

Call for Applications

Priority Program

'Long-term Cancer Survivorship - Data Collection and Data Analysis'

In Germany, there are currently around 5 million people living with or beyond cancer. The majority (~3.5 million) are long-term cancer survivors, i. e., having survived 5 years and more after diagnosis. These survivors are a heterogeneous group of individuals who have to deal with physical, psychological and social long-term and late effects of their disease and therapy, and have different health needs. However, these needs of long-term cancer survivors, which can be specific and complex, are not yet adequately and systematically addressed.

With the aim of improving the data basis for a follow-up care considering individual risk profiles and needs of long-term cancer survivors, German Cancer Aid has launched a funding priority program 'Long-term Cancer Survivorship - Data Collection and Data Analysis'. The overall budget is 3 Mio. €.

The main topics of interest of this funding program are:

- Clinical epidemiological studies of long-term and late effects:
 - Survey and quantitative description of the risk for long-term and late effects of long-term survivors after cancer with a detailed analysis on the occurrence of physical and psychosocial long-term and late effects.
 - Analysis of physical, psychological and social long-term and late effects with a particular focus on new therapy modes (e. g., immune and stem cell therapies), for which long-term and late effects are currently not well known. New insights with high clinical relevance should be preferably generated by ambi- and/or (ongoing) prospective cohorts.
- Elaboration of evidence-based models of risk stratification regarding risk-modifying and needs-based services and development of screening measures:
 - Identification of risk factors and development of reliable and valid screening instruments regarding the development of late and long-term sequelae in long-term survivors.
 - Development of evidence-based models for monitoring long-term and late effects of different groups of long-term survivors, including appropriate screening tools.

Research proposals on the above-mentioned topics should take the bio-psycho-social model of the development and maintenance of disease and long-term consequences into account. It is therefore necessary to consider potential interactions at and between these three levels, moderator and mediator effects and the normal aging process.

Research questions should ideally be addressed by interdisciplinary collaborative working groups ('Verbundprojekte'). However, innovative relevant questions can also be investigated by single or collaborative working groups with a specific disciplinary background.

Funding will be granted for a period of 3 years.

Submitted applications are expected to take participatory approaches into account to ensure that the projects address relevant cancer survivors' needs.

Important notes:

Applicants must inform the German Cancer Aid by March 23, 2023 that they plan to submit an application (Letter of Intent). Project outlines must be submitted no later than April 21, 2023. If the preliminary evaluation is favorable, full applications can be submitted. The according deadline will be announced in due time. More detailed information on the call for applications, the application procedure and the evaluation procedure can be found at: www.krebshilfe.de/forschen/foerderung.