

OECI 2023 Oncology Days

DigiCore

DIGICORE an added value for European Outcomes research studies

Update on DIGICORE development

June 14, 2023

Prof. Gennaro Ciliberto

DIGICORE President

Scientific Director IRCCS National Cancer Center,
Regina Elena, Rome, Italy



THE DIGITAL INSTITUTE FOR CANCER OUTCOMES RESEARCH

*"make every willing cancer patient a research patient
and so transform cancer care"*

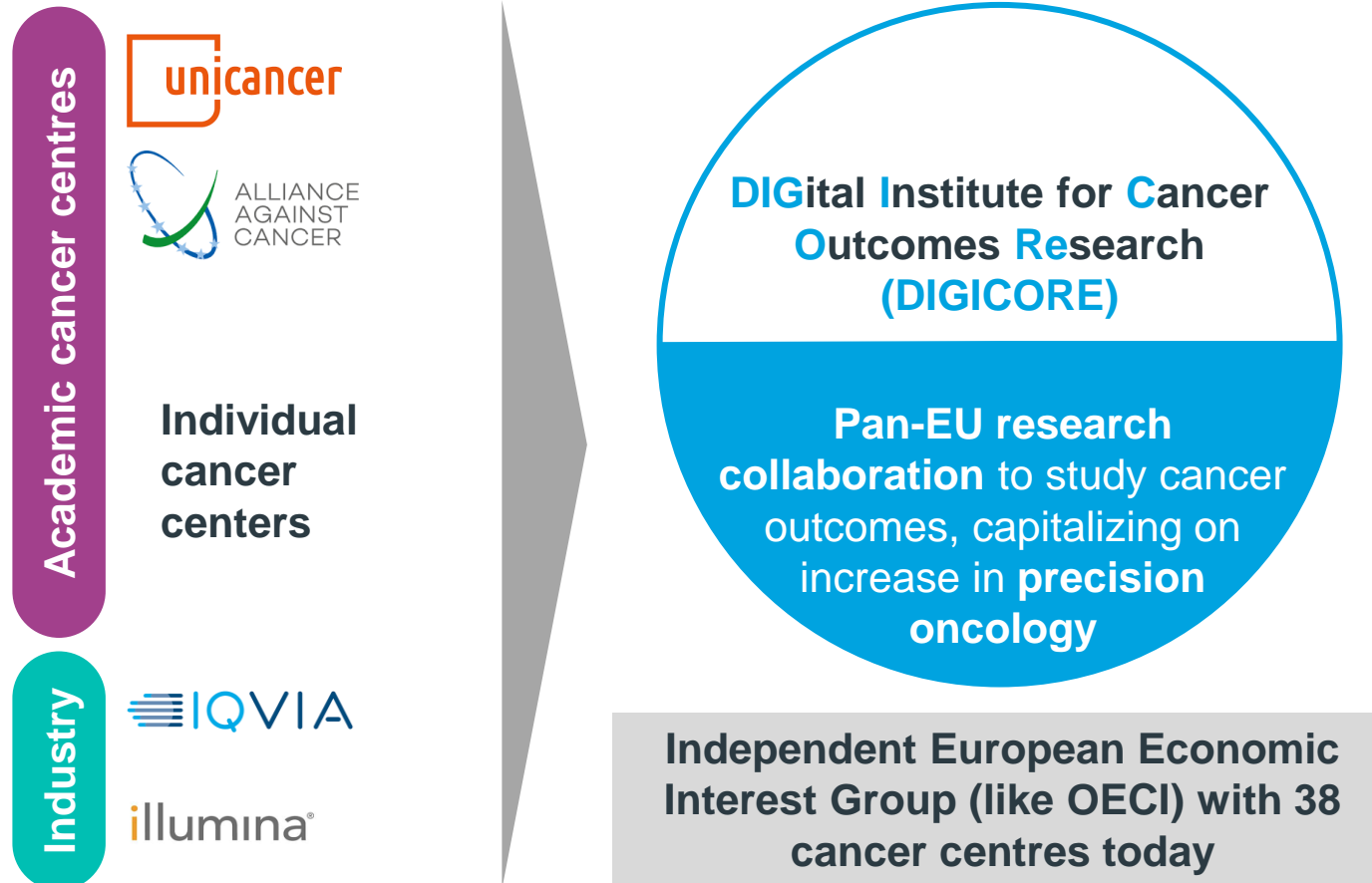


DIGICORE is an international Consortium that aims to transform and digitise cancer outcomes research in Europe



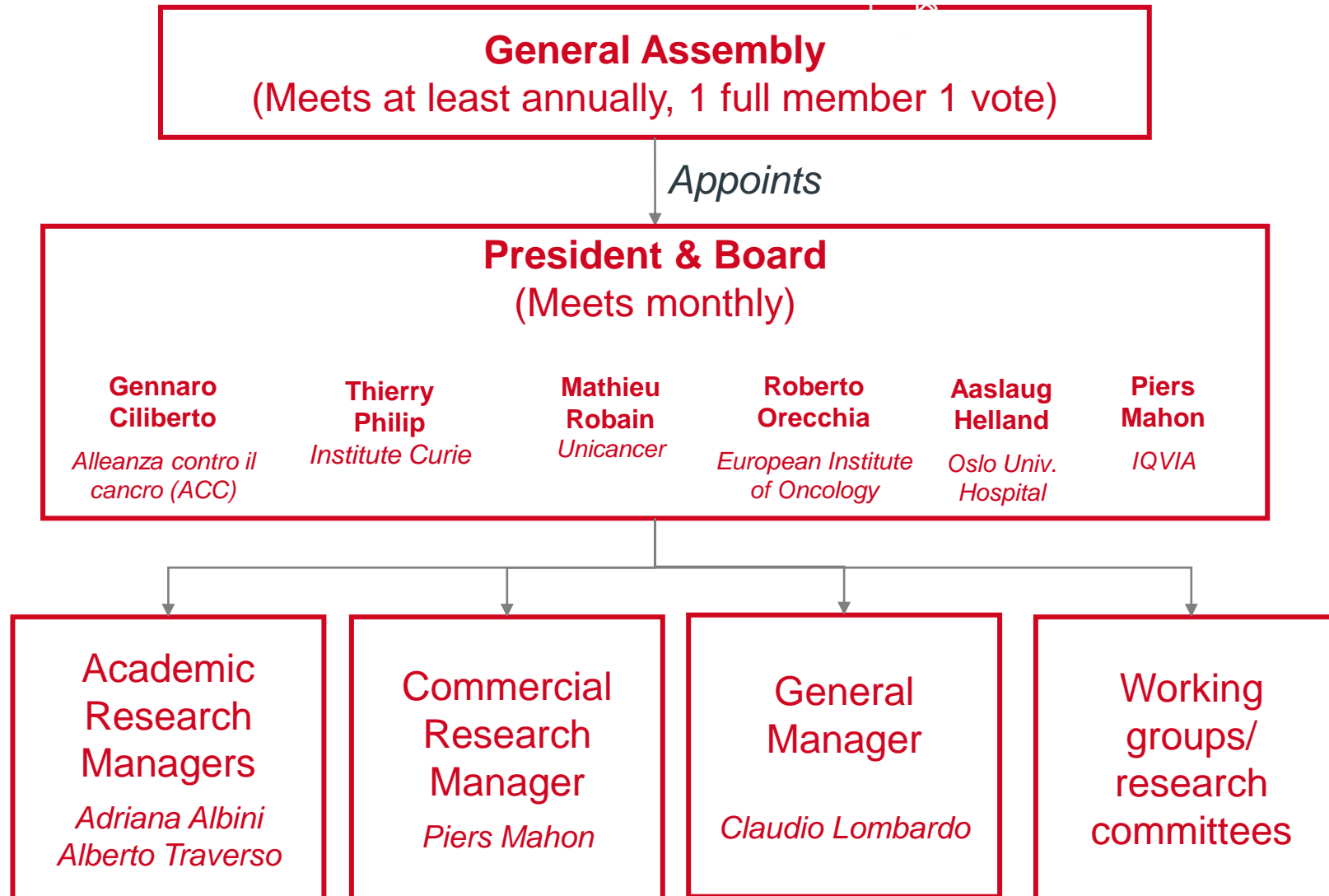
Members

Benefits and rationale



- For **Cancer Centres**, interoperability of cancer data across sites for improved translational research
- For **Patients**, broader trial access and in future better outcomes
- For **Industrial Partners**: drive commercial multi- centre, international RWE projects in precision oncology and drive precision trial recruitment
- Grow clinical evidence base for molecular diagnostic tests in improving outcomes and accelerate reimbursement for all vendors

Our organization



Key Principles

1. **Medical hypothesis neutrality** – no large pharma inside
2. Cancer centres retain **full data control** and autonomy over clinical decisions
3. Serve **both academic and commercial research**
4. **Institutional research autonomy** – right to refuse any study, or propose one
5. **Equality in research activity** of Associate members and Full Members
6. Technical solutions will be **federated**, include a **common data model** but do not have to be implemented until / unless funded



Three chapters to DIGICORE's story so far

0. Founding negotiations

Dec 2018
OECI/IQVIA
discussions on digital
partnership



COVID delay

1. Building a European community of digital researchers

Nov 2021
"Connect to
Win" in Paris

Nov 2022
"Connect to
Win" in Milan

Nov 2023
"Connect to
Win" Madrid

Nov 2024
"Connect to
Win" TBD

2018

2019

2020

2021

2022

2023

2024

Apr 2019 – Nov 2020
Detailed negotiations: Research
independence, data protection,
legal structure

Apr 2021
DIGICORE legally
founded in Brussels
as an EEIG*

Feb 2022
First HORIZON
success with
IDEA4RC

Nov 2022
Platinum fund for
DigiONE Pilot
(6 CC, €3M**)

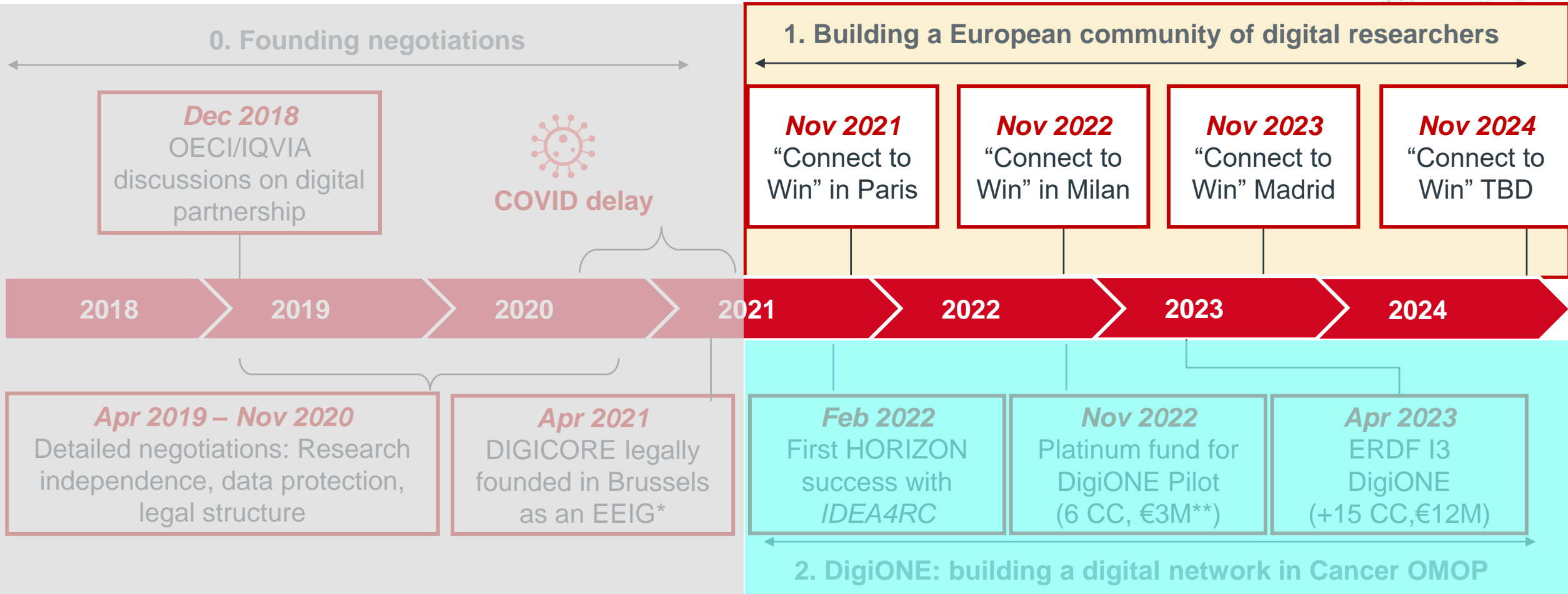
Apr 2023
ERDF I3
DigiONE
(+15 CC, €12M)

2. DigiONE: building a digital network in Cancer OMOP

* European Economic Interest Grouping, same legal structure as OECI

** Funded by IQVIA and Illumina

How are we doing on building a European community of digital researchers?



* European Economic Interest Grouping, same legal structure as OECI

** Funded by IQVIA and Illumina

Connect To Win: Second annual digital research planning conference taking place in Milan November 2022

Connect2Win , Milan 7-9 Nov 2021

Objectives

- Assess progress over last year
- Further grow the network
- Better define of our common operational model and timeline for first deliverables!
- Discuss how to best position DIGICORE for success



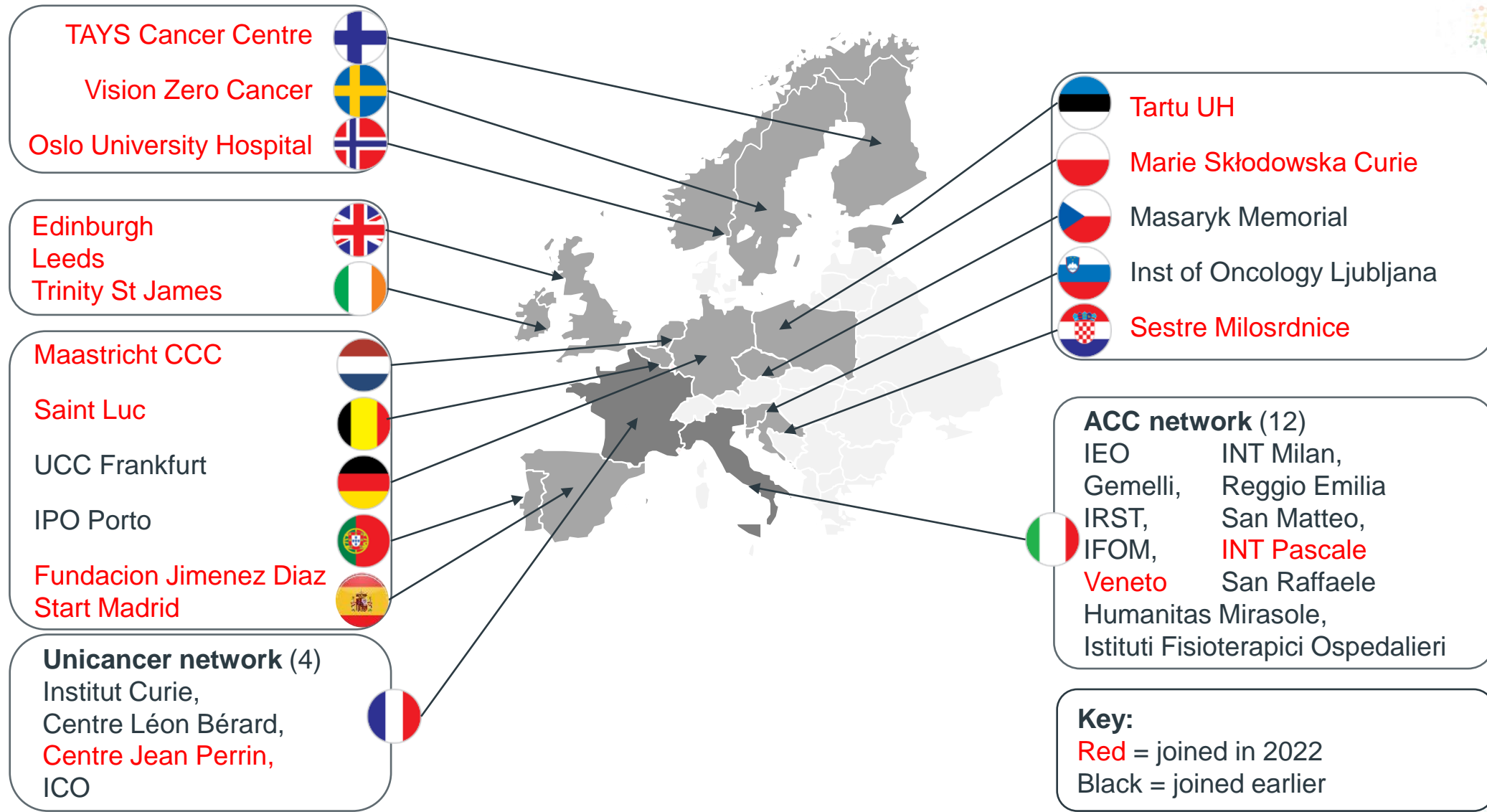
120 delegates

40 cancer centres

**19 European countries
+ US + Companies**

**Major national centres
represented**

In 2022 DIGICORE grew from 22 to 38 cancer centres in 17 countries



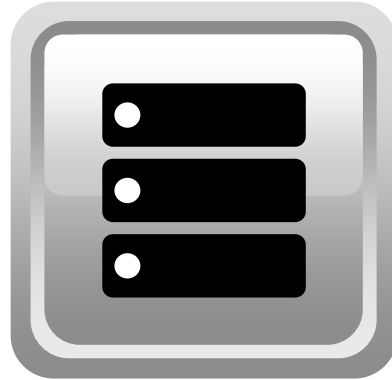
Four elements to drive DIGICORE's future success and digitising the Beating Cancer Plans

1. Digitally skilled researchers

2. Common digital research infrastructure





3. Exciting scientific hypotheses

4. Funding

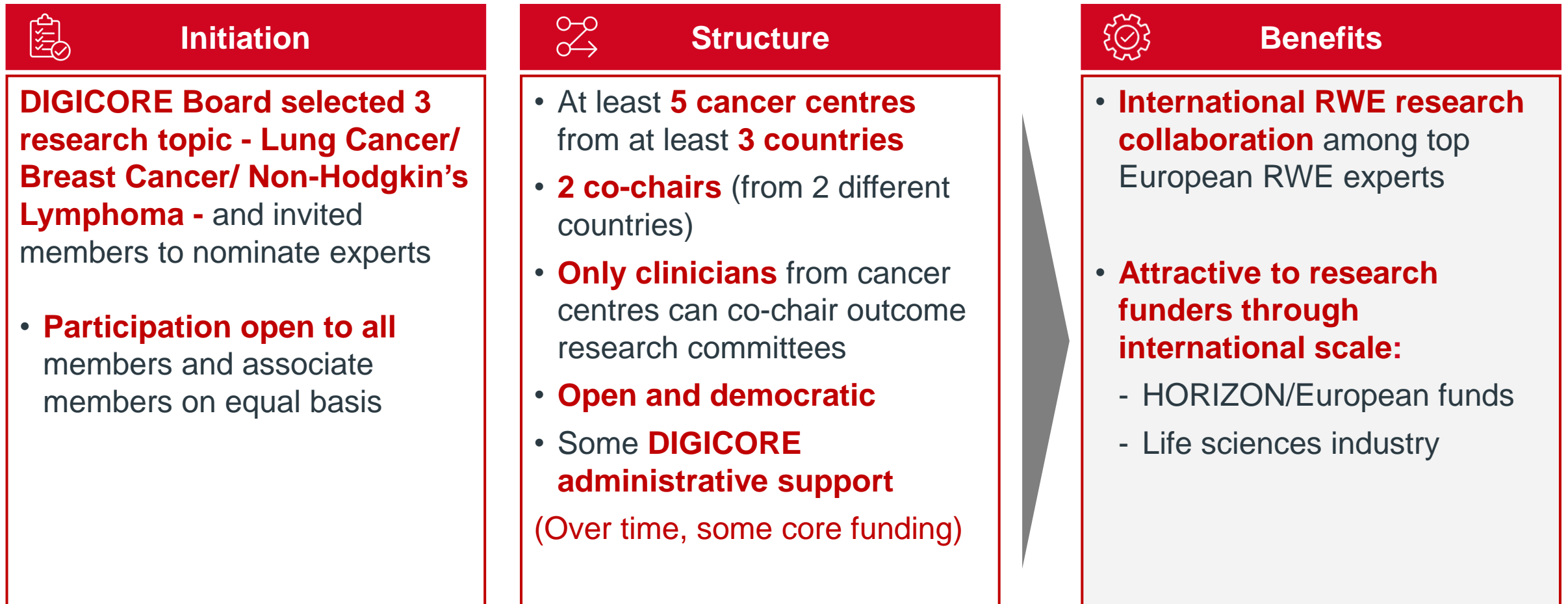


IDEAL4RWE training program and competition to address a skills gap and support proof of concept research involving emerging research leaders



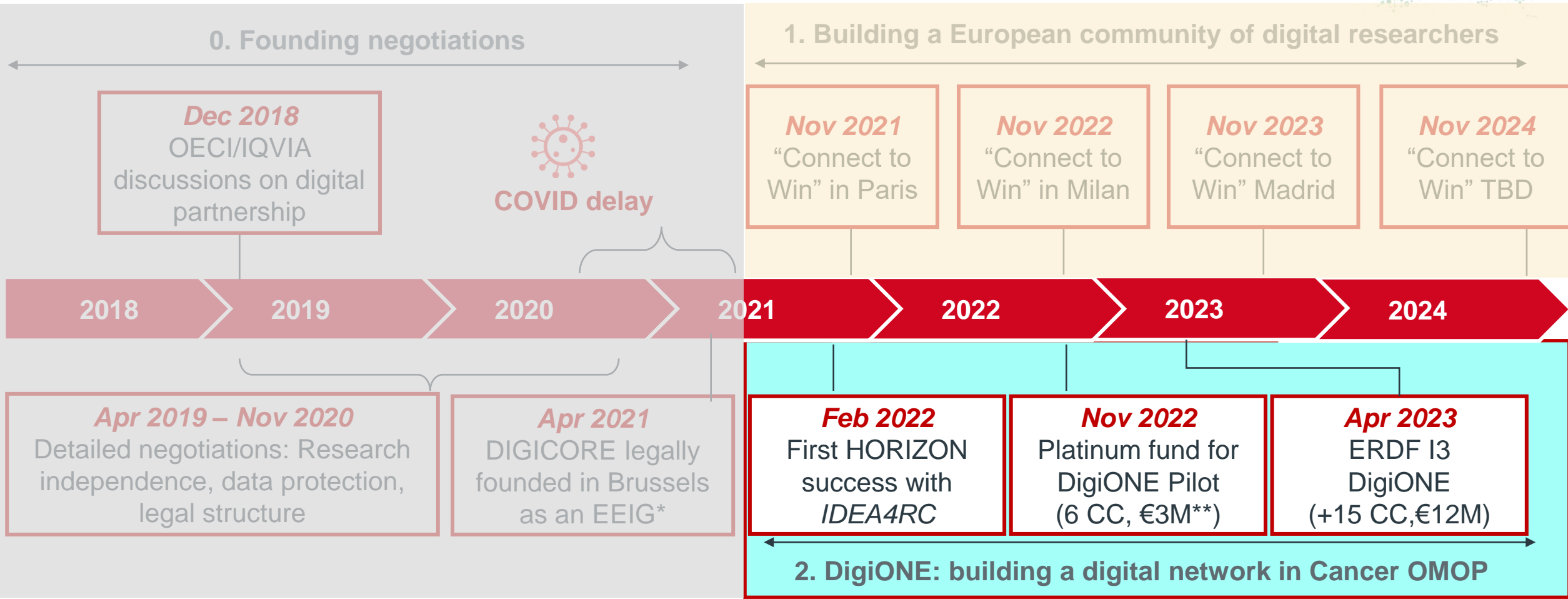
 Who?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Under 45, clinicians, data scientists etc. Interested in outcome research and ambitious to lead digital revolution in RWE
 What?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Training on both technical and leadership skills for RWE• Based around an international proof-of-concept study
 How?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mix of training styles: Face-to-face and virtual• Full programme involves “test” application – funding available
 When?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Started in Q2 2022 - free “taster” programme• RWE studies started in Q4 2022/Q1 2023• Will Conclude in year 2023

DIGICORE's research committees' structure is designed to complement national outcome research programmes and will be scaled this year





How are we doing on building a common infrastructure?



* European Economic Interest Grouping, same legal structure as OECI

** Funded by IQVIA and Illumina

We are participating as a junior partner in 4 HORIZON bids to date



IDEA4RC

HORIZON-HLTH-2021-TOOL-06-03

Project

- Intelligent Ecosystem to improve the governance, the sharing and the re-use of health Data for Rare Cancers (IDEA4RC)


Objectives

- Establish a 'Rare Cancer Data Ecosystem' to make possible the re-use of existing data (e.g. registries, biobanks, etc)
- Improve data system interoperability and leverage AI approaches to facilitate research in rare cancers and improve equality of care

DIGICORE role

- Enlargement of

Project coordinator:
Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori di Milano



EUonQoL

HORIZON-MISS-2021-CANCER-02


Project

- Quality of Life in Oncology: measuring what matters for cancer patients and survivors in Europe - **EUonQoL**

Objectives

- EUonQoL aims to develop, pilot and validate the EUonQoL-Kit, a patient-driven, unified system for the assessment of quality of life (QoL) based on evaluations and preferences of cancer patients and survivors. The EUonQoL-Kit will be developed from a patient perspective, administered digitally, available in the EU27 and Associated countries languages, and applicable in future, periodic surveys to contribute to the EU's mission on cancer.

Project coordinator:
Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori di Milano



CCI4EU

HORIZON-MISS-2022-CANCER-01-02

COMPREHENSIVE CANCER INFRASTRUCTURE IN EUROPE (CCI4EU)

Coordinator: **OECl**

- DIGICORE Role:** **Partner**

Affiliated Entity: IFO
3° Parties: Vision Cancer Zero, IOV, Irst "Dino Amadori", Institut de Cancérologie de l'Ouest

- DIGICORE Activities :**
 - WP 2:** Definition of criteria for Comprehensive Cancer Infrastructures (CCIs) using a Maturity Model
 - WP 3:** Mapping of the current status and criteria of CCIs in EU MSs/regions and clustering

Project coordinator:
Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori di Milano



The Digital Institute for Cancer Outcomes Research



CAN.HEAL

EU4H-2021-PJ2

Project

- Building the EU Cancer and Health Genomics platform - **CAN.HEAL**


Objectives

- To develop an integrated approach to improve access of individuals and cancer patients to prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cancer through personalised medicine

DIGICORE' role

- Development of decision support tools
- Training and literacy initiatives addressed to patients and general public


Project coordinator:
Sciensano (Belgium)



DIGICORE Activities :




- WP 10:** *Data integration and Dissemination*
- WP 13:** *Educational activities*

The Digital Institute for Cancer Outcomes Research



Platinum fund competition to support the development of a proof of concept network for advanced RWE research



 Who?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Digitally-ambitious cancer centres needing investment
 What?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">An investment programme for advanced RWE technology – up to €3M€250K cash - €250K in-kind tech for 6 centres
 How?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Individual cancer centres express interest, access funding details, training materials, get bid prep support and adviceSubmit bids outlining their plans for needed upgrade
 When?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Expressions of interest end of June 2022- Full appl Sep 2022Awarded November 2022Started March 2023 (kick off meeting in Frankfurt)
 T&Cs?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Any OECl or similar can apply, but to receive funding<ul style="list-style-type: none">Must become a member or associate of DIGICOREMust be willing to contract for commercial RWE

Platinum was anticipated by the establishment of frameworks and self-assessment tools to help measure centre RWE readiness and plan improvements



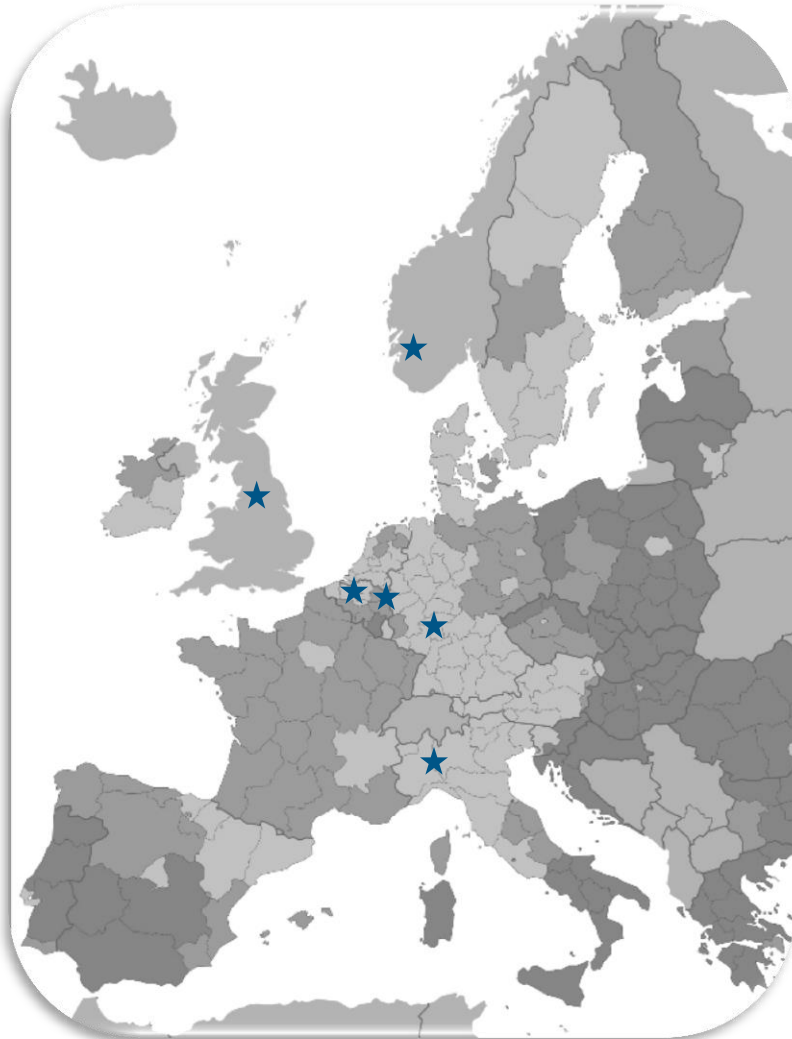
	Bronze Cancer Centres	Silver Cancer Centres	Gold Cancer Centres
1. Precision oncology research maturity	MDX testing below NCCN guidelines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Testing almost all “IHC + some Sanger” • Very limited local precision expertise • Don’t recruit to Biomarker driven trials 	Testing at / above NCCN guidelines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small panel the norm only in NSCLC • Some but limited precision expertise • Recruit rarely for SoC biomarker trials 	Large Panel MDX standard of care <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Molecular tumour board pilots • Lots of precision trials underway, especially in “new biomarkers”
2. Routine clinical data digital research maturity	No Data Warehouse, but core EMR exists <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Siloed Clinical Systems, very partial data • Unstructured Data often paper based • No Data Standardisation • Traditional eCRF obs. studies only 	Basic clinically focused Data Warehouse <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core Clinical Systems integrated • Identifiable Data, some standardisation • Unstructured Data is digital, un-mapped • Taking first steps in Database Research 	A research ready local Data Warehouse <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All cancer data in (chemo, radio, path), with strong master data management • Strong privacy norms (pseudo etc) • Multi-site database research routine
3. Pragmatic outcomes maturity	Minimal routine outcomes in EMR (death in hospital, ER admissions only) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manual research processes established for date of death, but frequency of routine scans confounds RECIST 	Outcomes interested but gaps remain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some communities of care track key outcomes, often outside of EMR • Progression only well tracked where easy to measure (e.g. CA125 in ovarian) 	Preparing for outcomes research at scale <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EMR captures progression and death • Experimenting with routine digital outcomes – PROs tools, AI on scans etc • Maybe pilots in liquid biopsy for relapse
4. Information Governance & Delivery Maturity	Not systematic on GDPR research reuse <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very basic patient notifications on data, often limited to clinical use • eCRF processes use traditional pathways of study specific consent • Very limited capacity to support planning or commercial projects 	GDPR foundations based on notification <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High Quality Patient Notification and Opt-out process cover research • Aggregated data released without consent, consent needed for patient level • Some spare capacity, but tends to be cancer specific and easily saturated 	Strong secondary use consents the norm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secondary consents routine, and provide a broad basis for processing • Strong processes for privacy management on patient level releases • Large central data science teams with spare capacity for commercial studies

DigiONE Pilot: €3M for technology investment in proof of concept to automate and federated cancer outcome research under GDPR



1. Define a **scalable common international minimum dataset for cancer (MEDOC)** building from French OSIRIS
2. **Achieve interoperability and high data quality** on that dataset between 6 centres across Europe under GDPR
3. **Federate those centres** to allow aggregated statistics like counts and to answer simple research questions, with appropriate information governance and contracting
4. **Link routine molecular and clinical data** (despite the format challenges on molecular PDFs)
5. Work out how to **scale up digitally less mature hospitals** with a **variety of technologies and vendors** in DIGICORE's learning – by- doing community

6 DigiONE Posters to be presented at OHDSI EU Symposium July 2023



Conceptual architecture for the Digital Oncology Network for Europe - an OMOP based European federated, automated cancer care quality ecosystem

Olivier Bouissou¹, Ismini Chatzitheofilou², Gennaro Ciliberto³, Marco Denti⁴, Xosé Fernández⁵, Dennis Kadioglu⁶, Stelios Theophanous⁷, Joëlle Thonnard⁸, Alberto Traverso⁹, Piers Mahon^{3,5}

Building a European cancer OMOP network in hospitals with limited OMOP experience using tiered and modular protocolised research

Atif Adam¹ and Piers Mahon^{1,2}

¹IQVIA Ltd. ²Digital Institute for Cancer Outcomes Research (DIGICORE).

Data OMOPisation of cancer data at Cliniques universitaires Saint-Luc

Joëlle Thonnard¹, Frédéric Calay¹, Audrey Timmermans¹, Cédric Van Marcke¹,
¹Cliniques universitaires Saint-Luc, Brussels, Belgium

The DigiONE FORGE Approach to Providing OMOP Oncology Data for Federated Analyses

Daniel Maier^{1,2}, Fabienne A. U. Fox¹, Abishaa Vengadeswaran³, Andrea Wolf⁴, Christian Brandts⁴, Daniel P. Brucker⁴, Holger Storf³, Jörg Janne Vehreschild^{1,5,6}, Timo Schneider⁴, Dennis Kadioglu^{3,7}

OMOP for oncology data: a single-centre and network perspective

Stelios Theophanous¹, Kieran Zucker^{2,3}, Louise Hick¹, Edward Bolton¹, Majid Riaz^{2,4}, Hayley Fenton^{2,4}, John Corkett¹, Sue Cheeseman¹, Geoff Hall^{2,3}

Oslo University Hospital Participation in a European Cancer OMOP Network

Olivier Bouissou¹, Ingrid K. S. Hanto², Elisabeth Ross¹

¹Division of Technology and Innovation, Oslo University Hospital

²Division of Cancer Medicine, Oslo University Hospital

DIGICORE coordinated and awarded (subject to contract) €12m bid to the ERDF I3 scheme to digitise another 15 hospitals to Cancer OMOP



DigiONE – I3: Digital Oncology Network for Europe

WP1: Programme management

European Hospital raw EHR / staff
to supply digital research services

WP2: Inter-regional advanced federated research infrastructure build

Getting network hospitals to a common, interoperable digital maturity standard of high quality near real time data in Cancer -OMOP research data repositories (RDR) including molecular data and imaging ready for federated learning

Value chain 1 Lower cost, better private sector solutions for hospital interoperability

WP3: Clinical data automation tools

Share know how and technology between private sector vendors across European regions to lower the cost of individual hospital research infrastructure build & interoperability

WP4: European molecular data interoperability & automation

Dedicated workflow to extend specialised tools to release machine readable, GDPR appropriate data from routine Illumina, ThermoFisher tests

WP5 Inter-regional readiness for Research Service Engagement

Know-how transfer from digitally mature regions to less mature on:

- Hospital contracting and commercial offer development
- Hospital research delivery capacity development / methods
- Market engagement to potential research service customer groups

Research service customers
Payers, academics, SMEs and
Lifescience

Value chain 2 End to end creation of an at-scale, multi-region European precision oncology digital research services value chain

Summary

- 1. Growth higher than expected in little more than 2 years from foundation**
- 2. Building a community of digital clinical young experts**
- 3. Several RWE projects ongoing and more to come soon**
- 4. Strong capability for fund raising**
- 5. Building a large digital interoperable infrastructure for outcomes research**

Benefits to centres from participating in DIGICORE



Drive better research in Europe

- **Innovate collaboratively** to develop new methods and digital infrastructure
- Access **cutting edge methods**, IP and tools that increase your competitiveness
- **Statistical power for rare subgroup analysis**
- **Collaborate in precision oncology** and making large panels “the EU normal”

Access new funding streams

- Secure **EU collaborative grant income** – for digital infrastructure, digital tools, specific studies
- Drive **commercial research** – advanced RW studies, precision trials
- Propose **academic studies** to the grouping



How to join DIGICORE



Website instructions

Join Now

DIGICORE – EEIG Membership Application Instructions and Form

Each Institution that wishes to apply for Membership in DIGICORE-EEIG must fill-out the **DIGICORE Application Form**

Prior to filling in this form, the Applicant Institution shall verify that it meets the relevant requirements for membership set forth in the **DIGICORE-EEIG Statute**, and that it agrees to comply with the rules outlined in the DIGICORE-EEIG Statute.

Submitting procedure

1. Fill in the form (page 3-4 below) as clear and legible as possible. Once completed, please make a copy of the document and preserve it for your own records. The original signed form must be sent to:

Prof. **Claudio Lombardo**
c/o SOS Europe Srl
Via delle Campanule, 74
16148 Genova - Italy



2. Please send an electronic copy of the signed form to info@digicore-cancer.eu along with a copy of the Statute of the cancer centre/institute/organisation/company

Contact DIGICORE
(info@digicore-cancer.eu)
for application information
and introductory briefing (if
required)

Submit application
form
(<https://digicore-cancer.eu/Page.aspx?name=JOIN>)

CONNECT TO WIN: November 13-15, 2023 Madrid-Spain

DigiCore

**Don't miss our next meeting in
Madrid in November**



The Digital Institute for Cancer Outcomes Research

Thank you!