

Introduction to Patient Pathways in Comprehensive Cancer Infrastructures

Definition – Value – Potential Barriers – Capacity Building Resources

Theme-specific expert working group of the CCI4EU Deep Dives



Funded by
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« A **patient pathway** is an **evidence-based tool** that supports the planning and management of the care process of individual patients within a group of similar **patients with complex, long-term conditions**.

It **details the phases of care**, guiding the whole journey a patient takes by defining **goals and milestones**, and supports **mutual decision-making** by the patient and his/her multidisciplinary care team collaborating in a **comprehensive network of care providers**. »

- Patient-centric
- Evidence-based
- Comprehensive

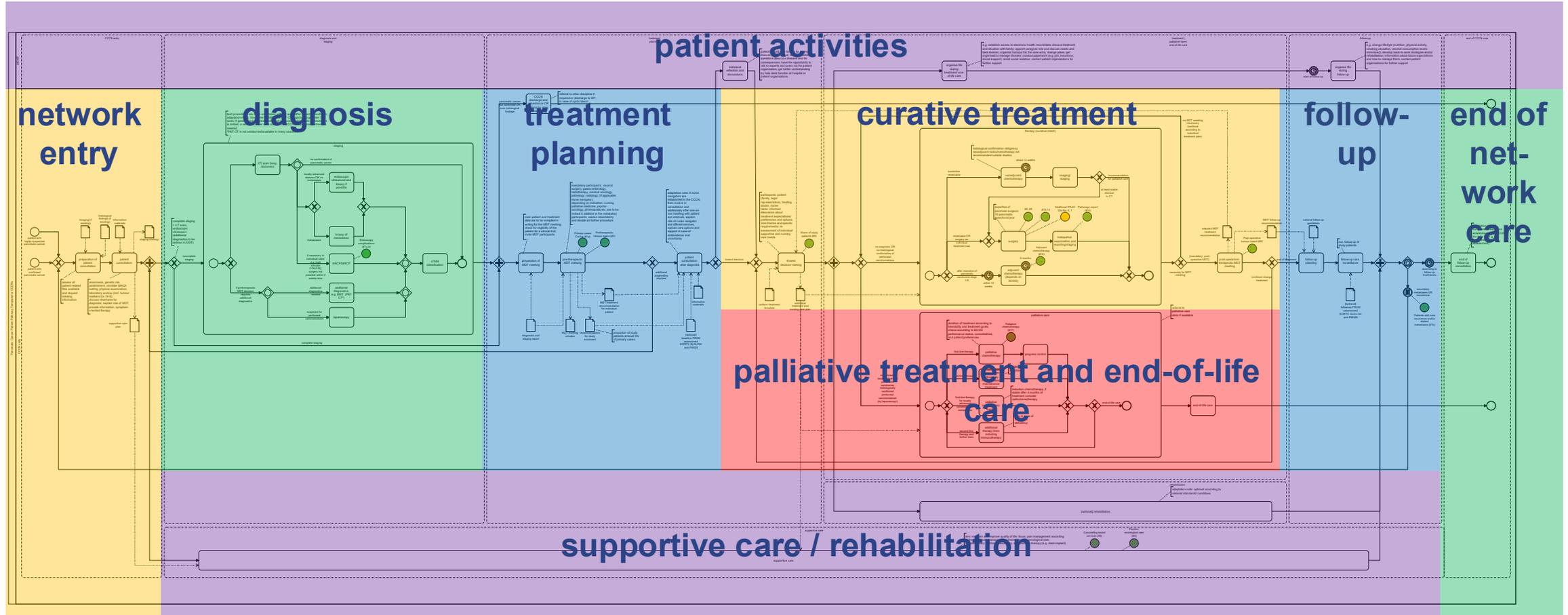
What pathways are NOT:

- No one-size-fits-all pathways
- Not opposed to clinical autonomy

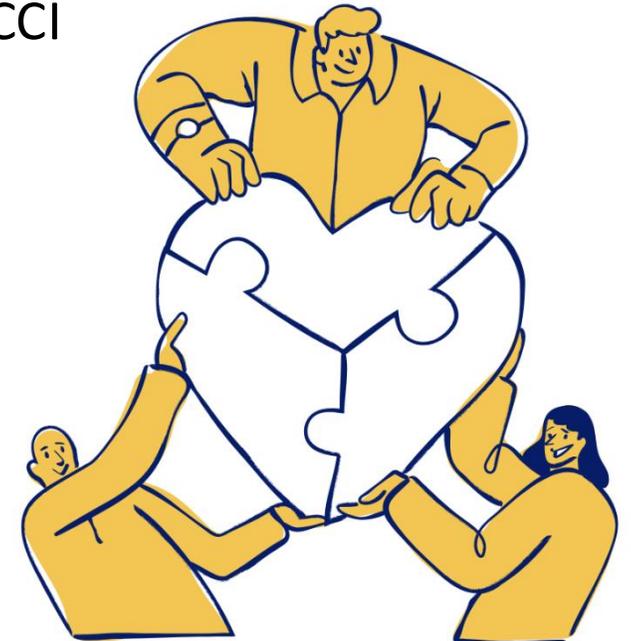


Richter, P. Hickmann, E., Schlieter, H. (2021). Validating the concept of patient pathways: a European survey on their characteristics, definition and state of practice. Pacific Asia Conference on Information Systems 2021: 32.

Scope of Patient Pathways in CCIs



- **The ‘glue’ for CCI partner collaboration**
 - Aligns all partner organizations on common processes
 - Clarifies who does what, when, and how (roles are clear)
 - Bridges gaps between specialties and care sectors along the whole patient journey
 - „Backbone“ of care, integrating accompanying elements / documents
- **Decreases variations in care**
 - Makes expectations clear when it comes to care provision in the CCI
 - Documentation will help new staff to get on board
- **Improves communication and handovers**
 - Reduces friction at sectoral and institutional interfaces
 - Reduces redundancies and miscommunications
 - Ensures patients don’t “fall between the cracks”
- **Strengthens patient-centeredness**
 - Makes the care process transparent and predictable
 - Supports informed decision-making and patient education





Communication

Explaining the concept of pathways, starting the conversation, unclear milestones, and weak inter-institutional communication >> *How to address:* open communication, agree on communication strategy and common understanding of pathway concept



IT and data interoperability

Integrating data across different systems; fragmented IT solutions in regions block smooth implementation; barriers to data sharing between institutions >> *How to address:* agree on using interoperable systems and pathway implementations



Understanding

Lack of shared understanding and standardized approaches; unclear what to focus on: which patient groups, which settings; the concept of "pathway" itself is hard to convey or operationalize >> *How to address:* trainings on pathway concept and development method, shared understanding, core development group and project planning



Collaboration & commitment

"Not all in"; insufficient collaboration and coordination among stakeholders >> *How to address:* shared commitment and clarity on roles and responsibilities in the CCI and along the pathway.



Resistance to change

Staff hesitant to adopt new approaches; clinicians and professionals show reluctance or lack of motivation without clear benefits. *How to address:* actively highlight the long-term value and engage staff from the start



Resources

Shortage of staff and time to engage in pathway development, uneven distribution of resources in CCI, existing workload, lack of incentives >> *How to address:* dedicated pathway responsibility, pathway coordinator in the CCI, show added value of pathways to CCI members



Complex stakeholder involvement

Many actors involved, with unclear roles; difficulties in navigating interfaces between different pathway phases (e.g., transitions). >> *How to address:* project organization and core development team with defined, agreed responsibilities, pathway as central "backbone" of care and integrate accompanying elements, e.g., SOPs, checklists, tumour board minutes

Patient Pathway Resources – CCI4EU Resource Centre



Home

Themes ▲

Search



Comprehensive Cancer Infrastructures (CCIs)



Comprehensive Cancer Centres (CCCs)



Interfaces



Discovery and translational research



Clinical research



Outcomes research



Screening and early detection



Patient pathway



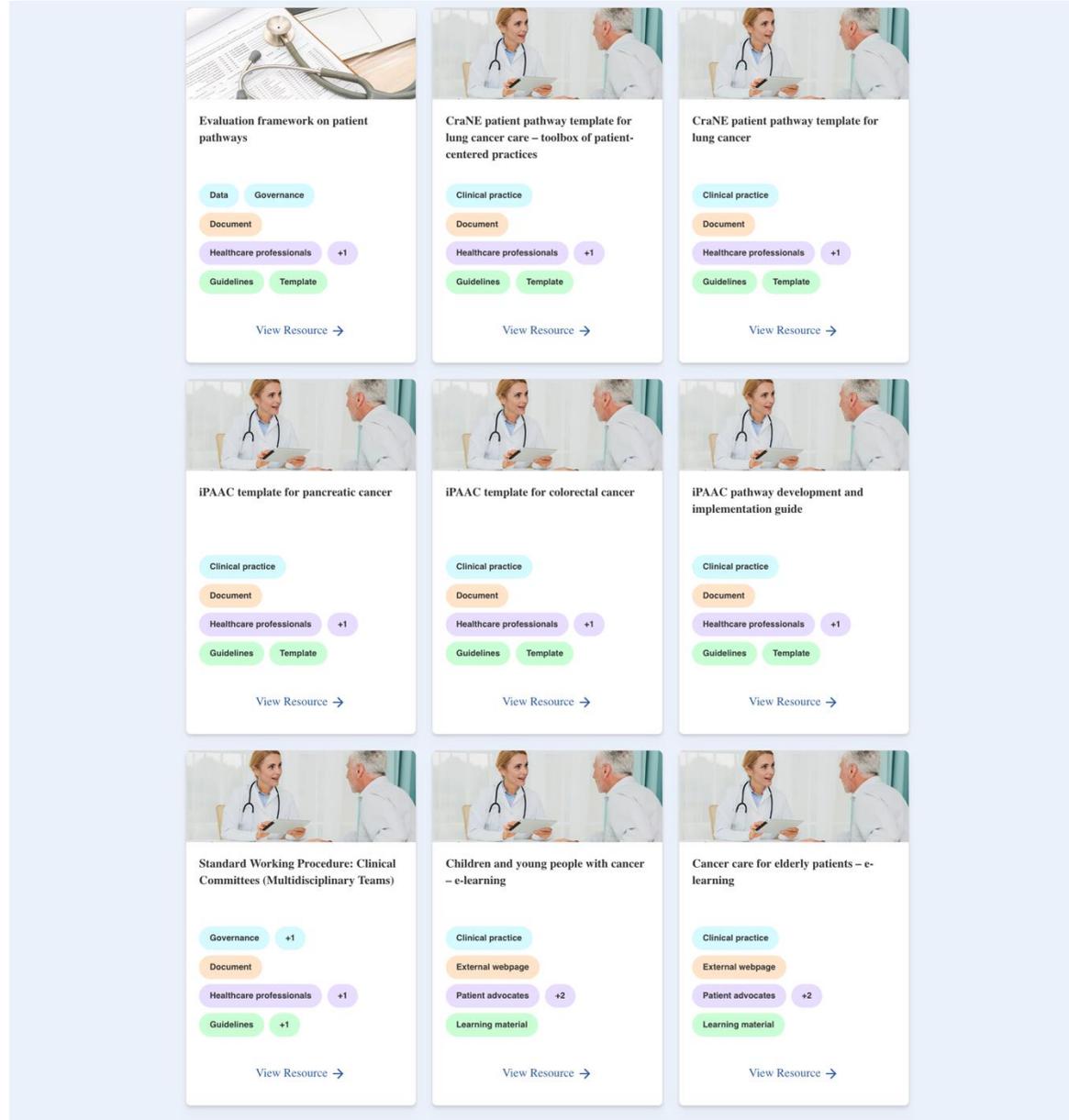
<https://resources.cci4eu.eu/>



Resources and guidance for professionals involved in developing the capacity of Comprehensive Cancer Infrastructures in EU Member States.

The resource centre assists with planning and implementing capacity building interventions as part of the CCI4EU project, which aims to ensure that 90% of cancer patients are treated in Comprehensive Cancer Infrastructures by 2030.

Visit the CCI4EU project website



The grid contains the following resources:

- Evaluation framework on patient pathways**
 - Categories: Data, Governance, Document, Healthcare professionals (+1), Guidelines, Template
 - View Resource →
- CraNE patient pathway template for lung cancer care – toolbox of patient-centered practices**
 - Categories: Clinical practice, Document, Healthcare professionals (+1), Guidelines, Template
 - View Resource →
- CraNE patient pathway template for lung cancer**
 - Categories: Clinical practice, Document, Healthcare professionals (+1), Guidelines, Template
 - View Resource →
- iPAAC template for pancreatic cancer**
 - Categories: Clinical practice, Document, Healthcare professionals (+1), Guidelines, Template
 - View Resource →
- iPAAC template for colorectal cancer**
 - Categories: Clinical practice, Document, Healthcare professionals (+1), Guidelines, Template
 - View Resource →
- iPAAC pathway development and implementation guide**
 - Categories: Clinical practice, Document, Healthcare professionals (+1), Guidelines, Template
 - View Resource →
- Standard Working Procedure: Clinical Committees (Multidisciplinary Teams)**
 - Categories: Governance (+1), Document, Healthcare professionals (+1), Guidelines (+1)
 - View Resource →
- Children and young people with cancer – e-learning**
 - Categories: Clinical practice, External webpage, Patient advocates (+2), Learning material
 - View Resource →
- Cancer care for elderly patients – e-learning**
 - Categories: Clinical practice, External webpage, Patient advocates (+2), Learning material
 - View Resource →

Topics

- Pathway development
- Pathway templates
- Multidisciplinary teams
- Patient guides
- Pathway coordinators
- (Molecular) tumor boards
- Self-assessments
- Team building
- Patient engagement
- Pathway evaluation

...and more to come!

Patient Pathway Resources – Pathway Tool & Repository



CCI4EU Pathway Modeler

FT

Pathway Repository

Pathway Templates

Pathway Templates

CREATE

Search

per page All 1

Colorectal Cancer Patient Consultation
Colorectal Cancer PP - "P...
a month ago

Colorectal Cancer Patient Consultation after Diagnosis
Colorectal Cancer PP - "P...
a month ago

Colorectal Cancer Patient Pathway
Colorectal Cancer PP tem...
2 months ago

Pancreatic Patient
Pancreatic...
2 months ago

Lung Cancer Standard Tumorboard Meeting
Lung Cancer PP - "Standar...
2 months ago

Lung Cancer Molecular Tumorboard Meeting
Lung Cancer PP - "Molecu...
2 months ago

Lung Cancer Staging Diagnostics
Lung Cancer PP - "Staging...
2 months ago

Lung Cancer Patient Consultation
Lung Cancer PP - "P...
2 months ago

Screening (not symptomatic patients)

high-risk screening with MRI

50-69 y (tb: 45+)

patients with invitation letter to organised screening

40+ (opportunistic), 20+ US

patient sent by gyn/GP for organised/opportunistic screening

asymptomatic self-initiated

not certified centers, pathway before is unclear

screening

organised screening

opportunistic screening

QA

QA

QA

QI

QI

QI

screening attendance: 60% (in 2y interval)

80% of screening in certified centers

PREM collection (satisfaction) & planning PROMs

max 14 days (screening mammography examination - diagnostic examination)

patient with positive screening (patients with BIRADS 0,3,4)

diagnostics a screening

INTERMEDIATE THROW EVENT
patient with positive screen...

Properties

General

Notes/Comments

References

Colors

BPMN.io

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<https://cci4eu.modeler.helict.eu>



Together, let's continue paving the (path)way for CCIs!



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