PROJECTS WITH EXTERNAL FUNDING

ONCOVALUE; Implementing value-based oncology care at European cancer hospitals: An AI-based framework for assessing real-life effectiveness of novel cancer therapies in real-time; EU; 424 434.75 € (2022-2026); Johanna Mattson - HUS Helsinki University Hospital (PI) & Luisa Lopes-Conceição (co-lead of WP4)

Description (2000 caracteres, sem espaços)

The ONCOVALUE consortium aims to unlock the full potential of Real World Data and Real World Evidence to maintain the affordability and sustainability of the healthcare system or the treatment of cancer.
The project aims to increase the capabilities of European cancer hospitals to easily and quickly collect, harmonize and analyze high-quality Real World Data in real-time and by developing an AI-based framework. These resources and tools will allow the effective use of data and quality frameworks, for the continuous development of treatments, improvement of results, and support the health regulatory and health technology assessment (HTA) bodies to adopt RWD-driven methodologies in their decision-making on cost-effectiveness of novel cancer therapies.

PAINLESS; Pain relief in palliative care of cancer using home-based neuromodulation and predictive biomarkers; EU; 342 250.00 € (2022-2027); Maria Teresa Carrillo-de-la-Peña – University of Santiago de Compostela (PI) & Rui Medeiros (lead of WP1)

Description (2000 caracteres, sem espaços)

The PAINLESS project is an international and multidisciplinary initiative that seeks to understand the mechanisms underlying cancer-related pain and to provide an alternative to pharmacological relief. PAINLESS uses an evidence-based and innovative approach to investigate a novel, cost-effective, and home-based intervention to manage cancer-related pain using neuromodulation. The PAINLESS project consortium comprises over twenty institutions and is coordinated by Universidade de Santiago de Compostela.

RISK; New mRNA signatures as risk markers in cancers triggered by tobacco smoking; FCT; EXPL/SAU-PUB/1073/2021; 50 000 € (overall budget) (2021-2023); Isabel Pereira Castro (PI) & Maria José Bento (co-PI)

Description (2000 caracteres, sem espaços)

RISK aims to identify, validate and explore the potential of new risk markers and therapeutic targets (mRNA signatures diagnostic kit and mRNA vectors) to be used in patients with lung, bladder, and head and neck cancer. Overall, this project will advance current knowledge on mechanisms of disease, will provide new tobacco risk markers and will open novel opportunities for therapeutic intervention to be used in a clinical setting.

CancerCOV; The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the diagnosis, treatment and survival of cancer patients; FCT; EXPL/SAU-EPI/1606/2021; 49 538.10 € (overall budget) (2022-2024); Luisa Lopes-Conceição (PI) & Samantha Morais (co-PI)

Description (2000 caracteres, sem espaços)

This project aims to study the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the diagnosis, care and survival of cancer patients from IPO-Porto throughout the pandemic, by comparing 3 periods, covering the 3 waves after the outbreak began in Portugal.

Immunotherapy in recurrent/metastatic head and neck cancer: real-world data from six European countries; DIGICORE; 11 572.66 € (2022-2023); Rita Calisto (PI) & Claudia Vieira (co-PI)

Description (2000 caracteres, sem espaços)

In the last decade, several randomized controlled trials (RCTs) supported the use of anti-PD-1 (programmed cell death protein 1) agents in advanced squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck (HNSCC) in first and further lines, improving overall survival (OS) compared to standard of care. Nevertheless, the results of RCTs may not be entirely generalized to the real-world population due to the stringent inclusion criteria and the rigid schedule of visits and exams. Real-world data (RWD) may overcome the limits imposed by rigorous design of RCTs and unlock key insights, including those related to underrepresentation in clinical trials. This study aims to describe and compare characteristics and treatments of real-world patients with recurrent or metastatic HNSCC, among seven participating centers in six European countries, by collecting retrospective information on the use of immunotherapy in these patients.

CIPNETH; The Causes and Consequences of Incomplete Paclitaxel Administration during the Neoadjuvant treatment of Early Triple negative and HER2 positive breast cancer; DIGICORE; 70 000 € (overall budget) (2022-2023); Luisa Lopes-Conceição (PI) & Claudia Vieira (co-PI)

Description (2000 caracteres, sem espaços)

Breast cancer (BC) is the most commonly diagnosed cancer and the leading cause of cancer-related deaths among women worldwide. Most patients are diagnosed with early-stage BC (eBC) in which the aim of treatment is to increase survival rates by reducing the risk of metastasis occurrence.
The backbone of neoadjuvant chemotherapy for eBC is the sequential administration of anthracyclines and taxanes. The administration of the initially planned dose-intensity of paclitaxel is frequently hampered by side effects, mainly chemotherapy-induced peripheral neuropathy. Importantly, there is no established strategy to treat or prevent this side effect. This study aims to highlight a potential impact of reduced paclitaxel dose-intensity, in a neoadjuvant context, on the effectiveness of the treatment of patients with triple negative and HER2 positive eBC, measured by the complete pathological response rate and survival free from invasive disease.

Epidemiological characterization of the population of patients with chronic myeloid leukemia treated at the IPOP; Associação Portuguesa Contra a Leucemia, Sociedade Portuguesa de Hematologia e Novartis; 15 000 € (2023); Ana Meireles (PI)

Description (2000 caracteres, sem espaços)

The introduction of tyrosine kinase inhibitors (TKI) was revolutionary in the treatment of chronic myeloid leukemia (CML). The focus has shifted from delaying disease progression to more advanced stages, to achieving survival similar to the general population, achieving a profound molecular response, and discontinuing therapy while maintaining remission. Furthermore, it is increasingly important to consider the effects of TKIs on patients' quality of life and patient-reported outcomes in the therapeutic approach. There are several studies on responses and adverse effects in patients with CML. However, the characterization of these patients in Portugal is not yet known. The main objective of this project is to describe the population of patients with CML treated at IPOP and, at the same time, to describe adverse effects of TKIs documented in these patients and which patients are candidates for TKI suspension and if there was a need to resume TKI.

BENCHISTA - International benchmarking of population-based childhood cancer survival by stage at diagnosis; 349 746.50 £ (overall budget) (2021-2024); Kathy Pritchard-Jones and Gemma Gatta (PI) & Ana Maia Ferreira (PI at IPOP)

Description (2000 caracteres, sem espaços)

The BENCHISTA, is a research collaboration between multiple population-based cancer registries (PBCRs) within and outside Europe. The project is designed to understand the reasons of variation in childhood cancer survival rates between countries and to highlight any areas that require improvement.
Also, the project aims to encourage the application of the Toronto Staging Guidelines (TG) by a large number of European and non-European cancer registries (CRs) for the most common solid paediatric cancers. The project focuses on: medulloblastoma, osteosarcoma, Ewing sarcoma, rhabdomyosarcoma, neuroblastoma, and Wilms Tumour. More than 60 CRs will collect information from these types of tumours, diagnosed between 2014-2017, will assign the Toronto Stage at diagnosis and collect other relevant data about the tumour prognosis and survival.