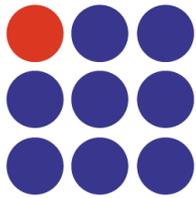




MyPeBS

Personalising
Breast Screening



ECL

Association of European
Cancer Leagues



Breast cancer: better screening for better care. Already 10,000 women participating in MyPeBS!

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Brussels - The [Association of European Cancer Leagues \(ECL\)](#) is pleased to announce the **inclusion of 10,000 female volunteers in the MyPeBS (My Personal Breast cancer Screening) study**, almost half of whom were recruited in France.

MyPeBS ([My Personal Breast cancer Screening](#)) is a unique project, financed by the European Union and coordinated by Unicancer, which brings together 27 international partners and recruiting centres in six countries (Belgium, France, Israel, Italy, Spain and the United Kingdom). The project aims to evaluate a new breast cancer screening strategy based on women's individual risk of developing breast cancer. Overall, MyPeBS aims to recruit 85,000 female volunteers aged between 40 and 70 years old and who have never had breast cancer.



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MyPeBS
is an international
EU-funded clinical
study
that evaluates a new
breast cancer
screening strategy

BE A PARTICIPATING WOMAN BE AN INVESTIGATOR





Dr Suzette Delalogue, Oncologist at Gustave Roussy Cancer campus (Villejuif, France) and **International Scientific Coordinator of the MyPeBS study** said: *"We are delighted to reach this **symbolic milestone of 10,000 women**, as MyPeBS addresses a major public health challenge: to identify a screening strategy that is more efficient and safer than the current one. We hope that many more volunteers will take part in this research, as we aim to recruit 85,000 women across **Belgium, France, Israel, Italy, Spain and the UK** to participate. Interested **women can find all relevant information on the MyPeBS website www.mypebs.eu**."*



David Ritchie, Cancer Prevention Manager at ECL, who is ECL's contact point for MyPeBs WP6 and WP5 added: *"**Cancer leagues have mobilised to improve breast cancer screening through the MyPeBS study. ECL is leading the specific task to communicate the project to the general public, and will also contribute to the work packages assessing psycho-social impact of risk-stratification and recommendations for policy-makers. We are currently activating our member leagues at the national and regional level to help boost recruitment and reach the ambitious target of the MyPeBs study.**"*

With 360,000 new diagnoses and 92,000 deaths each year in Europe, breast cancer remains the most common cancer in women, but it is most often curable if diagnosed early enough.

Today, **all women aged approximately 40 to 70** (age ranges vary between EU countries) **are invited to participate in their national, organised breast cancer screening programme** by having a mammogram every two years. **However, not all women are identical when it comes to breast cancer risk.**

This is why **MyPeBS proposes to adapt the frequency and methods of screening from the age of 40 onwards according to the personal risk profile of each woman**, based on several factors (genetic, hormonal, family history, etc.): the higher the risk, the more intensive the screening examinations, and vice versa.

In order to evaluate this new screening strategy, the **MyPeBS study randomly assigns participating women to follow either the standard screening schedule or a personalised screening schedule** according to their risk of breast cancer. **The duration of participation is 4 years** for all women.

Thus, MyPeBS is **investigating whether personalised risk-based screening could be both more efficient** (fewer late-stage breast cancers diagnosed) **and safer** (fewer false positives (1) and over-diagnoses (2)) than the current organised screening strategies. **MyPeBS has the potential to guide and shape future European recommendations on breast cancer screening.**

(1) False positive: Cancer suspected on a mammogram and which, after further evaluation, is not confirmed.

(2) Overdiagnosis: a cancer that is detected by mammography screening but develops so slowly that it would never cause any symptoms over the life of the woman concerned; however, it leads to other unnecessary exams (e.g. biopsy) or even ineffective- yet sometimes very aggressive - anti-cancer treatments (referred to as "overtreatment"). This concerns around 1 in 10 cancers detected by mammography screening.



NOTES TO EDITORS

About the Association of European Cancer Leagues (ECL)

ECL provides a unique platform as the only **non-profit, pan-European umbrella organisation** with the mission of **uniting**, at the European level, **national and regional cancer leagues** to achieve a cancer-free Europe. Active since 1980 and located in Brussels, ECL currently has **30 members from 25 countries** in the European Region, covering 20 EU member states. ECL's **members are non-profits operating across the whole continuum and patient pathway-from cancer research and awareness to patient support during and after diagnosis**. Cancer leagues are often the **main resource for the public for cancer control information and services**. ECL's mission is to influence and improve cancer control and cancer care in Europe. This is done by providing a forum and voice for experienced charities and supporting new entrants facilitating collaboration and knowledge sharing, primarily in the areas of cancer prevention, tobacco control, access to medicines and patient support, as well as creating opportunities to advocate for these issues at the EU level. ECL also collaborates with global and European institutions, other NGOs and research institutes. For further information about ECL, please visit cancer.eu and follow @CancerLeagues on   

About the MyPeBs (My Personal Breast cancer Screening)

MyPeBS is coordinated by Unicancer and has **received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (under grant agreement N°755394)**. MyPeBS brings together 27 partners in 8 countries (France, Italy, Israel, Belgium, Spain, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, the United States), including **6 recruiting countries in the study**. The total duration of the study is 7 years. [The Association of European Cancer Leagues \(ECL\)](http://The Association of European Cancer Leagues (ECL)) is a partners in the project and collaborates with national and regional cancer leagues in the 6 recruiting countries. For further information, **please visit www.mypebs.eu**. The website is available in English, French, Dutch, Italian, and Israeli.

About Unicancer

Unicancer is the only network of French hospitals that are 100% specialised in fighting cancer and the only national hospital federation dedicated to oncology. It brings together 18 French Comprehensive Cancer Centres, which are private non-profit health establishments, spread over 20 hospital sites in France that treat over 500,000 patients per year. Unicancer is also a **leading academic sponsor of clinical trials in oncology in Europe**, with nearly 6,200 patients included in 100 active clinical trials sponsored by its Research and Development Department in 2019, and nearly 65,000 patients registered in the ESME real-life data programme. Unicancer is ISO 9001-certified for its clinical research. >> Follow us: www.unicancer.fr   

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