

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001448/25
to the Commission
Letizia Moratti (PPE)
(9 April 2025)**

Subject: Systematic analysis of innovative cancer treatment options and patient survival

In the area of scientific research, considerable strides have been made in the development of innovative cancer therapies that offer patients new treatment options. The most notable include: immunotherapy, which attacks cancer cells by means of the patient's immune system; targeted therapies, which targets the specific genetic mutations in cancer cells; nanomedicine, which delivers drugs directly to cancer cells via nanoparticles; liquid biopsies, which detects circulating tumour cells; advanced therapies with modified cells that accurately combat cancer, also by means of the patient's immune system.

Those therapies' success has significantly increased survival rates, but it is difficult for patients to identify and access the most effective treatment, as they lack comparable and best practice data.

In the light of the above:

1. Will the Commission build up, coordinate and collect data for a systematic assessment of the effectiveness of innovative cancer therapies, comparing best practices with regard to their outcomes on patient survival and quality of life?
2. Will it foster patient access to treatment and related data, possibly through the establishment of a European database, including within the framework of the European Health Data Space?
3. Will it support research and the deployment of new technologies to improve the effectiveness of cancer treatments?

Submitted: 9.4.2025

**Answer given by Ms Zaharieva on behalf of the European Commission
(23 June 2025)**

1. The Commission is fully committed to improving health outcomes for cancer patients through innovative therapies ⁽¹⁾. Under the EU4Health programme, the Joint Action on Personalised Cancer Medicine ⁽²⁾ will address the effectiveness of therapies. The European Cancer Information System ⁽³⁾ provides relevant data.
2. For primary use, the European Health Data Space will ensure citizens' right to access and control their health data in an electronic format, and for secondary use, it will facilitate the access for research, innovation and policy making, contributing to optimise treatment and improve delivery of care.
3. The Horizon Europe ⁽⁴⁾ Cancer Mission ⁽⁵⁾ supports pragmatic clinical trials to test the effectiveness of therapies, including on surgery-centred technologies ⁽⁶⁾. The Euratom Research and Training Programme ⁽⁷⁾ addresses research in the medical applications of ionising radiation, notably novel uses of radionuclides for the screening and treatment of cancer.

⁽¹⁾ For example, through Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Regulation (EU) 2021/2282, applicable since January 2025, which includes assessment of new cancer treatments, and the CAN.HEAL project developed common protocols to assess effectiveness of new cancer technologies.

⁽²⁾ <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/eu4h-2024-pj-03-4>.

⁽³⁾ ECIS <https://ecis.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>; ECIS provides comparable statistical indicators and trends of cancer incidence, prevalence, mortality, and survival to monitor outcomes.

⁽⁴⁾ https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe_en.

⁽⁵⁾ https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/eu-missions-horizon-europe/eu-mission-cancer_en.

⁽⁶⁾ E.g. HORIZON-MISS-2025-02-CANCER-03, HORIZON-MISS-2025-02-CANCER-04; <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/how-to-participate/reference-documents;programCode=HORIZON?programmePeriod=2021-2027&frameworkProgramme=43108390>.

⁽⁷⁾ Council Regulation (Euratom) 2021/765 of 10 May 2021 establishing the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community for the period 2021-2025 complementing Horizon Europe — the framework Programme for Research and Innovation and repealing Regulation (Euratom) 2018/1563 (OJ L671, 12.5.2021, p. 81, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/765/oj>).