SETTING THE SCENE:

VITTORIA CARRARO

Policy Officer, ‘Cancer, Health in all Policies’, DG Santé

#HealthUnion
#EUCancerPlan

Europe’s Beating Cancer Plan

Vittoria Carraro, Policy Officer at Unit B1: Cancer, Health in all policies
DG Health and Food Safety

Europe’s Beating Cancer Plan

A newEU approach to cancer screening

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European Commission

A new EU Cancer Screening Scheme

Early detection through cancer screening **reduces the impact of cancer** and **saves lives**.

- ✓ Up-to-date **EU recommendations** based on the latest technology, scientific developments and evidence
- ✓ Updated and new **EU screening guidelines** and quality assurance schemes
- ✓ Improved **monitoring and exchange of data** through the European cancer information system

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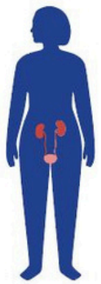
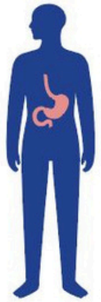
What are the new EU recommendations?

Extending access to targeted cancer screening for breast, colorectal and cervical cancers along with a step-by-step approach to introducing prostate, lung and gastric cancer testing.

BREAST CANCER suggesting a lower age limit of 45 and a higher age limit of 74 (standard 50 – 69), plus MRI scans when medically appropriate	 HPV testing for women aged 30 to 65, every 5 years or more, to detect CERVICAL CANCER, taking account of HPV vaccination status	Triage testing for COLORECTAL CANCER in people aged 50 – 74 through faecal immunochemical testing (FIT) to determine follow-up via endoscopy/colonoscopy
LUNG CANCER testing for individuals at high risk (i.e. smokers), incl. prevention approaches	Prostate specific antigen testing for PROSTATE CANCER in men, plus MRI scans for follow-up	 In places with high GASTRIC CANCER incidence and death rates, screening for Helicobacter pylori and surveillance of precancerous stomach lesions

Based on advice from the European Commission's Group of Chief Scientific Advisors

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From policy to action : related projects

- **CanScreen-ECIS**: data collection to update ECIS and improve quality and coverage of cancer screening programmes in Europe (2022 – 2024) data feed into the 3rd EU cancer screening monitoring report (start end 2025)

- **Projects in support of new cancer sites**: TOGAS - gastric, SOLACE - lung, PRAISE U - prostate (2023 – 2026), follow up calls in EU4Health 2025

- **Joint Action EUCanScreen**: Assuring sustainable implementation of council recommendations (2024 – 2028)

- **#GetScreenedEU**: EU's campaign for cancer screening to help raise

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Digitalisation and precision medicine

- **As part of EUCanScreen:** Exploring how to incorporate modern information technologies and AI in cancer screening programmes

- **European Cancer Imaging Initiative:** working towards creating a digital infrastructure linking up resources and databases of cancer imaging data across the EU

- **Joint Action on Cancer Personalised medicine:** lunch in the upcoming months, includes secondary prevention pillar and complements approaches to digitailisation and risk

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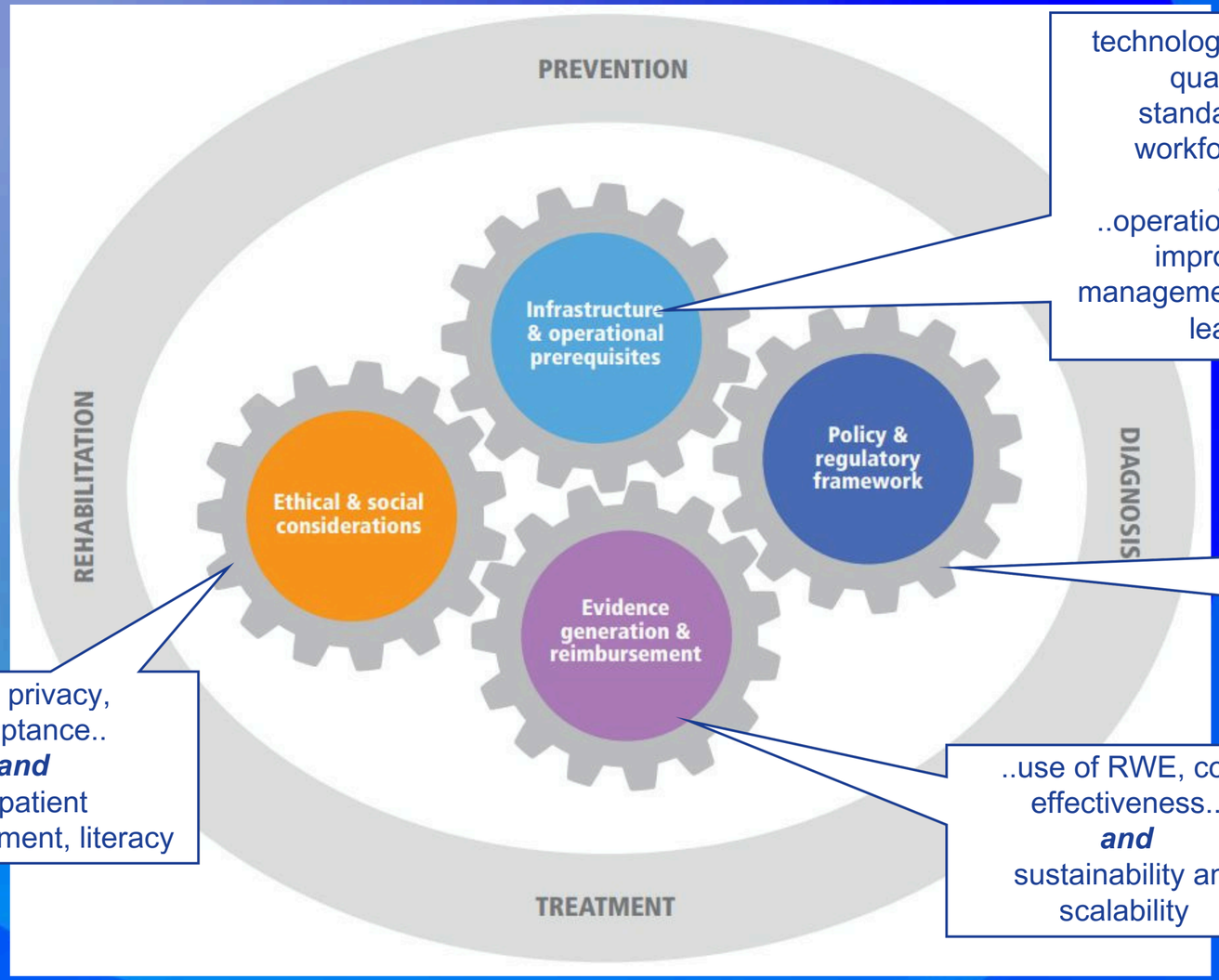
Turn challenges into opportunities? Where to begin?



technology integration, quality and standardisation, workforce skills..
and
..operational efficiency, improved data management, continuous learning

..regulatory compliance
and
.. data privacy and security..

..use of RWE, cost effectiveness..
and
sustainability and scalability

trust, privacy, acceptance..
and
…patient empowerment, literacy

Litvinova et al. Personalized medicine for healthier populations: Key considerations for policy-makers. Copenhagen: European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies, WHO Regional Office for Europe; 2025. ***Own elaboration***

Actionable recommendation

Tobuild afuture proofapproach to screening we haveto create the preconditions today: robust data, effective monitoring, quality assured screening approaches and improvement of coverage in all the EU, including of vulnerable groups

Use and share resources

- Use and share resources (ECIS, ECIR, QAs, project tools)
- Contribute to knowledge gathering and sharing

Info at:

Knowledge centre on cancer

Contribute to implementation

EU4Health 2025 Call for proposals to pilot and implement cancer screening programmes

- gastric, prostate and lung
- assess and further explore the use of AI

Tentative publication:

23/09/2025 - 06/01/2026

Thank you

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