

# National guidelines on different cancer diagnosis, palliative care, rehabilitation and on rehabilitation and after care including follow-up for child cancer



TYPE  
STATUS

Fully implemented and ongoing

LAST  
UPDATE

September 2021

SWEDEN • NATIONAL  
Child cancer rehabilitation and after care

## PROBLEM & OBJECTIVE

**PROBLEM** There is variability in the quality of cancer care in Sweden dependent on where patients live, their gender, and their socioeconomic status.

**OBJECTIVE** To develop national guidelines for different cancer diagnoses or cross-diagnostic areas (e.g., rehabilitation, palliative care) to ensure equal and high-quality care for all inhabitants and standards of care for health care professionals.

## KEY COMPONENTS / STEPS

- Engaging multi-professional groups from different county councils
- Making draft guidelines, produced by the collaboration of regional cancer centres, available to clinical experts through a central website and open for discussion on medical content to inform revision of national guidelines
- Making draft guidelines available to all county councils through a central website and open for discussion on organisational and economic consequences to inform revision of national guidelines
- Publishing final version of national guidelines on publicly accessible website
- Regional implementation of guidelines

## KEY CONTEXTUAL FACTORS

- There are over 45 guidelines published in Sweden with the majority diagnosis-specific covering the entire cancer pathway. A smaller number of the guidelines are general such as rehabilitation and palliative care.
- The association of regional cancer centres are responsible for the production of the guidelines while the county councils are responsible for their implementation.
- The primary target group is health care professionals but there is also focus on health care executives and patients and their families.

## MAIN IMPACTS / ADDED VALUE

- The national guidelines contribute to evidence-based, equitable and quality healthcare for all patients, regardless of where they live, their gender or their socioeconomic status.

## LESSONS LEARNED

- Key success factors included ensuring professional involvement from all areas of the cancer care process and from all county councils.
- It was important for the program to be patient-centred, covering all aspects of cancer care
- It was critical to establish infrastructure for implementation through the regional cancer centres
- Open access of the guidelines on website: [cancercentrum.se](http://cancercentrum.se)

## CONTACT

Helena Brändström  
Regionala cancercentrum i  
samverkan  
Swedish association of local  
authorities and regions  
[www.cancercentrum.se](http://www.cancercentrum.se)  
[Helena.brandstrom@skr.se](mailto:Helena.brandstrom@skr.se)  
+46 727 303 404

## REFERENCES & DOCUMENTATION

- National Cancer Care Program

More over  
[IPAAC](#)  
[Roadmap](#)