

Research Collaboration Opportunities and Challenges

Coza Ovidiu Florin, MD, PhD

University of Medicine and Pharmacy “Iuliu Hațieganu”

The Oncology Institute “Ion Chiricuță”

Cluj-Napoca

ROMANIA

RESEARCH COLLABORATION



clinical trials
basic science research
translational research





ACADEMIC RESEARCH

- **NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH**
 - DEPT. OF MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

- University of Medicine and Pharmacy “Iuliu Hațieganu” Cluj-Napoca established in 1919
 - **Dept. of ONCOLOGY** - SURGICAL ONCOLOGY
 - MEDICAL ONCOLOGY
 - RADIOTHERAPY
 - HEMATOLOGY

- **ONE EXCELLENCE CENTER & 15 RESEARCH CENTERS**



ACADEMIC RESEARCH

Research Center for Functional Genomic, Biomedicine and Translational Medicine

2010 - 2014

ten laboratories and storage facilities for biobanking :

1. Nucleic acids extraction – quality and quantity control
2. Microarray lab
3. Next generation sequencing
4. Proteomics and mass spectrometry
5. RT-PCR
6. Cell culture and cell sorting
7. Flowcytometry
8. Recombinant DNA
9. Bioinformatics
10. Pathology and microscopy
11. Storage facilities for frozen biological samples



CLINICAL RESEARCH



- **The Oncology Institute “Ion Chiricuța” Cluj-Napoca** established in 1929
- OECI (Organisation of European Cancer Institutes) member since 2008
- since 2017 accredited as “Clinical Cancer Centre”



CLINICAL RESEARCH

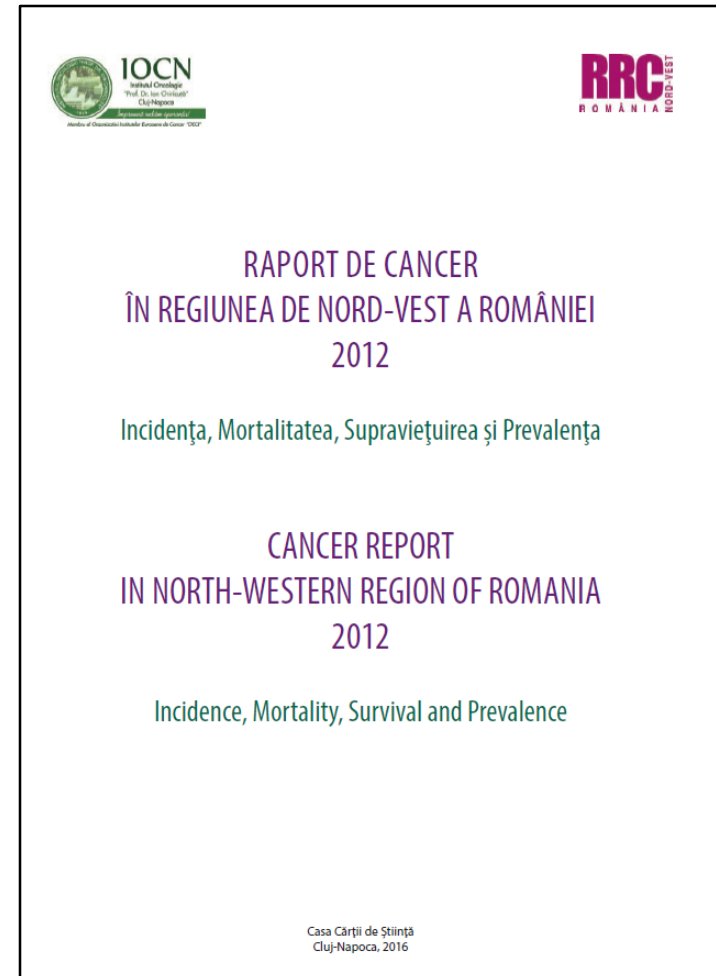


- **The Oncology Institute “Ion Chiricuța” Cluj-Napoca**
- research structure/ laboratories:
 - functional genomics, proteomics & experimental pathology
 - radiobiology & tumor biology
 - pathology research
 - epidemiology & biostatistics
 - biology bank (2009)
- clinical trial center

CLINICAL RESEARCH



- **Laboratory of epidemiology & biostatistics**
 - NW territory CANCER REGISTRY
 - ENCR (European Network of Cancer Registries) since 2002
 - the only published data on cancer in Romania
 - EUCAN/ GLOBOCAN 2012



CLINICAL RESEARCH



- **Laboratory of epidemiology & biostatistics**
 - 2000: Center for Cancer Control and Prevention
 - 2009: accredited by the Health Ministry as
“National Management Unit of the National Prevention Program for Uterine Cervix Cancer”
 - May 2018: launches the project
“Integration of primary HPV screening in the National Screening Program for uterine cervix cancer”

2014 : - ongoing trials: 61

<i>Localization</i>	<i>Number of ongoing trials-2014</i>	<i>Number of patients-2014</i>
Lung Cancer	16	56
Endometrial Cancer	1	2
Breast Cancer	14	20
Head and Neck Cancer	1	6
Skin Cancer	1	4
Glioblastoma Multiforme	1	11
Childhood Cancer- supportive care	1	5
Ovarian Cancer	2	8
Gastric Cancer	2	3
Colorectal Cancer	3	2
Prostate Cancer	3	11
Renal Cell Carcinoma	2	2
Hepatocellular Carcinoma	1	3
Leukemia	3	10
Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma	6	7
Hemophilia	1	1
Polycythemia vera	1	1
Supportive care (pain, anemia, growth factors)	3	4
Total	61	156

Count Phase I + Phase I-II: 2

Count Phase II + Phase II-III:12

Count Phase III: 46

Count Phase IV: 1

2015 - ongoing trials: 51

- new trials : 17

Count Phase II :5

Count Phase III: 10

Observational study: 2

<i>Localization</i>	<i>Number of new trials-2015</i>	<i>Number of patients-2015</i>	<i>Phase II</i>	<i>Phase III</i>	<i>Observational</i>
Lung Cancer	5	82	2	3	
Multiple Myeloma	1	29			1
Breast Cancer	3	24	1	2	
Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma	3	8		2	1
Melanoma	1	7		1	
Glioblastoma Multiforme	1	6		1	
Childhood Cancer: Sarcomas	1	4	1		
Ovarian Cancer	1	3		1	
Renal Cell Carcinoma	1	3	1		
Chronic Myeloid Leukemia	0	1			
Total	17	167			

2016 - ongoing trials: 39
- new trials : 14

Count Phase II :4

Count Phase III: 10

<i>Localization</i>	<i>Number of new trials-2016</i>	<i>Number of patients-2016</i>	<i>Phase II</i>	<i>Phase III</i>
Lung Cancer	3	83	1	2
Head and Neck Cancer	1	17		1
Breast Cancer	3	9	2	1
Gastric Cancer	1	6		1
Ovarian Cancer	1	5		1
Hepatocellular Carcinoma	1	4		1
Childhood Cancer: Sarcomas	0	3		
Urothelial Cancer	1	1	1	
Prostate Cancer	3	0		3
Total	14	128		

2017 - ongoing trials: 49

Count Phase I :1

Count Phase II :13

Count Phase III: 32

Observational study: 2

<i>Localization</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>	<i>Pending</i>	<i>No. of patients</i>	<i>Phase I</i>	<i>Phase II</i>	<i>Phase III</i>	<i>Observational</i>
Lung Cancer	10	3	148		3	10	
Hepatocellular Carcinoma	1				1		
Prostate Cancer	3	1	8			4	
Childhood Cancer	4		12			3	
Leukemia	1	6				7	1
Breast Cancer	13		74		5	8	
Lymphoma	2	3	1		1	4	
Gastric Cancer	3		23			3	
Ovarian Cancer	2	2			1	3	
Urothelial Cancer	2	1	31		1	2	
Head and Neck Cancer	1	1	26	1		1	
Thyroid Cancer		1			1		
Mesothelioma Cancer		1				1	
Multiple Myeloma	1		2			1	
Kidney	2	1	14			3	
Melanoma		1				1	
Myelofibrosis	1		1			1	
Clostridium Difficile infection	1		95				1
Total	49	21	435	1	13	32	2



TOICN ISI PUBLICATIONS

YEAR	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
No	54	45	58	67	110	109	100

RESEARCH CHALLENGES

- BUREAUCRACY !
- multiple mandatory approvals
 - National Ethics Committee - at least 6 months
 - for drugs also: National Drug Agency - for new drugs up to one year !
 - local approval from the Hospital Ethics Committee / Clinical Trials Center/ Hospital Legal dept.

THANK YOU !



2nd International Congress on Oncological Sciences, 20-23 September 2018, ANTALYA