

Project's Title: An innovative strategy for bridging cancer care in Romania

Financed by: Bristol Myers Squibb Foundation

Project's partners:

- National School of Public Health, Management and Professional Development in Health, Bucharest
- Romanian Nursing Association

Project's aim

The project aimed to develop an innovative model of prevention and care for cancer patients in order to improve their access to qualitative health care, secondary and tertiary, and to assure continuity of their care in the community.

Objective:

1. To develop an innovative model of prevention and care for cancer patients
2. To improve the training level of the staff involved in oncology nursing care

The problem addressed

The project addresses oncologic nursing care, which by deficits, (human, financial, treatment, specialized services, information) affects intensely patients and concerns health authorities in Romania. The objectives of the project contributes to the reduction of oncology patient care disruptions caused by their lack of information and guidance on services that may benefit, their location and time of access, and the best staff to provide these services.

Expected results:

- Increasing the knowledge and skills of nurses providing care in outpatient oncology nursing and in hospitals regarding the detection, care and management of people at risk for different types of cancer or diagnosed with cancer.
- Providing integrated and continuous quality care to patients oncological

Need assessment and scientific evidence

The project started with a research in the field by using quantitative and qualitative methods, studying the organization and delivery of oncology services in Romania, the access for people from disadvantaged economic areas to these services, along with a description of the most common cancers by gender, age and geographical areas.

Based on the needs assessment, the project team structured the main activities to achieve project's objective - development of innovative services for cancer patients, according to requirements. Has been described the experience of other countries in this field. The " oncology nurse navigator " in the U.S., (a type of specialized service that is available to cancer patients for specialized nursing care, route guidance in health system or care, to achieve oncologic care and treatment without disruptions, obtaining psychological support, also family and community support) was considered suitable and adaptable in Romania.

Accomplished activities:

- A research study on the current situation in terms of morbidity and mortality in cancer, a needs assessment which took into account the views of patients and medical staff
- A proposed model of integrated cancer care
- A continuous medical education curriculum for nurses working in the services that assist cancer patients
- A training manual for nurses involved in oncology nursing care
- A set of materials for the prevention of the most frequent ten cancers in Romania, for educating and informing patients and the general population
- A set of materials for the prevention of the most frequent ten cancers in Romania which addresses medical staff
- 63 nurses have received free training in the "oncologic patient management", certified course with continuous medical education certificate.

In November 2013 a new training session 'Oncology Patient Management' will be held for nurses in Bucharest.

Reports and deliverables materials (developed)**Final Report*****Partnership Agreement****[Model of care for oncology patients](#)****Research Report on the assessment of the need for care services for oncology patients
([Quantitative research Report](#), [Qualitative research report](#))****Training Manual****[Leaflets with information on the top 10 cancers in Romania](#)****[Articles published](#)****Other informations****[Images of the project activities](#)**

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