

**Session 10: Status of breast cancer centers,
the patients perspective, patient advocates
communication and psychological support.**

Point of view of a Cancer Plan (Belgium)

**Prof. dr. Elke Van Hoof
Head of the Belgian Cancer Centre**

k Overview

- 1) Cancer Plan
- 2) Belgian Cancer Centre
 - 1) Mission
 - 2) Methodology
 - 3) Results
 - 1) Challenges
 - 2) Best-practices
- 3) Breast cancer patients
 - 1) Empowerment of the patient system
 - 2) Communication and patients' rights
 - 3) Psychosocial support
- 4) Discussion

k 1. National Cancer Plan

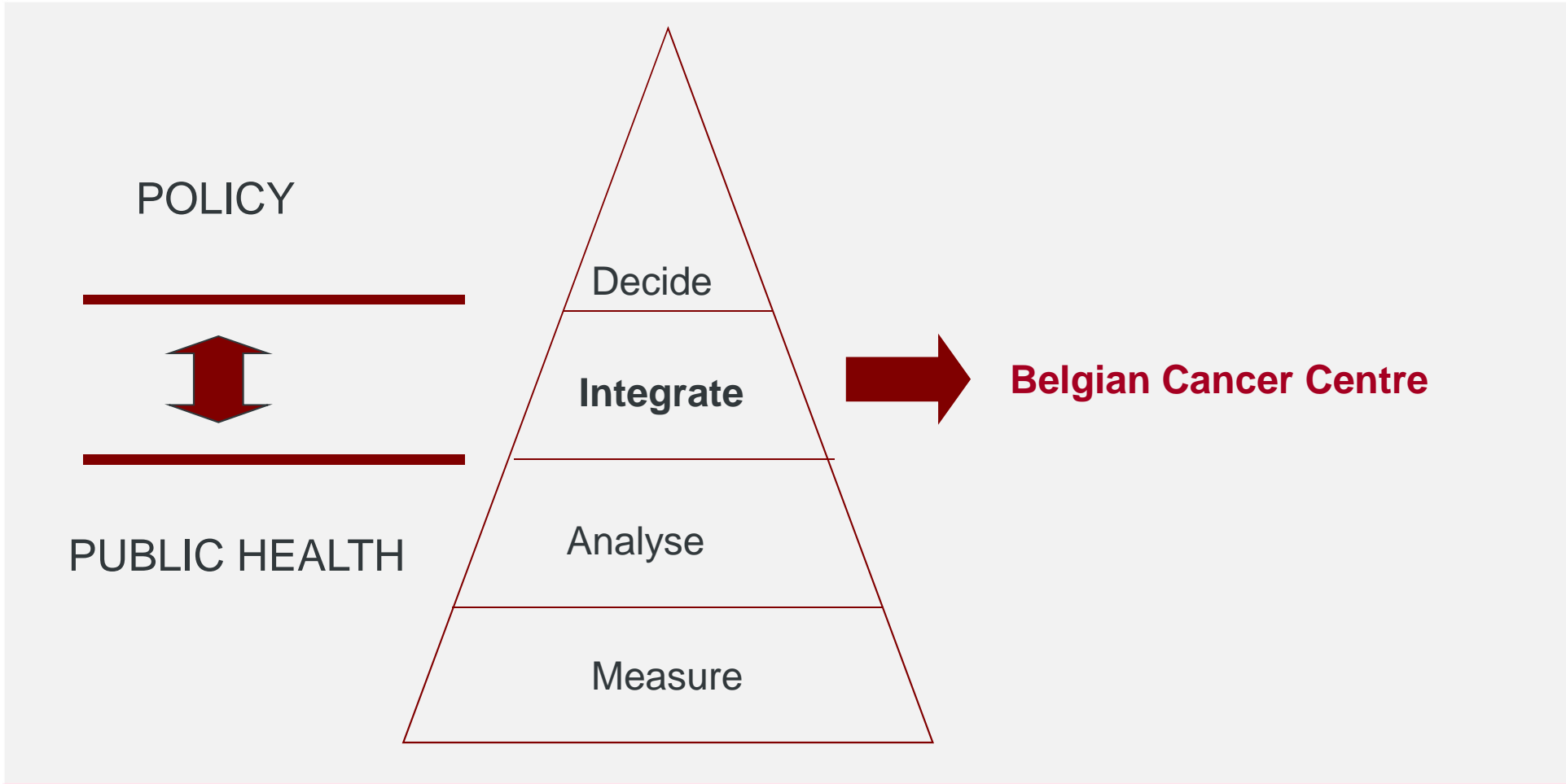
- WHO
- EU-respons
- 2007: White Paper of Oncology
- Round tables organized by the Federal Minister of Health
- Launched a Cancer Plan in March 2008
 - 32 initiatives
 - 3 domains:
 - Prevention and Screening
 - Care for patients
 - Research, Innovation and Evaluation
 - Budget and responsibilities

C 2. Belgian Cancer Center

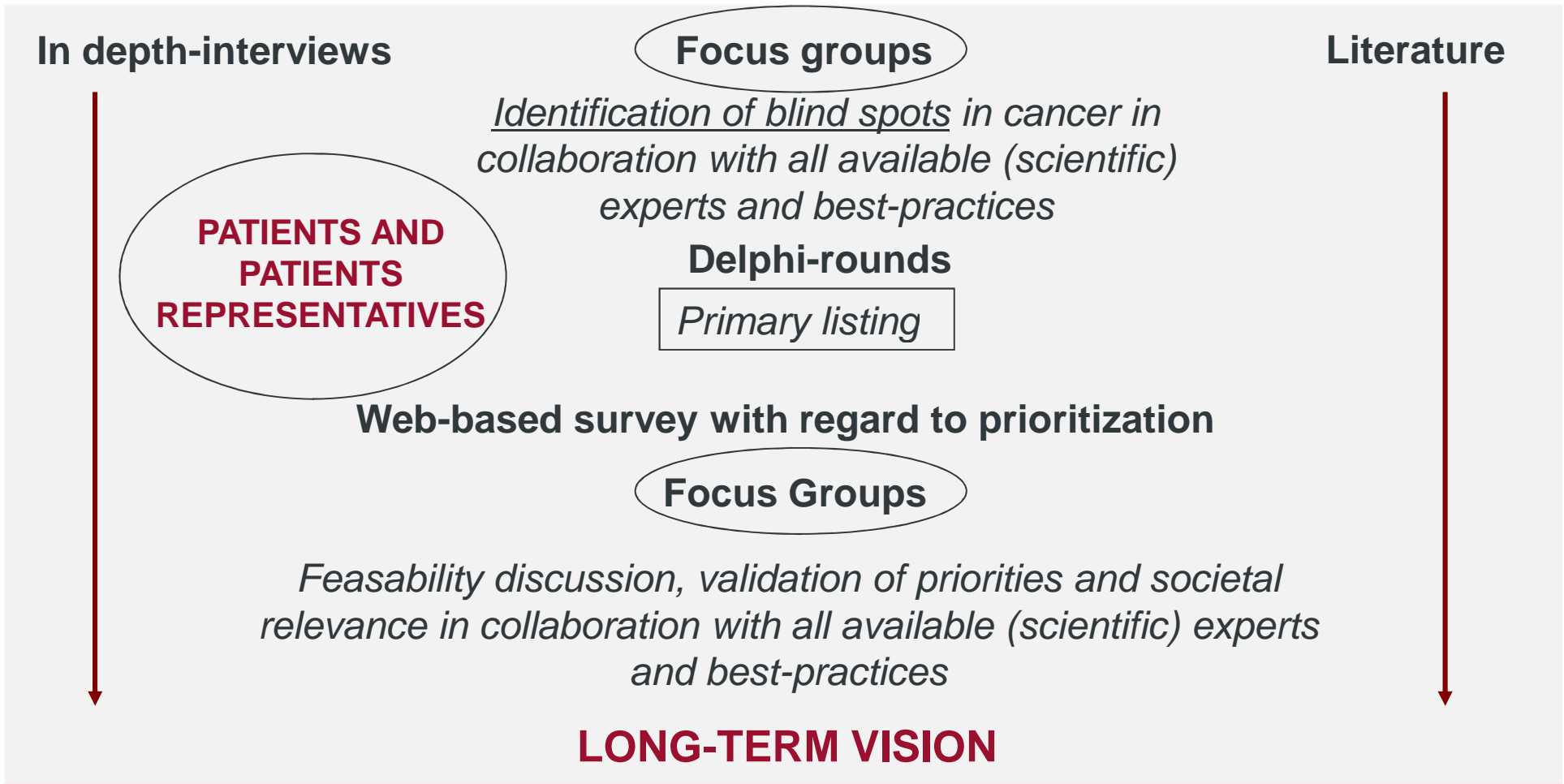
- Ultimate goal of a National Cancer Plan:
 - (1) reduction in cancer mortality,
 - (2) reduction in cancer incidence,
 - (3) reduction in cancer morbidity, and
 - (4) enhancement of the quality of life of the patients and its primary caregivers by improving palliative care and psychosocial aspects of the disease.
- Coordination
 - ⇒ Belgian Cancer Centre

C 2.1 Mission

Mission	Tasks	Identity
<i>Goal?</i>	<i>How?</i>	<i>What?</i>
Advise	Impact analyses	Scientific advisory institute
Facilitate	Multilateral debate/ process facilitation	Exchange platform
List	Knowledge management	Integration center



2.2 Methodology



k 2.3 Results

- Long-term vision
 - Prevention and screening
 - Care for patients
 - Extramural diagnostic phase
 - Intramural diagnostic phase
 - Treatment
 - Psychosocial support
 - Follow-up (including reintegration and return to work)
 - Task division
 - Patients information and communication
 - Reimbursement
 - Quality insurance and indicators
 - Research and innovation
 - Coordination
- Future cancer plans
- Definition Belgian Cancer Centre
- Portal website

**PATIENTS AND
PATIENTS
REPRESENTATIVES**

2.3.1. Challenges

- Complexity of a given health care system
 - Share best-practices across countries
- Complexity of the political structure
- Guarantee quality, equity and accessibility for every cancer patient and their family
- Share best-practices
- Identification of indicators to guarantee follow-up and impact analyses of cancer policy plans
- Impact on policy?

2.3.2 Best-practices

- Rigourously implemented methodology
- Transparency
- Included patients and patient representatives as an equal partner!
- Collaboration and continuous interaction with all stakeholders
- Neutral position
- Initiatives + budget + definition + identification of a 'responsible' party + implementation plan

C 3. Breast cancer patients

- 3.1 Empowerment of the patient system
- 3.2 Communication and patients rights
- 3.3 Psychosocial support

C 3.1 Empowerment of the patient system

- Inclusion of patients representatives
- Portal website for feedback and identification of best-practices
- Consultation with extended duration (MOC)
- Pilot projects
 - Encourage collaboration
 - Identity added values of different interventions

C 3.2 Communication and patients rights

1. Portal website
2. Man versus women
3. Guarantee of the quality
 1. Number of patients treated per year
 2. MOC
 3. Quality standard for apparatus
 4. Quality of Onco Care
 5. Breast clinics (KB 26/04/2007)
4. Elaboration of a structural approach with regard to communication

C 3.3 Psychosocial support

- Inclusion of funding for nurses, psychologists and social assistants in oncological programmes
- Acknowledgement of breast cancer nurses
 - Continuity
- Education in psychology and communication
- Pilot projects for patients and family!

k 4. Discussion

Belgian Cancer Centre
Prof. Dr. Elke Van Hoof
Scientific Institute of Public Health
J. Wuytsmansstraat 14
B-1050 Brussels
Belgium
CancerCenter@wiv-isp.be
+ 32 479 99 12 19