



**Česká
onkologická
společnost ČS JEP**



CZECH ONCOLOGISTS' FORUM

Jana Prausová

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COOPERATION WITH THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

- Re-accreditation of Comprehensive Cancer Centres
- Efforts to incorporate the status of centres providing highly specialised care into legislation (into the amended Act No. 372/2011 Coll.)??
- The Czech National Cancer Control Programme is well designed, but the role of patient organisations, guarantee by healthcare payers and founders of healthcare facilities should be better defined
- Cancer prevention, cancer screening programmes



OBTAINING THE STATUS OF A CENTRE PROVIDING HIGHLY SPECIALISED CARE

- All centres were delivered the decision
- All Comprehensive Cancer Centres (CCCs) have been re-accredited
- New developments: the CCC of University Hospital in Motol, Prague now cooperates with the Hospital Na Homolce, the Military University Hospital Prague and the Proton Therapy Center in Prague.
- Bulletin of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic was published, stating that all CCCs will be obliged to report quality indicators
- Approved by the Minister of Health of the Czech Republic



COOPERATION WITH HEALTHCARE PAYERS

- Joint statements by the Czech Society for Oncology and the General Health Insurance Company of the Czech Republic will continue to be issued, thus making medicinal products available to patients even before their reimbursement is approved
- Newly reimbursed procedures in cancer care:
 - Outpatient application of cancer pharmacotherapy, i.e. that applied within 12-hour interval, without the necessity of patient hospitalisation
 - Informing the patient about his/her diagnostic-therapeutic procedure which had been discussed by the multidisciplinary team
- Maintaining the affordability of international treatment standards



COOPERATION WITH THE ASSOCIATION OF INNOVATIVE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY (AIFP)

- Visit to AIFP – Chairwoman and Tomáš Svoboda, MD
- The issue of conference sponsorship
- Number of events per calendar year
- Type of events
- Behaviour and visits by representatives of pharmaceutical companies to workplaces
- Clinical trials – selection of workplaces, necessity of consultation with the Board of the Czech Society for Oncology (CSO), innovative therapies can only be provided in Comprehensive Cancer Centres (CCCs)



CZECH NATIONAL CANCER CONGRESS

- ESMO can only guarantee one event (with the character of a national congress) per year
- Discussion about arrangements is under way
- Prague and Brno could alternate each year
- Organisation by the Board of the Czech Society for Oncology
- Cooperation with the Czech Society for Radiation Oncology, Biology and Physics (SROBF)
- Decreasing the overall number of events per year
- Maintaining regional one-day events, aiming to support cooperation among workplaces and disciplines within Comprehensive Cancer Centres



COOPERATION WITH THE STATE INSTITUTE FOR DRUG CONTROL (SUKL)

- Regular visits by representatives of the Board of the Czech Society for Oncology to SUKL Director
- Amendment to Act No. 48/1997 Coll.
- Efforts to make the system for searching ongoing clinical trials more comprehensible
- Representatives of the Czech Society for Oncology were directly present at the process of approving reimbursements for medicinal products
- Workplaces eligible for carrying out clinical trials were selected with the participation of representatives of the Czech Society for Oncology



COOPERATION WITH GENERAL PRACTITIONERS (GPs)

- The process of referring cancer patients upon treatment completion to GPs continues
- Capacities of Comprehensive Cancer Centres (CCCs) are improved as a result
- Strengthening the authority of GPs and improving their knowledge in medical oncology
- GPs now participate in care provided to currently treated cancer patients
- Improvements in access to palliative and symptomatic treatment
- Possibility to look after cancer patients in their home environment, reducing hospitalisations



LINKOS.CZ – OFFICIAL WEBSITE OF THE CZECH SOCIETY FOR ONCOLOGY

- High number of visits by healthcare professionals and by the general public
- Significant educational benefit
- Cooperation with a psychologist
- Cooperation with general practitioners (GPs)



COOPERATION WITH PATIENT ORGANISATIONS

- Sustainability and development of cancer care quality on the level of international recommendations – cooperation with the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic
- Efforts to cooperate with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (as regards long-term carers' allowance etc.): unsuccessful so far, the Ministry is uninterested
- Joint meeting with representatives of patient organisations at the meeting of the Board of the Czech Society for Oncology on 11 February 2020
- The Czech National Cancer Control Programme is being transformed
- Survey during the COVID-19 pandemic – detailed results (in Czech language only) are available at linkos.cz



CARE PROVIDED TO CZECH CANCER PATIENTS AT THE TIME OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- During the state of emergency, Comprehensive Cancer Centres (CCCs) continued to work almost as normal
- Sessions by multidisciplinary teams were held, new patients were indicated for appropriate diagnostic/therapeutic procedures
- Radiotherapy, cancer pharmacotherapy and cancer surgery were performed
- The number of procedures in cancer patients did not decrease



CARE PROVIDED TO CZECH CANCER PATIENTS AT THE TIME OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- Comprehensive Cancer Centres were running with a limited number of staff, with one part being isolated from others (in order to keep reserves in case of infection)
- Hospitalised patients were tested for COVID-19 (certain rooms were dedicated for them while their tests were processed)
- Outpatient patients were not tested for COVID-19: the staff approached these patients as potentially COVID-19 positive, with history and clinical data about possible infection being determined



CARE PROVIDED TO CZECH CANCER PATIENTS AT THE TIME OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- Delayed outpatient controls in patients upon treatment completion (after several months), including delayed staging with imaging techniques, were the only limitation.
- These procedures were usually delayed upon the patient's request or upon agreement with the physician attending to an asymptomatic patient



CARE PROVIDED TO CZECH CANCER PATIENTS AT THE TIME OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- Chief physicians in Comprehensive Cancer Centres were regularly contacted by e-mail or by phone, and statements by the Board of the Czech Society for Oncology were published at linkos.cz from the very start of the COVID-19 pandemic
- The situation was serious, it was not underestimated, and it was a significant test for both patients and healthcare professionals
- From today's perspective, "playing down" the situation is tempting but entirely inappropriate



CARE PROVIDED TO CZECH CANCER PATIENTS AT THE TIME OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- Cooperation with patient organisations
- Statements intended for patients
- On-line survey for cancer patients was available at the official website of the Czech Society for Oncology
- Feedback regarding cancer care at the time of the COVID-19 pandemic
- A total of 350 questionnaires filled in by cancer patients from across the Czech Republic were evaluated



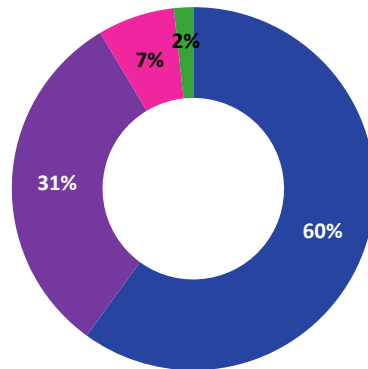
IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON CANCER CARE

Vyjádřete souhlas s jedním tvrzením, které je nejbližší Vašemu osobnímu pohledu na opatření související s Vaší léčbou

Základ: Celý vzorek, N=350

- Rozumím těmto opatřením a nepocítuji velkou psychickou zátěž.
- Nesouhlasím s těmito opatřeními, považuji je za přehnaná.

- Rozumím těmto opatřením, ale cítím velkou psychickou zátěž.
- Nerozumím přijatým opatřením, nikdo mi je dostatečně nevysvětlil.



Select one statement that best describes your personal opinion on measures related to your treatment

Number of respondents: the entire sample, N = 350

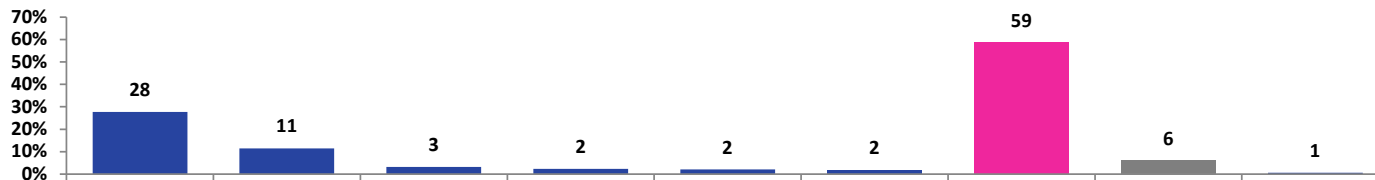
- I understand these measures and I do not perceive a significant mental burden. (60%)
- I understand these measures but I do perceive a significant mental burden. (31%)
- I do not agree with these measures, I consider them to be exaggerated. (7%)
- I do not understand the adopted measures, nobody explained them to me adequately. (2%)



IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON CANCER CARE

Pokud byla léčba změněna, proč?

Základ: Celý vzorek, N=350



If there were any changes to your treatment, what were they?

Number of respondents: the entire sample, N = 350

My follow-up visits were postponed. (28%)

Previously planned imaging (tomography, CT, PET, MR or ultrasound) was cancelled or postponed. (11%)

My chemotherapy session(s) was/were postponed. (3%)

I was barely able to contact my doctor. (2%)

My radiotherapy session(s) was/were postponed. (2%)

My surgery was postponed. (2%)


There were no changes in my treatment. (59%)

Other. (6%)

I don't know. (1%)



FUTURE OF THE CZECH CANCER CARE

- Centralisation and specialisation of cancer care under the auspices of National and Comprehensive Cancer Centres, which have recently been re-accredited, will continue
 - Cooperation with regional cancer care facilities in multidisciplinary teams, guarantee of availability to all cancer patients
 - Cancer pharmacotherapy can be only applied at medical oncology facilities
 - Cooperation with general practitioners (GPs) in the follow-up period
 - Electronic communication among cancer care facilities
 - Availability of cancer care, corresponding to international recommendations
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CANCER CARE OBJECTIVES

- The diagnosis of precancerous lesions and early stages of cancer is of key importance for a successful cancer care
- Emphasis on cancer prevention
- Cancer screening programmes
- Responsibility of each individual for his/her own health
- Transformation of the Czech National Cancer Control Programme in cooperation with patient organisations, founders of healthcare facilities and healthcare payers



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

