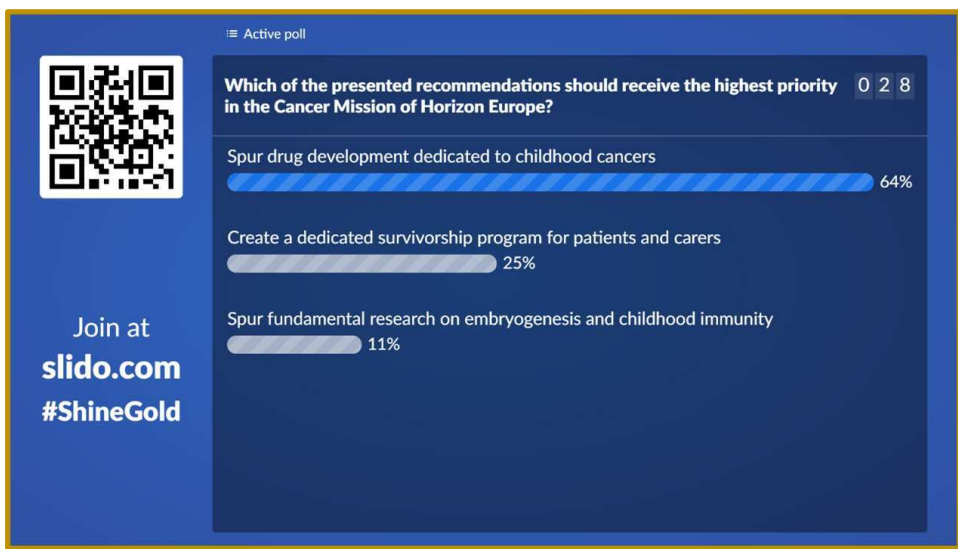


Prof. Christine Chomienne, Vice-Chair of the European Commission’s Mission Board for Cancer, presented the scope, work and draft report of Horizon Europe’s Mission for Cancer.



**3 Key messages concerning childhood cancer research** where strong EU measures need to be launched and their successful implementation monitored:

- 1. Understand childhood cancer:** spur fundamental research on embryogenesis and childhood immunity.
- 2. Provide optimised treatment:** spur drug development dedicated to childhood cancers.
- 3. Provide cancer patients and carers an enhanced quality of life:** create a dedicated survivorship programme for patients and carers.





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# How can EU4Health and Horizon Europe programmes improve access to diagnosis, treatment and care for paediatric cancer patients?

Meeting of MEPs Against Cancer & Invited Stakeholders  
8 September 2020, 10:00-11:30 CEST, ZOOM Webinar

10:00-10:05	Welcome by MAC Chair MEP Loucas Fourlas (EPP, Cyprus)
10:05-10:20	Paediatric Cancers in EU4Health Programme - Where to invest? Prof. Pamela Kearns (SIOPE, CRUK, University of Birmingham)
10:20-10:45	Reflection of MEPs & Stakeholders on Proposed Recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MEP Cristian Silviu Busoi (EPP, Romania)</li> <li>• Paolo Guglielmetti, DG SANTE European Commission</li> <li>• Zuzana Tomášiková, Childhood Cancer Switzerland (CCI-Europe)</li> </ul> Discussion with participants moderated by MEP Miriam Dalli (S&D, Malta)
10:45-11:00	Translating Recommendation 11 of Horizon Europe's Cancer Mission 'Childhood cancers and cancers in adolescents and young adults: cure more and cure better' into Action Prof. Christine Chomienne, Vice-Chair of the Cancer Mission Board
11:00-11:20	Reactions of MEPs & Stakeholders on Proposed Recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MEP Maria Spyraiki (EPP, Greece)</li> <li>• Angelo Ricci, Italian Parents Association (CCI-Europe)</li> </ul> Discussion moderated by MEP Petra De Sutter (Greens/EFA, Belgium)
11:20-11:30	Key Recommendations, Takeaways & Conclusions MEP Véronique Trillet-Lenoir (RE, France), MAC Chair



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