







European Journal of Cancer (2013) xxx, xxx-xxx



Available at www.sciencedirect.com

ScienceDirect

journal homepage: www.ejcancer.com



Policy statement on multidisciplinary cancer care

European Partnership Action Against Cancer consensus group: Josep M. Borras a,*, Tit Albreht b, Riccardo Audisio c, Erik Briers d, Paolo Casali c, Hélène Esperou f, Birgitte Grube g, Marc Hamoir h, Geoffrey Henning i, Joan Kelly J, Susan Knox k, Maria Nabal l, Marco Pierotti m, Claudio Lombardo m, Wim van Harten m, Graeme Postonⁿ, Joan Prades^o, Milena Sant^p, Luzia Travado^q, Vincenzo Valentini^r, Cornelis van de Velde^s, Saskia van den Bogaert^t, Marc van den Bulcke^u, Elke van Hoof v, Ingrid van den Neucker w, Robin Wilson x



Multidisciplinary team

- a Catalonian Institute of Oncology (ICO) & University of Barcelona (UB), Barcelona, Spain
- ^b EPAAC, Work Package 10 Cancer Plans & National Institute of Public Health of Slovenia (IVZ), Ljubljana, Slovenia
- ^cInternational Society of Geriatric Oncology (SIOG)
- d European Cancer Patients Coalition (ECPC)
- ^e European Society of Medical Oncology (ESMO)
- ^f European Hospital and Healthcare Federation (HOPE) & UNICANCER
- ⁸ European Oncology Nursing Society (EONS)
- h Cliniques Universitaires Saint-Luc, UCL, Brussels, Belgium
- ^jAssociation of European Cancer Leagues(ECL) & Work Package 5 Health Promotion Prevention
- k Europa Donna The European Breast Cancer Coalition
- ¹European Association for Palliative Care (EAPC)
- m Organisation of European Cancer Institutes (OECI) ⁿ European Society of Surgical Oncology (ESSO)
- ° EPAAC, Work Package 7 Healthcare & Catalonian Cancer Plan, Barcelona, Spain
- PEPAAC, Work Package 9 Information Systems & Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori, Milano, Italy
- ^qInternational Psycho-Oncology Society (IPOS)
- ^rEuropean SocieTy for Radiology & Oncology (ESTRO)
- ⁸European CanCer Organisation (ECCO)
- Scientific Institute of Public Health, Ministry of Health, Brussels, Belgium
- Belgium Cancer Center (BCC), Brussels, Belgium
- Vrije Universitet, Brussels, Belgium
- EPAAC, Work Package 8 Research & European CanCer Organisation (ECCO)
- EUSOMA European Society of Breast Cancer Specialists



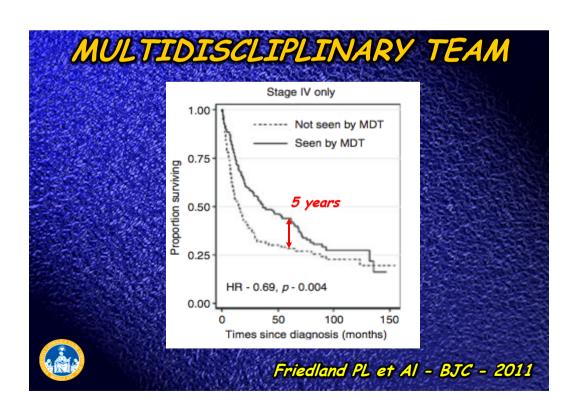




Multidisciplinary team

Multidisciplinary teams (MDTs) are an alliance of all medical and health care professionals related to a specific tumour disease whose approach to cancer care is guided by their willingness to agree on evidence-based clinical decisions and to co-ordinate the delivery of care at all stages of the process, encouraging patients in turn to take an active role in their care.











Multidisciplinary Outcome RECTUM

Study	Type of study	Outcome
Du et al. WJG 2011	Retrospective review of rectal cancer patients (2001-2005), comparing patients receiving MDT treatment vs. those receiving direct surgery	37.1% sphincter preservation in the MDT vs. 13.5% in the non-MDT subgroup (p<0.005) 77.2% 5-year survival rate in the MDT group vs. 69.7% in the non-MDT group (p=0.049)
Palmer et al. Color Dis 2011	Retrospective cohort study of population-based registry (1995-2005), comparing tumour staging and outcomes of locally advanced rectal cancer patients with or without MDT assessment	Incidence of R0 resection was 52% in MDT vs. 43% in non-MDT patients (p<0.001); Local tumour control was 57% in MDT vs. 36% in non-MDT patients (p<0.001) 5-year survival was 30% among MDT vs. 28% among non-MDT patients
Levine et al. IJCD 2012	Prospective study of CRC patients (2008-2009), comparing patients referred to the MDC vs. patients managed outside	Complete pre-operative evaluation in MDC patients was 85% vs. 23% in the control group (p<0.0001) 62.5% of MDC patients vs. 41.5% of control group patients had peri-operative treatment (p=0.02) 76% of MDC rectal cancer patients vs. 20% of control group patients underwent neoadjuvant therapy (p<0.0001)



EPAAC - 2013

MULTIDISCLIPLINARY TEAM BREAST

Study	Type of study	Outcome
KOCCON OF 3	Retrospective, comparative, non-randomised,	At 5 years, breast cancer mortality was 18% lower and
	interventional cohort study of breast cancer patients	all-cause mortality was 11% lower in the intervention area
	(1990-2000)	than in the non-intervention area

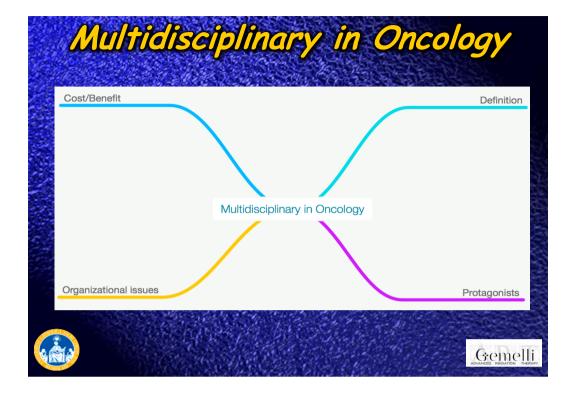


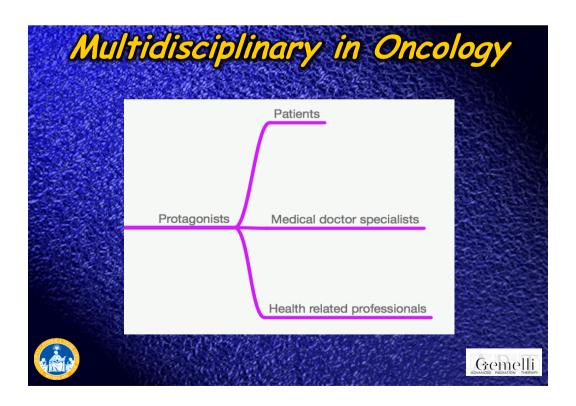
EPAAC - 2013

















Multidisciplinary team

Efforts must be made to ensure an MDT care model based on <u>fluid communication with patients</u> and <u>shared decision-making</u> whenever possible and appropriate. To that effect, patients' treatment and care preferences (particularly those affecting quality of life) should be discussed with them before making clinical decisions. Likewise, <u>patients should have access to a second opinion</u> and the opportunity to choose from different treatments and providers.



Multidisciplinary team

Patients should be able to identify a responsible physician at every stage of the care process. In addition, there should be a designated case manager or other professional responsible for communicating with patients across the various stages of care in order to ensure adequate communication. In this regard, improvement of the patient experience, with special focus on the specific needs of disadvantaged individuals, should be considered a key element of the quality of care.

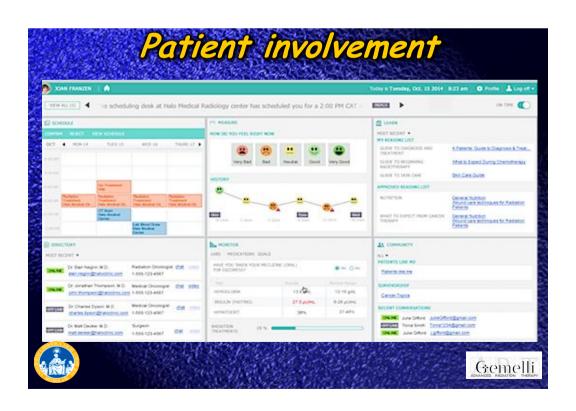








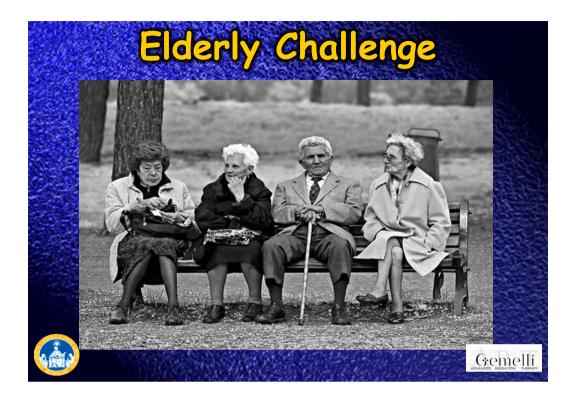


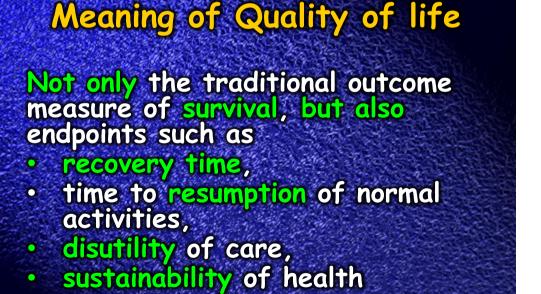










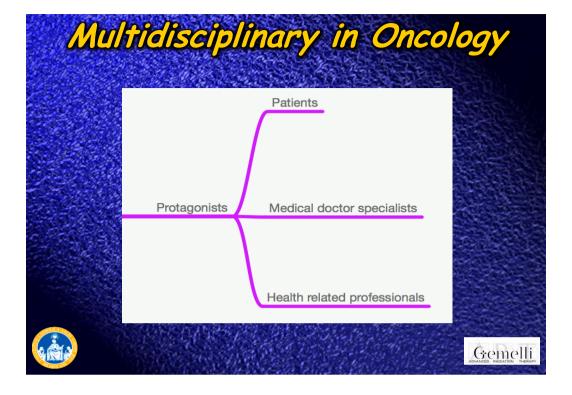


Sullivan R et Al - Lancet Oncology - 2011









Multidisciplinary team

Multidisciplinary teams should monitor all new and recurrent cancer patients, and every case should be presented at a tumour board, either for discussion or verification that the treatment recommendation is consistent with the evidence. It is important to formally assign every specialist involved in cancer diagnosis and treatment to the multidisciplinary tumour board, protecting time for their attendance and promoting team involvement.







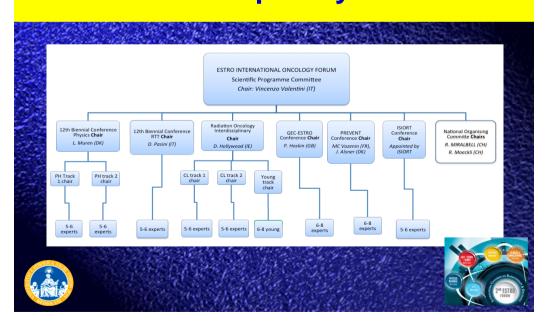


Multidisciplinary team

National and regional authorities and professional organisations should also prioritise this issue on their agendas and promote specific guidance, stressing the importance of MDTs as a cornerstone of modern cancer care.



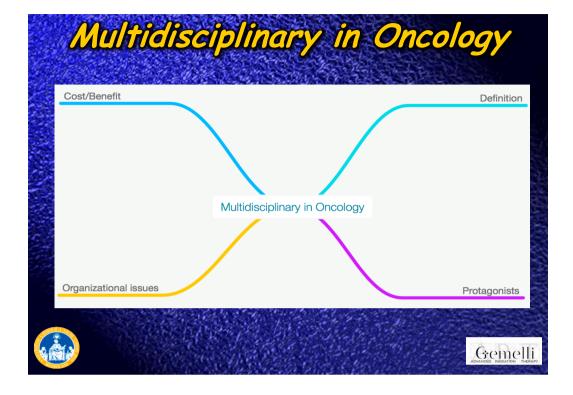
Multidisciplinary team











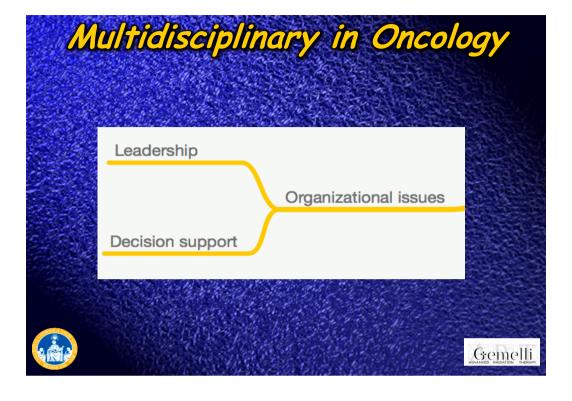
Multidisciplinary team

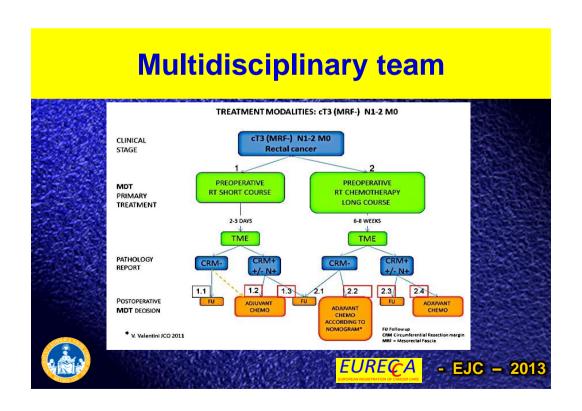
All MDTs should designate a coordinator or chair to ensure efficient discussions within tumour boards; this individual should be in charge of securing professionals' attendance, preparing patient lists and effectively implementing the decisions made by the team. In agreement with the team, the coordinator should also arrange the involvement of other specialists as needed. The leading position should be temporary and a clear definition of the nomination process and of a rotations system should be in place.













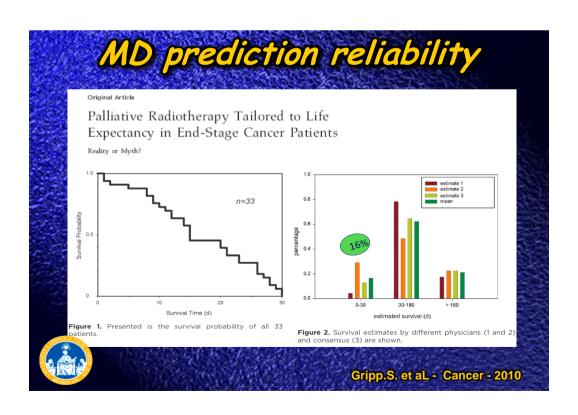




Multidisciplinary team

Accepted MDT care protocols, updated at least biennally to take into account emerging scientific breakthroughs, are also important. The multidisciplinary process offers valuable educational experiences and potential for quality improvement actions, and MDTs should remain responsive and proactive in promoting them. Benchmarking actions should play a key role in improving and auditing teamwork performance.



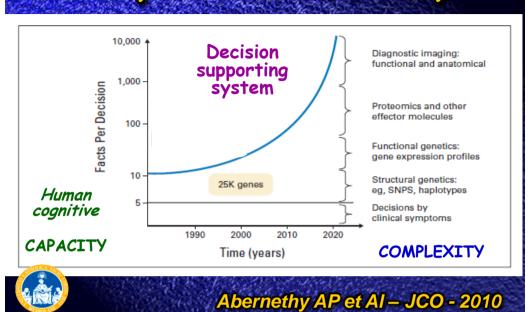








MD prediction reliability



Multidisciplinary team

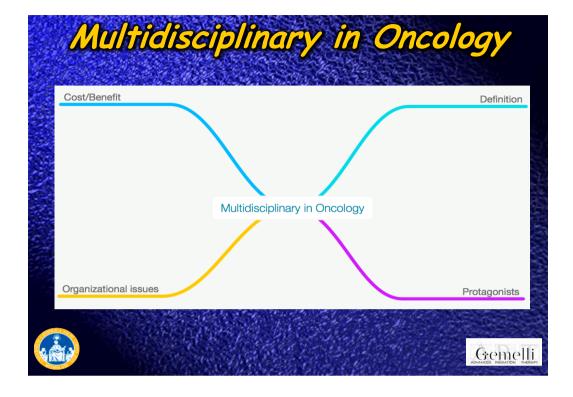
The <u>hospital's clinical information system</u> should record the decisions taken and rationale used with regard to every patient, as initially reported in the minutes of the tumour board meetings. If possible, this information should be <u>linked to the population-based cancer registry</u>, if it exists. In this regard, a minimum set of variables (including stage) should be agreed upon.











Multidisciplinary team

It is beyond any doubt that MDTs require time and effort; hence, clinical leadership and firm commitment by health care providers and administrators are prerequisites for changes in management and sustainability of team structures.









Multidisciplinary team

Given the <u>multiple benefits of MDTs</u> and the <u>imperative to equitably provide all patients with</u> the best possible care, the promotion of MDTs should be considered an ethical priority.



