EACR-OECI: Patient Involvement in Cancer Research Programme

Virtual Event, Worldwide
28 October 2025

Scientific Programme

Tuesday 28th October 2025

Listed times are in Central European Time (CET)

13:00 WELCOME

Chair: George Sflomos

13:05 **Delia Nicoara**
Chairperson, OECI for Patients Working Group
'From Bench to Bedside Together: The Role of OECI4patients – Hospitals, NGOs and Patients in Cancer Research'

SESSION 1: PATIENT PARTNERSHIPS IN RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY
To include the importance of involving patients from the start of a research project and case studies of successful partnerships between researchers and patients.

13:20 **Juan-Jose Ventura**
Cancer Patients Europe, Belgium
'How can patients contribute and improve research'

Q&A: 13:40-13:50

13:50 **Marianna Vitaloni**
Digestive Cancers Europe (DiCE), Belgium
'Patient Co-creation in GI Cancer Research'

Q&A: 14:10-14:20

14:20 **George Sflomos**
EPFL, Switzerland
'Collaborating with Patients in Cancer Research to Address Challenges and Drive Progress'

Q&A: 14:40-14:50

14:50 BREAK

SESSION 2: BREAKING BARRIERS IN PATIENT INVOLVEMENT AND COMMUNICATION
To include Education - Improving Communication Between Patients and Researchers. Overcoming challenges in translating complex scientific concepts for patient understanding/communication.
Chair: Marta Puyol

15:10 **Tanja Spanic**
Europa Donna, Slovenia
'Patient Involvement in Cancer Research - patient advocate perspective'

Q&A: 15:30-15:40

15:40 **Robin Urquhart**

Dalhousie University, Canada
'From driving research funding to mobilizing knowledge: patient involvement across the cancer research continuum'

Q&A: 16:00-16:10

16:10 **Terri Conneran**
KRAS Kickers, USA
'Biomarkers & Belonging: Making Space for the Person in Precision Medicine'

Q&A: 16:30-16:40

16:40 BREAK

16:50 OPEN FORUM
An informal disussion session where speakers and participants are invited to discuss the key talking points from the day

17:30 SUMMARY AND CLOSE