

Specialist Breast Units in Europe: The Advocacy Perspective



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**Ensure that all European
Women have Access to
Accurate Information and
Quality Screening, Diagnosis
and Treatment**



Today's Priorities

- Implementation of Breast Cancer Resolutions and “European Guidelines for quality assurance in breast cancer screening and diagnosis” 4° edition, especially:
 - *Screening according to European Mammography Screening Guidelines*
 - *Specialist Breast Units according to EU Guidelines*
- Accreditation Guidelines for breast units
- National breast cancer registries
- Advancement of Research
- Prevention: Breast Health Day



EUROPA DONNA

46 MEMBER COUNTRIES



Albania	Lithuania
Austria	Luxembourg
Belarus	Macedonia
Belgium	Malta
Bulgaria	Moldova
Croatia	Monaco
Cyprus	The Netherlands
Czech Rep	Norway
Denmark	Poland
Estonia	Portugal
Finland	Romania
France	Russia
Georgia	Serbia
Germany	Slovakia
Greece	Slovenia
Hungary	Spain
Iceland	Sweden
Ireland	Switzerland
Israel	Tajikistan
Italy	Turkey
Kazakhstan	UK
Kyrgyzstan	Ukraine
Latvia	Uzbekistan

Issues Advocates Face

- **Vastly different health systems**
- **Huge variations region to region**
- **Few have standards/specialised breast service requirements**
- **Closed medical establishment**

What Women Want

- **How to obtain the best treatment**
- **Accurate, up to date Information**
- **Where to go to get the best treatment**
- **Must be provided by nat. health system**

Moving Toward Implementation

- **Code against Cancer 2003**
- **Council recommendation on Screening**
- **European Parliament Resolutions on Breast Cancer 2003 AND 2006:**

Screening every 2 years for women 50-69

Establishment of a network of certified multidisciplinary breast centres

EU Guidelines 4th Edition 2006



European guidelines for quality assurance in breast cancer screening and diagnosis *Fourth Edition*



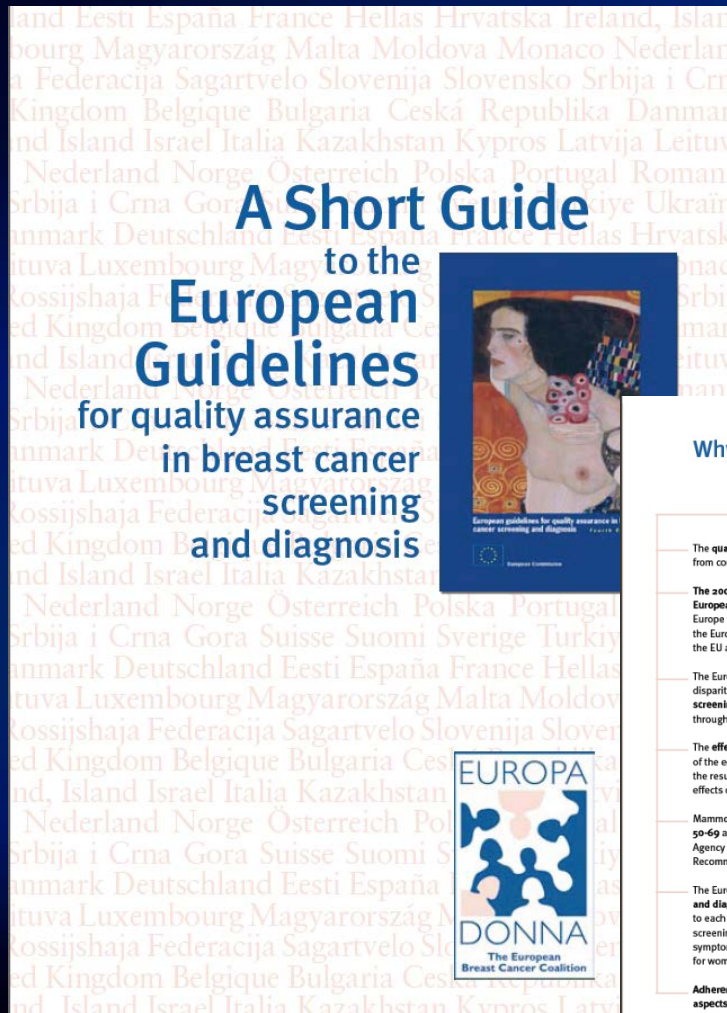
European Commission

- Outline best practice
- Set standards
- Give unbiased information
- Can be measured

EUROPA DONNA'S Role

- **Lobbying: Parliament meetings, exhibitions, information sessions**
- **Education: ED Pan European conference, advocacy training courses, EBCC, Nat. Rep Day**
- **Information: website, newsletter, Short Guide, PSA, media**

Publication of Short Guide to the European Guidelines



➤ Standards for countries to follow

➤ Programmes and units must meet quality standards

➤ Assured of receiving accurate information

➤ Assured access to state-of-the-art screening and treatment facility

Why the EU Guidelines are so

important

The quality of breast cancer care that European women receive today differs from country to country and from region to region.

The 2006 European Parliament Resolution on Breast Cancer in the Enlarged European Union, and the first Resolution of 2003, call for every woman across Europe to have access to equal, high-quality breast cancer care, in compliance with the European guidelines. The aim is to reduce mortality from breast cancer across the EU and to reduce the disparity in survival rates between countries.

The European Parliament has judged the most effective means of reducing disparities in care and mortality to be through population-based mammography screening programmes and the setting up of specialist breast units, as well as through training and auditing to assure quality standards.

The effectiveness of mammography screening depends upon the good condition of the equipment, the skill of the person operating it and the person interpreting the results. Effective screening programmes also reduce possible negative effects of screening, such as anxiety.

Mammography screening should be offered every two years to all women aged 50-69 as part of the public health system. This is in keeping with both International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) recommendations and the European Council Recommendation on Cancer Screening.

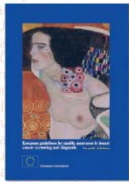
The European guidelines set clear quality standards for all aspects of screening and diagnosis and have specific chapters dedicated to each discipline involved. Whilst they focus on screening mammography in women without symptoms, recommendations are also provided for women with symptoms of breast cancer.

Adherence to high-quality standards across all aspects of screening programmes will improve care for women participating in the programmes and for all women requiring breast care.

Access For Countries

Guide résumant

les
Recommandations
européennes
pour l'assurance
de qualité dans le
diagnostic et le
traitement du cancer
du sein

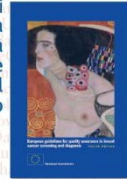


Meme kanseri
tarama ve tanısında
kalite güvencesi için
**Avrupa
Yönergeleri
Kilavuzu**



Breve Guida

agli orientamenti
Europei per la
garanzia di qualità
nello screening e
nella diagnosi del
tumore del seno



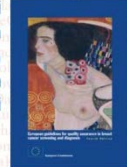
Σύντομος Οδηγός

των Ευρωπαϊκών
Κατευθυντήριων
Γραμμών για
την Διασφάλιση
της Ποιότητας
του Προληπτικού
Ελέγχου Αιχίνευσης
και Διάγνωσης
του Καρκίνου
του Μαστού



Krótki przewodnik na temat Europejskich Wytucznych

kontroli
jakości badań
przesiewowych
i diagnostycznych
w raku piersi



Kurzfassung

der Europäischen
Leitlinien zur
Qualitätssicherung
bei Screening
und Diagnose
von Brustkrebs



Guía resumen

de las
recomendaciones
europeas
para el control de
calidad del cribado
y el diagnóstico del
cáncer de mama



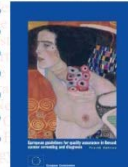
En kort vägledning

till de europeiska
riktlinjerna för
kvalitetssäkring
vid screening
och diagnos av
bröstcancer



ძეუბს კიბოს

სკრინინგისა და
დიაგნოსტიკის
ბარისის
განმაპირობებელი
ევროპული
სახელმძღვანელო
მოკლე ვერსია



Beknopte versie

van de
Europese
richtlijnen
voor de
kwaliteitsbewaking
bij
borstkankerscreening
en -diagnostiek



Where We Are Now

Specialist Breast Units: 20+?

ED Survey showed:

- **Distinct improvement in services**
- **Greater awareness of actual guideline content**
- **Advocacy knowledge increasing**

Other Initiatives

- **EONS Breast Care Nursing Curriculum**
- **EUSOMA: education for professionals in breast units; guidelines and quality indicators**
- **CCC Cancer Care Certification**

Challenges for Advocacy

- **Inequalities among countries**
- **Resources are limited**
- **Controversies continue**
- **Communicating effectively**
- **Finding and training advocates**
- **Convincing national health/medical establishments**

Moving Forward

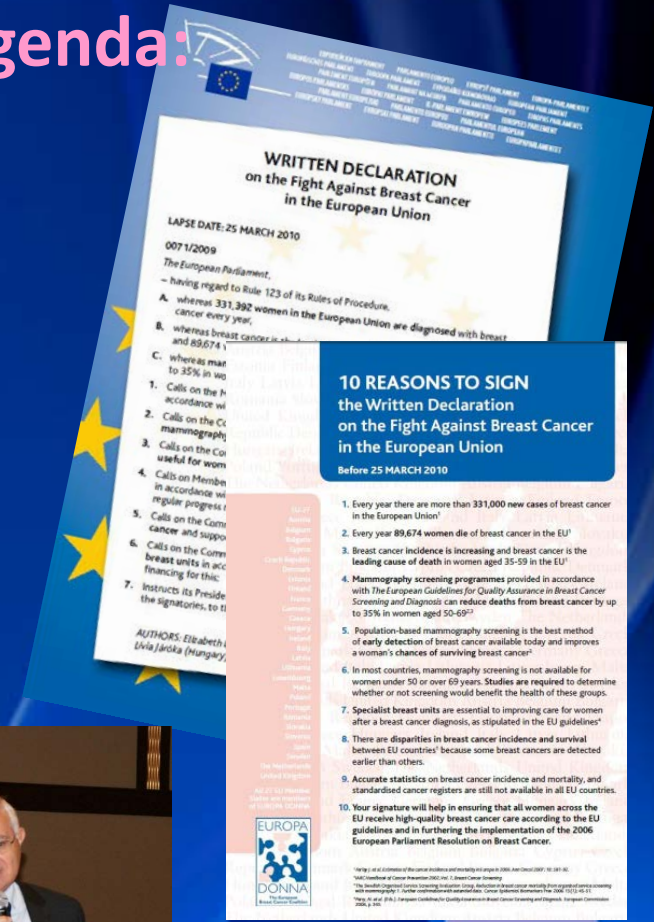
➤ Keep guidelines on public health agenda:

Declaration on fight against breast cancer
European Commission & Accreditation
of breast units-JRC



➤ Website, publications and translation

➤ Training and Education



EU Health Commissioner J. Dalli at ED Pan Eur Conference

Thank you!



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