



**SIP**

Societal Impact of Pain

**Time for Action  
2016**

**#SIP2016Action**

**Report SIP WG3**

# **The relevance of pain in cancer care and rehabilitation**

- **Viorica Cursaru (PAE)**
- **Marilyn Casha (MHN)**

# Working Group 3 - The relevance of pain in cancer care and rehabilitation

## *Draft SIP 2016 policy recommendations*

### ■ Ongoing education and training at all levels

#### **National governments have a duty to ensure that:**

- All involved in care of patients with cancer have an appropriate level of education and training in pain assessment and management, and other principles of palliative care.
- All those providing clinical services to patients recognise and support the important role of family and informal carers.
- Patients with cancer are empowered and supported to discuss all aspects of their pain, its assessment and management.
- The voice of the patient, including through patient associations, is recognised as an important source of information in service policy development.
- Awareness programmes are instigated for all school teachers to understand the impact on children of witnessing a loved one in pain and of being bereaved, and to support these children.

# Working Group 3 - The relevance of pain in cancer care and rehabilitation

## *Draft SIP 2016 policy recommendations*

### ■ Research across Europe

- All research funding bodies have a duty to develop research into pain and other causes of distress, in cancer and palliative care patients.
- Data on pain in patients with cancer, as proposed in ICD-11, should be routinely collected by all providers of cancer care to inform future healthcare policies.
- All member states must support up-to-date accurate cancer registries.
- IT solutions for pain assessment and management should be piloted across populations in Europe.

# Working Group 3 - The relevance of pain in cancer care and rehabilitation

## *Draft SIP 2016 policy recommendations*



### ■ **The just allocation of resources**

#### **The European Commission must:**

- Promote needs assessment methodologies across member states to meet present and future needs of cancer patients all times, through the Joint Action on Cancer Control and other frameworks.
- Follow up on its work on effective, accessible and resilient health system, and put in a place a strategy on workforce planning to ensure the sustainability of cancer care services and cancer pain treatment across the EU.

#### **National Governments must ensure that:**

- Pain assessment and management are an integral part of all cancer services and all patient pathways as part of standard reimbursed services. This must be stated clearly in national cancer strategies and funded.
- All cancer treatment options and relevant guidelines include access to pain assessment and management and the outcomes monitored.
- Patients have access to medication for pain relief at all times.