

# Patient advocates in cancer research

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Chair of the Patient and Citizen Advisory Board, iCAN



ASSOCIATION OF CANCER  
PATIENTS IN FINLAND

**iCAN**

Delivering digital  
precision cancer  
medicine

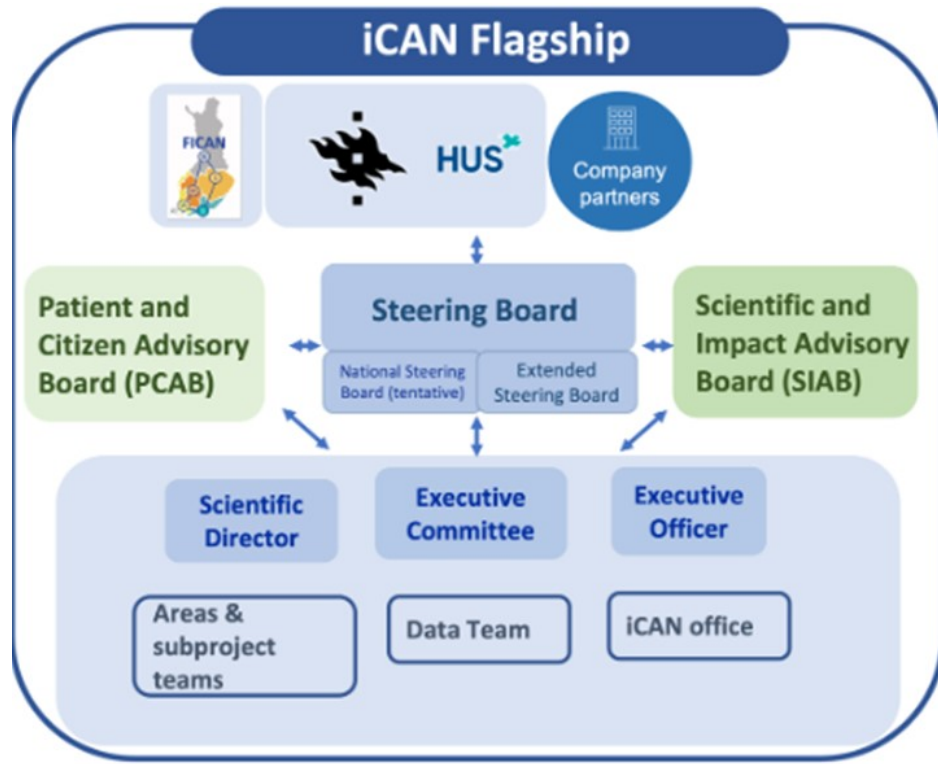


## *Problem statement and background*

- The need for **cancer research** is not widely recognized by decision-makers and general public
- Patients' **lived experience** and voice are needed to ensure that research is relevant



## Patient involvement at Cancer Research Flagship iCAN



Patient representatives in the flagship governance

- in the Steering Board
- via Patient and Citizen Advisory Board





***Patient and Citizen Advisory Board members are committed to***

1. Proactively enhance patient involvement
2. Propose concrete actions
3. Build bridges between patients, patient organizations, researchers, and the project's Steering Board
4. Provide comments as needed on documents and other materials, for example project plans





*Strengthening dialogue between researchers, patients and citizens with*

***Patient-researcher meetup series: discussions and lab-tours***



*Raising awareness with events and campaigns*



Our warmest thanks to each and every sample donor!

Without your biobank consents and support, we could not do our work in cancer research.

Together we strive for brighter future for all affected by cancer!

**iCAN**





### ***Result and Impact:***

Patients are warmly welcomed to the iCAN community and together with the researchers we are co-creating new culture of patient involvement.

### ***Conclusion and recommendations:***

- Patient and public involvement is motivating and effective at its best for the researchers and patients.
- Be brave to contact researchers and try to get involved when new projects are planned.
- Remember that it takes time and effort both from the patient advocates and professionals.



**MPN Horizons**  
Understanding the  
New Complexity of MPNs

13-15 October  
Zagreb, Croatia

**2023.**  


**THANK YOU!**

Matti Santalahti

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