

**The "V EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON CHRONIC CANCER SURVIVORS AND PATIENT: EVIDENCE AND OPERATING DIRECTIONS" was held in Syracuse on 6/7 June 2014.**

The conference allowed a comparison and an update on the most important clinical and psychosocial issues between medical specialists (oncologists, radiotherapists, surgeons, ophthalmologists, gynaecologists, general practitioners, and rehabilitation), the various professionals who approach the cancer patient in different phases of care (psychologists, nurses, social workers ...), and cancer survivors.

The event was divided in two days: the first fully dedicated to scientific updates on major solid tumours and the approach of the category of older cancer patients who today represent an important niche from both a purely epidemiological, considering the increasing number, and from a clinical aspect, given the presence of multi-pathologies that often characterise these patients making them more fragile and management more complex.

The second day was, however, entirely dedicated to the problems inherent in the medical and psychosocial survivorship, through two sessions held in parallel.

The need to identify the best models to manage these patient, their rehabilitation, the relevant issue of the follow-up, and the importance of changes in lifestyle (smoking, physical activity, obesity ...) was discussed. A session was devoted to the theme of "healing" and the possibility of being able to define the cancer patient as "cured".

The session saw the comparison of specialists and epidemiologists, with the drafting of a final document, the "Syracuse Charter" that reported statements aiming at a) suggesting appropriate ways to use the word "cured" in the clinical and communicative setting, b) highlighting the potential impact of the word on patients, and c) opening a critical discussion concerning this timely and delicate matter.

The event had an international flavour, with the participation of Europeans and Americans representatives and involved more that 100 participants.

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Conference Scientific Director