



**European Conference on**

**Colon Cancer Prevention in Europe**  
**- Status Quo and Perspectives -**

**This event is held under the patronage of the German EU Presidency and the Union Internationale Contre le Cancer (UICC)**

**Date:**

9 May 2007

08.30 am – 06.00 pm

**Venue:**

Building of the Bavarian Representation in Brussels (formerly the Institute Pasteur)

**Initiated by:**

Felix Burda Foundation, the German Network against Colon Cancer, the International Digestive Cancer Alliance (IDCA)

**The following organisations support the conference:**

- European Cancer Prevention Organisation (ECP)
- European Cancer Leagues (ECL)
- United European Gastroenterology Federation (UEGF)
- European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO)
- European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC)
- European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS)
- European Cancer Patient Coalition (ECPC)
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Verdauungs- und Stoffwechselkrankheiten (DGVS)
- Bundesverband Gastroenterologie Deutschland (BVGd)
- Kassenärztliche Bundesvereinigung (KBV)

**Background:**

Currently, roughly every other colon cancer patient dies from his disease. Yet colon cancer is the only cancer which can be almost totally prevented or cured if recognized at an early stage. The incidence rate would fall drastically, if people over the age of 50 and people from families with a history of colon cancer were systematically screened for tumours in their early stages or adenomous polyps, the preliminary stages of tumours. Parallel to the fall of the incidence rate also the mortality rate would then decrease significantly, since colonic tumours can be

successfully cured provided they are detected at an early stage, and adenomas could be removed before they can degenerate into cancer.

### **Objectives of the conference:**

Drastically reversing the current trend of high incidence and mortality rates of colon cancer should become the highest possible priority on the European health policy agenda for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. All countries within the European Union should be encouraged to introduce internationally interlinked screening programmes. Thus the main objective of the conference is offering a scientific base for screening programmes and stimulating the establishment of a pan-European network for this very important topic. Based on scientific evidence the conference tries to provide incentives for the practical implementation of an interlinked pan-European colon cancer screening programme. Taking the status quo of research and national screening practices into account the conference provides a platform for the discussion of the outline of the various possibilities of population-based national screening programmes. Aspects of primary prevention, cost-efficiency, quality assurance, patient compliance and the identification of high-risk groups play an important role in this. In addition selected best practice examples from different European countries will be used to demonstrate the variety of possibilities of practical implementation.

With the aid of a “Brussels declaration”, the conference will strive to initiate a pan-European endeavour which focuses on the prevention of colon cancer and sets the drastic reduction of the incidence and mortality rates as its goal.

### **Target groups:**

The conference is addressed at decision-makers, planning managers, mediators and scientists who will be involved in the design and development of European health policies over the next few years, particularly at

- Representatives from the EU Commission
- Members of the European Parliament
- Representatives from scientific organisations and associations
- Representatives from public and private healthcare bodies, agencies and institutions
- Politicians and health experts from the political parties
- Health insurance companies
- Media

### **Scientific Committee:**

Guido Tytgat, The Netherlands

Eric Van Cutsem, Belgium

Colm O'Morain, Ireland

Meinhard Classen, Germany

Jean Faivre, France

Wolff Schmiegel, Germany

Geir Hoff, Norway

Friedrich Hagenmüller, Germany

# Programme outline:

9 May 2007

7:30 am - 8:30 am

**Breakfast Snack**

8:30 am - 9:00 am

**Welcome Addresses**

**Werner Schnappauf**, Minister of Environment, Health & Consumer Protection of the State Bavaria, Germany

**Christa Maar**, CEO Felix Burda Foundation & President of German Network against Colon Cancer, Germany

9:00 am – 10:30 am

**I. The Prevention of Colon Cancer and European Health Policy**

Chairmen:

**Colm Ó'Moráin**, Ireland

**Eric Van Cutsem**, Belgium

**Massimo Crespi**, Italy

Colon cancer: A pan-European health issue of increasing urgency –  
The Epidemiology of colon cancer in European countries

**Jaroslav Waligóra**, European Commission, Luxembourg

A European cancer screening policy – What does it serve and which programmes does it support?

**Elio Riboli**, Coordinator of the EPIC Study, United Kingdom

The influence of healthy diet, sports and chemical prevention on the prevention of colon cancer

**Jean Faivre**, France

Evidence, efficacy and efficiency of stool and serum tests

**Hermann Brenner**, Germany

Evidence, efficacy and efficiency of endoscopic screening methods

10:30 am – 11:00 am

**Coffee Break**

**11:00 am – 12:30 pm**

## **II. Colon Cancer Screening Practices across Europe**

Chairmen:

**Jean Faivre**, France

**Wolff Schmiegel**, Germany

**Meinhard Classen**, Germany

The status quo of colon cancer screening in Europe – A pan-European survey about screening and the application of existing guidelines in diagnostic procedures

### **Various national screening practices:**

**Nea Malila**, Finland

**Miroslav Zavoral**, Czech Republic

**Nereo Segnan**, Italy

**Wolff Schmiegel**, Germany

**12:30 pm – 1:30 pm**

### **Lunch Break**

**1.30 pm – 3.45 pm**

## **III. „From Bench to Practice“**

Chairmen:

**Geir Hoff**, Norway

**Friedrich Hagenmüller**, Germany

**Robert J.C. Steele**, United Kingdom

Increasing public acceptance for colon cancer screening programmes through invitation schemes

**Christa Maar**, Germany

Increasing public acceptance for colon cancer screening programmes through public relation campaigns and the establishment of dedicated networks

**Ernst J. Kuipers**, The Netherlands

Which colon cancer screening programmes can we afford? – A cost-benefit analysis of different approaches

**Hanns F.A. Vasen**, The Netherlands

Can the identification of high-risk groups increase the effectiveness of colon cancer screening programmes?

**Bernhard Gibis**, Germany

Colorectal cancer screening programmes conducted through gFOBT must be quality-assured in terms of structures, execution and evaluation

**Berndt Birkner**, Germany

Quality-assurance of screening colonoscopy

**Monika Sieverding**, Germany

Correlates of colorectal cancer screening in men and women in Germany

**3:45 pm – 4:15 pm**

**Coffee break**

**4:15 pm – 6:00 pm**

**IV. Panel Discussion: Outlining a pan-European Colon Cancer Screening Programme**

Chairmen:

**Meinhard Classen**, Germany

**Guido Tytgat**, The Netherlands

Participants:

**Geir Hoff**, Norway

**Jaroslav Regula**, Poland

**Gerhard Brenner**, Germany

**Colm Ó'Moráin**, Ireland

In cooperation with the

