

► DIVERSIFIED FUNDING FOR SUSTAINABLE ACTIVITIES

EORTC research is mainly supported by the EORTC Cancer Research Fund, the «Fonds Cancer» (FOCA) and the Belgian National Lottery. The European Commission also provides support for some projects.

Partnerships with the pharmaceutical industry are set up in the framework of specific studies, subject to the prior approval of an independent peer-review committee. However, more than 60% of clinical studies led by EORTC focus on existing drugs or on combined strategies such as radiotherapy and surgery. Additional financing and sponsorship are essential to fund these scientific activities, whose ultimate goal is to effectively promote European clinical research for the improvement of cancer treatment, without commercial aim.

The need for public and private funding

► THE EORTC CANCER RESEARCH FUND

Created in 1976, this association collects the funds necessary for EORTC to conduct its independent research. This is achieved thanks to the valued and long-standing cooperation of several national cancer leagues involved in the fight against cancer and to the generous contributions of public and private donors.

H.S.H. Prince Albert II de Monaco is the Honorary President of the EORTC Cancer Research Fund and Comte Diego du Monceau de Bergendal is the Chairman of the Board.

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To support EORTC research:
EORTC Cancer Research Fund (BE)
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▶ ADVANCING RESEARCH TO IMPROVE PATIENTS' LIVES

Today, 55% of cancer patients are cured. Further therapeutic progress is expected, given the considerable discoveries being made in molecular biology and understanding of the disease.

However, major therapeutic breakthroughs are only possible through clinical research, which consists of rigorous and objective comparisons, in patients, between established treatments and novel, potentially more promising ones.

Created in 1962 by a group of European cancer specialists, including renowned Belgian professor Henri Tagnon, EORTC is a leader in cancer clinical research in Europe. As an international non-profit organisation, its mission is to improve the treatment, survival and quality of life of all cancer patients.

▶ A EUROPEAN FOCUS

EORTC is the only European organisation to carry out clinical studies at the European level for all cancer types, including children leukemia.

Clinical trials conducted by EORTC are the result of joint collaborations amongst experts from all cancer disciplines, including medical oncologists, radiotherapists, surgeons, pathologists, immunologists...

EORTC is performing many studies not conducted by pharmaceutical industry to improve overall treatment strategies, including surgery and radiotherapy. The multidisciplinary approach of EORTC contributes greatly to reducing delays between the discovery of new compound and their implementation for all patients throughout Europe.

Moreover, these clinical trials generate medical and scientific data from large numbers of patients, ensuring thus that sound, reliable statistics can be drawn in a reasonable lapse of time. This means clinical trials on rare tumors or frequent tumor subgroups, for example, can be carried out efficiently by activating the entire network for patient recruitment. This is useful in the development of precision medicine which particularly targets specific molecular alterations in tumors.

A collaborative approach to advancing cancer research

▶ EORTC KEY FACTS:

-  55 years of commitment to cancer research
-  195 500 patients benefited from our clinical trials
-  4800+ oncology and scientific experts involved in our network
-  870 institutions in 40+ countries conducting our studies
-  2100+ peer-reviewed publications
-  40+ studies recruiting patients at any time

Located in Brussels, Belgium, the EORTC's headquarters counts more than 200 staff members, including specialists in biostatistics, radiology, imaging, surgery, medical oncology, methodology, regulatory affairs, pathobiology, IT and more.

▶ A RIGOROUS AND INDEPENDENT RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

At EORTC, each study is designed according to the strictest scientific criteria, defined beforehand by expert committees in compliance with ethical standards, as well as national and international regulations.

▶ PUTTING PATIENTS FIRST

Over the past decades, EORTC has instigated significant breakthroughs in research, with the involvement of patients who have volunteered to participate in EORTC's clinical trials for the benefit of the entire patient community.

Paradoxically, patients considered as cured are confronted today to new societal challenges, such as employment, mortgages and insurance problems. EORTC has launched various activities to specifically address these discriminations after cancer.



Contributing to the discovery of innovative treatments

Since 55 years, EORTC's research has successfully designed improved cancer treatments that have become the standard of care or the best available treatments, notably in the fields of

- ✓ Testicular cancer, Hodgkin's disease, leukaemia (in children and adults), gastro-intestinal stromal tumors and brain cancer, increasing patients' overall survival rate
- ✓ Head and neck cancers, helping avoid laryngectomy for 42% of patients with larynx cancer
- ✓ Breast cancers, establishing less invasive surgeries and avoiding unnecessary chemotherapy for some patients according to the characteristics of their tumors
- ✓ Improved quality of life for cancer patients by addressing chronic fatigue, ambulatory care, fertility issues and many other aspects
- ✓ Immunology and supportive care issues during and after cancer treatment, helping control infections in patients with leukemia