



May, 9th 2023

## PRESS RELEASE

### "G7 Cancer": 7 leading organizations strengthen their coordination to accelerate progress against cancer worldwide

At the initiative of the French National Cancer Institute, as part of the ten-year cancer control strategy, G7 Cancer officially launched on May 9. Bringing together the organizations at the forefront of the fight against cancer, this group aims to strengthen cooperation between partners to accelerate the fight against the disease, and in particular to address the most complex challenges. At the first meeting, which was held today at the National Cancer Institute (Paris, France), the organizations' representatives signed a Memorandum of Understanding to set the cooperation framework. They also defined the priority actions and appointed the presidency for the next two years.



(From left to right: Claudia Mayer, Dr Catherine Elliott, Dr Hitoshi Nakagama, Thierry Breton, Professor Dorothy Keefe, Satish Gopal, Fei-Fei Liu)

### The G7 partner organizations:



Australia – Cancer Australia  
Canada - Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR)  
France – National Cancer Institute (INCa)  
Germany – German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ)  
Japan - National Cancer Center (NCC)  
United Kingdom - Cancer Research UK (CRUK)  
United States - Department of Health and Human Services, National Cancer Institute (NCI)

### G7 Cancer's ambition: to accelerate the progress against cancer worldwide

According to estimates by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), in 2020 there were 19.3 million new cancer cases and 10.0 million cancer deaths worldwide and by 2040, the global burden is expected to reach 30.2 million new cancer cases and 16.3 million cancer deaths, partly due to population growth and ageing. The international community is facing complex scientific questions related to cancers and no single country has the capacity to address them efficiently alone.

To cope with this major issue, the G7 Cancer partners believe that a strong international cooperation to coordinate their actions is a catalyst for supplementing and strengthening existing initiatives and accelerating the progress to defeat cancer. Advances in cancer-related genetics and genomics, precision medicine in oncology, diagnostics through new liquid and synthetic biopsy techniques, the emergence of new innovative treatments, and the use of artificial intelligence and digital sciences offer great hope for progress.

Each organization is committed to strengthening strategies and actions to combat cancer, and have demonstrated an alignment in ambition, vision and priorities, providing considerable opportunities to share knowledge and expertise, leverage existing initiatives, develop new initiatives, and propose solutions to improve international cooperation in regards to cancer. To overcome the different types of cancer, it is important to address the gaps in scientific and practical knowledge. International cooperation offers key opportunities to improve knowledge of cancer mechanisms, accelerate the transfer of scientific discoveries and their clinical application, and stimulate innovation on an international scale. G7 Cancer's initiatives will aim to facilitate discussions on these key issues by creating a learning environment, sharing, and developing successful initiatives.

With these joint commitments and actions taken today, and by working all together with partners, G7 Cancer aims at making progress towards beating cancer.

#### The six principles of G7 Cancer

1. The G7 Cancer members act as **representatives of their organization, which can be of different types** (governmental, non-governmental, international).
2. G7 Cancer is **open to other organizations** and membership granted based on the mutual consent of Participant organizations.
3. G7 Cancer deals primarily with complex topics needing **international cooperation** and especially with blind spots.
4. The secretariat and presidency will be established on a **rotating basis**.
5. Activities will be financed on a **program-by-program basis**.
6. G7 Cancer **builds on what already exists**, particularly on the strategies and programs of the Participant organizations.

#### The G7 Cancer priorities

During this first meeting, each organization had the opportunity on sharing priority topics and actions. The priorities for the G7 Cancer for the next years are:

- International Data Strategy, focused on Paediatric cancers as a model.
- Poor prognosis cancers (pancreatic/oesophagus/stomach and liver cancers).
- Cancer outcome inequities.
- Prevention (precancers, screening programs, multi-cancer early detection).

In order to act on these priorities, the following actions have been proposed:

1. International conference on data strategy for paediatric cancers.
2. International dialogue on pancreatic, liver, esophagus, and stomach cancers.
3. Working group on cancer outcome inequities.
4. Working group on prevention and precancer.

The G7 Cancer actions are composed of three pillars, each with its own objective:

- The **FORUM**, to maximise cooperation on best practices and information sharing;
- The **FACTORY**, to support, develop and implement international cooperation programs;
- The **ADVOCACY**, to strengthen international engagement by empowering advocacy efforts.

All decisions of G7 Cancer are made based on consensus from all participants.

Finally, the presidency, as well as the secretariat of the group, have been entrusted to the French National Cancer Institute for the next 2 years.



**Australian Government**

**Cancer Australia**

*"I am delighted Cancer Australia is a founding member of G7 Cancer. By collaborating with leading experts from around the world, we can share knowledge, resources and best practice which will ultimately benefit cancer patients in Australia and beyond. The global aim to improve cancer outcomes requires a united effort, and Cancer Australia has an important role to play in this endeavour."*

**Professor Dorothy Keefe, Cancer Australia CEO**

#### About Cancer Australia

Cancer Australia was established by the Australian Government in 2006 to benefit all Australians affected by all cancers, and their families and carers. Cancer Australia aims to reduce the impact of cancer, address disparities and improve outcomes for people affected by cancer by leading and coordinating national, evidence-based interventions across the continuum of care. [www.canceraustralia.gov.au](http://www.canceraustralia.gov.au) @canceraustralia



*"I believe that through the worldwide sharing of knowledge, G7 Cancer holds enormous promise to advance cancer prevention, detection, diagnosis, treatment, and improve the quality of life of cancer patients and survivors. Canada looks forward to continuing to explore opportunities to collaborate on cancer research to improve outcomes for cancer patients around the world."*

**Fei-Fei Liu, MD, FRCPC, FASTRO, FCAHS  
Scientific Director, Canadian Institutes of Health Research Institute of Cancer Research**

#### About Canadian Institutes of Health Research

At the [Canadian Institutes of Health Research](http://www.cihr.gc.ca) (CIHR) we know that research has the power to change lives. As Canada's health research investment agency, we collaborate with partners and researchers to support the discoveries and innovations that improve our health and strengthen our health care system.



*"The launch of the G7 Cancer is an objective of our 10-year cancer control strategy because it is clear that on many complex issues, international cooperation is the essential lever for progress. This effort to coordinate with our partners should enable us to accelerate the sharing of knowledge and expertise, to pool our efforts and to consider future actions and programs at the international level that will help overcome the current obstacles to our goal of beating cancer".*

Professor Norbert Ifrah, CEO and Thierry Breton, Director General of the French National Cancer Institute

### About French National Cancer Institute

The French National Cancer Institute (INCa) was established under the French Public Health Act of August 9, 2004, as the State health and science agency specialised in cancer control. It includes State representatives, charities, health insurance funds, hospital federations and research organizations and operates under the dual auspices of the French Ministry of Health and Solidarities and the French Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation. It provides an integrated approach encompassing all cancer-control aspects (health, scientific, social and economic) and intervention areas (prevention, screening, care, research) to benefit patients and their relatives. To catalyse progress, the INCa acts as an interface with patients, their friends and families, the healthcare system users, the general public, healthcare professionals, researchers, experts and decision-makers. The Institute ensures the implementation of the ten-year cancer control strategy 2021-2030 <http://www.e-cancer.fr/> [twitter](#)



*"The intensive collaboration from scientists of leading international research institutions and organisations in this new strategic initiative will give cancer research an important boost that will benefit cancer patients worldwide. The German Cancer Research Center is looking forward to being a partner in this consortium".*

Claudia Mayer, Head International Cooperation, German Cancer Research Center

### About the German Cancer Research Center

With more than 3,000 employees, the German Cancer Research Center (Deutsches Krebsforschungszentrum, DKFZ) is Germany's largest biomedical research institute. Approximately 1,400 DKFZ scientists identify cancer risk factors, investigate how cancer progresses and develop new cancer prevention strategies. They are also developing new methods to diagnose tumors more precisely and treat cancer patients more successfully. The DKFZ's Cancer Information Service (KID) provides patients, interested citizens and experts with individual answers to questions relating to cancer. To transfer promising approaches from cancer research to the clinic and thus improve the prognosis of cancer patients, the DKFZ cooperates with excellent research institutions and university hospitals throughout Germany:

- National Center for Tumor Diseases (NCT, 6 sites)
- German Cancer Consortium (DKTK, 7 sites)
- DKFZ-Hector Cancer Institute at the University Medical Center Mannheim
- Hopp Children's Cancer Center (KiTZ) Heidelberg
- HI-TRON Mainz - A Helmholtz Institute of the DKFZ
- National Cancer Prevention Center (jointly with German Cancer Aid).

The DKFZ is 90 percent financed by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research and 10 percent by the state of Baden-Württemberg. The DKFZ is a member of the Helmholtz Association of German Research Centers. <https://www.dkfz.de/en/index.html>





*"The cancer burden's greatest growth is projected in Asia, we are committed to do everything in our means to work with international partners to address cancer, to help patients globally beyond Japan, as this will ultimately benefit our patients. I appreciate the diverse profiles of members and look forward to collaborations, utilising our contacts with our Asian partners".*

**Dr Hitoshi Nakagama, President - National Cancer Center**

#### About the National Cancer Center - Japan

Founded in 1962 by the Ministry of Health and Welfare, the National Cancer Center (NCC) is a preeminent institution for cancer treatment, prevention, control programs, research, and education. The workforce of over 4100 deliver comprehensive clinical services to patients at its two hospitals with 1000 beds, its research encompasses fundamental, prevention, screening, translational, and clinical research. NCC's research is strengthened by making significant contributions to the design and legislation of the National Cancer Registry/ the Genome Database which enable researchers and clinicians to collaborate and analyze data seamlessly. <https://www.ncc.go.jp/en/index.html> @NccriOfficial



*" No single organisation or country can beat cancer alone. We need people from different backgrounds and disciplines to come together to solve the biggest barriers to improvements in cancer prevention, diagnosis and treatment. We are looking forward to working with our partners in G7 Cancer to share our expertise, learn from each other and ultimately make faster progress towards beating cancer".*

**Dr Catherine Elliott, Director of Research and Partnerships, Cancer Research UK**

#### About Cancer Research UK

Cancer Research UK is the world's leading cancer charity dedicated to saving lives through research, influence and information.

Cancer Research UK's pioneering work into the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cancer has helped save millions of lives.

Cancer Research UK has been at the heart of the progress that has already seen survival in the UK double in the last 40 years.

Today, 2 in 4 people survive their cancer for at least 10 years. Cancer Research UK wants to accelerate progress and see 3 in 4 people surviving their cancer by 2034.

Cancer Research UK supports research into the prevention and treatment of cancer through the work of over 4,000 scientists, doctors and nurses.

Together with its partners and supporters, Cancer Research UK is working towards a world where people can live longer, better lives, free from the fear of cancer.

*For further information about Cancer Research UK's work or to find out how to support the charity, please call 0300 123 1022 or visit [www.cancerresearchuk.org](http://www.cancerresearchuk.org). Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).*

*"The US National Cancer Institute (NCI) is excited to participate in G7 Cancer, together with many of our key partners around the world. This effort aligns with our longstanding commitment to support international collaboration for cancer research. It also draws on President Biden's reignited Cancer Moonshot and the US National Cancer Plan, which call on all of us across government and all of society to accelerate progress on behalf of people and families affected by cancer worldwide."*

Satish Gopal, M.D., M.P.H., Director, Center for Global Health, U.S. National Cancer Institute

## Press contacts

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### German Cancer Research Center

For media enquiries please contact the press office on [presse@dkfz.de](mailto:presse@dkfz.de)

### Japan - National Cancer Center

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### Cancer Research UK

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