Participants:
Carlo Riccardo Rossi (CRR) and Antonio Sommariva, Veneto Institute of Oncology, Italy; Cornelis van de Velde (CVDV) and Petra Boolens (PB), Leiden University Medical Centre, Netherlands; Odysseas Zoras (OZ), University of Crete, Greece; Eelco de Bree, University General Hospital, Heraklion, Greece; Lorenzo Borgognoni (LB), Tuscan Cancer Institute, Italy; Max Madu (MM), Netherlands Cancer Institute, Netherlands; Barbara Perić (BP), Institute of Oncology Ljubljana, Slovenia.

CRR presented the aims and methodology of the first project by the EURECCA Melanoma Working Group (WG) – the EU-MELACARE project. So far, researchers from 16 European countries have shown interest in the project. Of them, 6 have already provided the list of items in their registries/databases so far. We plan to extend the participation in the protocol by involving additional centers. PB suggested that a newsletter might help toward this direction.

OZ, LB, MM and BP reported on their national and/or institutional experiences relating to melanoma data collection. Some points emerged during the discussion. LB pointed out that we should take into account the type of registry we are working with. Indeed, population-based cancer registries usually don’t collect data on patients’ treatment and are not updated timely. However, PB remarked that, in this initial phase, the EU-MELACARE project should be as inclusive as possible. All participants agreed that efforts should be made to include population-based registries and databases of single clinical Institutions (the latter providing more data on melanoma treatment).

Data collection from these registries/databases can provide information for comparative analyses on melanoma incidence and treatment in Europe. For this purpose, completeness and quality of data entry should be fully investigated for each registry/database. It was decided that an online survey, based upon previous EURECCA surveys, could help the WG to better define these aspects.

Therefore, the next actions will aim at:

- Involving more registries/databases
- Completing the collection of items from the researchers who showed interest in the study
- Defining the main features, completeness and quality of data of each registry
- Defining a shared set of variables to establish an international database.

We hope that we will accomplish the first phase of the project in few months and that we will be able to present the preliminary results at the ECCO2017 in Amsterdam.

CVDV and CRR also discussed about the resources needed to implement and support future studies of the EURECCA Melanoma WG. In this regard, CRR mentioned the experience of the Italian Melanoma Registry (CNMR), which is supported by Pharma.

Thank you again for your interest and collaboration.