EURECCA Activity Report, November 2018

Update on EURECCA’s projects and activities of the past years and future plans.
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Introduction

EURECCA (acronym for EUropean REgistry of Cancer CAre or EURopEan CanCer Audit), started in 2007 as an ECCO/ESSO initiative. EURECCA is an international multidisciplinary platform of clinicians and epidemiologists aiming to improve the quality of cancer care by data registration, feedback, forming plans for improvement and sharing knowledge of performance and science. EURECCA is registered as a foundation, based in Leiden.

Relevant background: Still considerable variation exists in Europe in cancer management and outcome. Moreover, there is an urgent need for transparent uniform international data collection and analysis, in order to monitor and learn from all aspects of cancer care and to provide feedback and education. Uniform datasets are necessary, not existent yet.

The strategic plan of EURECCA was written in 2013 to professionalize EURECCA in the next 6 years (2014-2020).

The vision - EURECCA will become the trademark for quality assurance in cancer management in Europe, and provide a dedicated infrastructure to audit patient outcome, monitor standardized cancer care and assure equal access for cancer patients to high quality care in all European countries. Synergy with the epidemiological network to collaboratively reach common goals is actively pursued to form one front. Web-based dashboard with highly secured information on performance and enhancement proposals are future perspectives.

The mission of EURECCA is achieving and assuring high quality of multidisciplinary cancer management in Europe, accessible to all patients through the development and support of an international quality assurance structure, which is an audit structure, using anonymous patient data and compliant with national and international laws.

EURECCA’s goal is to enlarge the European platform and infrastructure to cooperate with national registries or audit structures, expand the coverage of cancer patient outcome data that is captured and audit the quality of multidisciplinary cancer care. Registration of outcome-based quality measurements will provide internal feed-back, benchmarking as well as transparency which will rapidly lead to improvements in cancer care.

EURECCA’s key activities in the next six year will focus on
1. Building a professional support structure
2. Increase EURECCA network and optimize ICT structure for data collection and processing, auditing
3. Development of cancer treatment guidelines, education and communication
4. Fundraising and income generation.

Source: Six years plan to professionalize EURECCA, for more information please see the Strategic plan.
EURECCA has an internationally recognized set of expertise to augment quality assurance in cancer care and access to expertise, and a large network all of value to stakeholders such as physicians, scientific societies, patient organizations, policy makers and pharma:

- Data collection, large database mining, study facilitation and processing of data. Analysis with SPSS, STATA, SAS, excel etc. Epidemiologists and statisticians who are specialized in this field of merging different data bases

- Defining uniform datasets

- Reporting to all contacts from cancer registries and/or national or regional audits. Writing manuscripts in collaborating with participants on the results of the analysis

- Organising international consensus conferences, symposia and meeting with the Board per tumour site group

- Education (development of e-learning multidisciplinary educational program/workshops), assisting in guideline formation and writing patient friendly summaries. Active patient involvement in improvement of cancer care

- Support multidisciplinary cancer care, integrated care pathways

- Organise international collaboration in pioneering treatments to improve cancer care and outcome analysis (such as non-surgical Wait&Watch after upfront CRT)

https://www.essoweb.org/projects/eurecca-cancer-care/

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Contact persons
Cornelis van de Velde
Geerard Beets, chair
Denise Hilling, International Watch & Wait database (IWWD)
Maxime van der Valk, International Watch & Wait database (IWWD)

Past projects – European comparison of the following projects:
- Treatment and survival of colon cancer patients 80 years and older
- Treatment and survival of rectal cancer patients 80 years and older
- Adjuvant chemotherapy after rectal surgery with curative intent
- Adjuvant chemotherapy in colon cancer stage II
- E-learning CRC

Present projects with project leaders
- Short-term mortality time trends 80+ → Yvette Claassen, Renu Bahadoer, Esther Bastiaannet
- International Watch & Wait database → Maxime van der Valk, Denise Hilling
- Detailed comparison chemotherapy stage III colon cancer Netherlands and Belgium → Esther Bastiaannet, Johanneke Portielje
- Asymptomatic stage IV colorectal cancer, role of surgery (submitted) → Anne Breugom
- Lateral lymph node treatment in rectal cancer, prospective multicenter study → Miranda

Future projects
- An online platform for collaboration between expert centres
  - Recommendations for selection and follow-up (consensus by Delphi)
  - Functional outcomes
  - Quality of life
  - Outcomes of patients with local excision

Publications


EURECCA Upper GI

Contact persons
William Allum, chair
Renu Bahadoer

Past projects
• International comparison of treatment strategy and survival in metastatic gastric cancer
• North European comparison of treatment strategy and survival in older patients with resectable gastric cancer
• International comparison of older patients with gastric cancer
• Comparison of treatment and survival of patients with metastasized gastric cancer

Present projects with project leaders
• Comparison of treatment and survival in elderly patients with oesophageal cancer → Renu Bahadoer
• Outcomes after a different treatment strategy for patients with potentially resectable oesophageal cancer UK vs NL → Renu Bahadoer

Publications


EURECCA Pancreas

Contact persons
Sven Mieog
Jesse Groen

Past projects
• Common variables in European pancreatic cancer registries
• Differences in treatment and outcome of pancreatic adenocarcinoma stage I and II

Present projects with project leaders
• Older patients with pancreatic cancer stage I & II → Jesse Groen

Future projects
• Focus on younger patients (≤40 years)? → study protocol in progress by Jesse Groen

Publications

EURECCA Breast

Contact persons
Ricardo Audisio, chair
Isabel Rubio
Iris Noordhoek, INSPIRE

Past projects
• Endocrine therapy patients with advanced breast cancer
• Treatment and survival of early breast cancer in older women

Present projects with project leaders
• Primary metastatic breast cancer in older women → Iris Noordhoek
• Nipple sparing mastectomy; INSPIRE trial → Ricardo Audisio, Isabel Rubio, Iris Noordhoek
• Axillary treatment in Europe → Sabrina, Nicole

Future projects
• Focus on triple negative breast cancer
• Detailed comparison of 2 countries

Publications


EURECCA Melanoma

Contact persons
Ricardo Rossi, chair
Esther Bastiaannet

Past projects
- Identified shared variables: The “EU-MELACARE study”. Let by Antonio Sommariva and dr Carlo Riccardo Rossi (Padova, Italy)

Future projects
- Comparison treatment and survival
- Differences in treatment strategy
- Stage-specific survival

Publications