

International Network For Exercise Oncology: Guidelines, Training, And Implementation - International OncoExGuide

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BACKGROUND

- Despite robust evidence of exercise oncology safety and efficacy, patients widely struggle to adopt and maintain an active lifestyle [1-7]
- Current implementation of exercise interventions is often not systematic, sustainable, accessible, or supported organizationally or legislatively [8-12]
- Crucially, the most vulnerable patients face the greatest barriers to accessing exercise oncology services

OBJECTIVE

The aim of the International OncoExGuide study is to build an international network to expand patients access to safe, effective, and evidence-based exercise interventions during and beyond cancer treatment by addressing meso- (healthcare organizations, professional training) and macro- (health systems, policies) environmental health determinants [11, 13, 14]



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METHODS

- The international network comprises exercise professionals, researchers in exercise and/or in oncology, clinicians, professionals with expertise in implementing sustainable exercise oncology programs and patient partners
- First, semi-structured interviews will be conducted with academic experts from different countries to understand existing training curricula in exercise oncology within their respective context
- In parallel, questionnaires will be administered to exercise professionals to identify their training needs in exercise oncology
- Secondly, international network participants will take part in 2 sequential Delphi techniques to reach consensus:
 - 1st Delphi round aims to define the essential knowledge and skills professionals require to design and deliver accessible, safe, evidence-based, sustainable exercise programs for individuals during and beyond cancer treatments, including those with vulnerabilities
 - Resulting training module(s) will be tailored to country contexts, translated and tested across Europe
 - 2nd Delphi round aims to reach consensus on the core components (essential intervention elements) and the adaptable periphery (elements modifiable without compromising the exercise intervention integrity) to enable sustainable implementation of exercise in oncology [15]
- International OncoExGuide guidelines for exercise oncology implementation will be formalized

ANTICIPATED RESULTS

- 12 network members initially agreed to participate (Canada n=7, France n=3, n=1 for USA and Australia)
- 22 additional experts have been identified across 11 countries (Netherlands n=5, USA n=4, Spain n=3, n=2 for Germany and Australia, and n=1 for England, Denmark, Belgium, Portugal, Italy, and France)
- 10 scientific and professional societies along with patient associations have agreed to support the project:



CONCLUSION

This study will develop strategic recommendations for exercise oncology implementation, leveraging the expertise of eminent researchers in exercise oncology and implementation science, alongside patient partners [16]

REFERENCES & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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