

Cancer Plan V Denmark



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Cancer Plan 5 – the proces

- In 2023 it was politically decided to make a cancer plan 5
- In 2024 the Danish Health Authority make recommendations
- The recommendations will be published in december
- The Ministry of Interior and Health will make a political Cancer Plan 5 in the begining of 2025
- The overall economy is 600 million Danish kroner for the cancer plan V
- These funds will be distributed to the implementation of selected initiatives

Status and development trends

- The cancer field has developed positively during the last decades
- Improved quality of prevention, examination og treatment
- More persons survive and live longer with cancer, some with a cronic cancer disease
- More persons have late effets after cancer and need rehabilitation, handling of late effects to cancer etc.
- In the future: an increasing number of cancer patients following the demografic development
- A growing elderly population and more people will get a cancer disease,
- At the same time the workforce will become reduced and is unevenly distributed
- A structural reform of the health care system is coming

Challenges

- A challenge to secure the same level of treatment and care for everybody in the future.
- Increased diversity among persons with cancer regarding state of health, functional capacity, preferences and treatment goals
- Unsystematic assessment of the patient's situation, possibilities and preferences
- Increased expectations to the health care system
- Increased activity of examinations
- Social and geographical inequality in cancer

Potentials

- More differentiation during the cancer pathway
- Quality in patient pathways can be improved via risk stratification and support of individualized planning.
- New possibilities in terms of new treatments and technology e.g. AI
- More healthcare services closer to the citizens and use of digital tools
- Possibilities of data supported patient pathways

Cancer Plan 5 – main focus areas

- Systematic assessment of patient situation, preferences and possibilities in order to individualize
- More focus on patient involvement and shared decision making
- Support life with and after cancer, handling of late effects, patient empowerment etc.
- More involvement of the primary health care sector – e.g in follow up of cancer
- Treatment in local environment/at home with support from the specialised level – e.g. palliative care
- More use of digital solutions by patients and professionals

Cancer Plan 5 – themes and possible initiatives

#Theme: Individual treatment and care in cancer pathways

- **Structural support for individual planned pathways:**
 - E.g, an update of cancer care pathways - strengthen possibilities of involving patients to meet their needs and preferences for treatment and care
- **Assessment of the patient's situation, possibilities and preferences**
 - E.g, establish systematic practises for assessments in various sectors at some essential points during the pathway
- **Bigger role of general practitioners in systematic follow-up during and after cancer and cancer treatment**
 - E.g, GPs assess patient needs before referrals and are responsible of proactive follow-up during and after treatment

Theme: Health care services in the cancer pathway

- **Risk based screening**
 - E.g, review of the evidens and then an update of the national screening programmes regarding the content, planning and results aiming at more risk based screening
- **Early detection and diagnosis**
 - E.g. develop quality of detection/diagnosis and support cooperation/network/national data on persons with unspecific symptoms on cancer - in order to find cancer in earlier stages.
- **Prehabilitation/rehabilitation**
 - E.g. more possibilities for prehabilitation before treatment and rehabilitation as a part of treatment and late effect services

Cancer Plan 5 – themes and possible initiatives

- **Late effects after cancer and treatment**

- E.g. Organising services for handling late effects with clear responsibilities at both the primary and secondary level

- **Palliative care**

- E.g. Support adequate palliative care and skilled workforce and especially a quality lift of primary health care services with good access to specialised advice

Theme: Quality development of the cancer field

- **Cancer research, quality development and data**

- E.g. Support cooperation on interdisciplinary activities for research about the entire cancer pathway – and on gaining real world data on treatments, especially on effects of new medicine

- **Technology and AI**

- E.g. National coordination of more widespread implementation of AI-solutions that are tested, approved and efficient in the cancer field

- **Sustainable capacity**

- E.g. support of sustainable capacity for health care services in the entire cancer pathway in order to meet the needs of the increasing number of cancer patients

