

EUROPEAN COUNTRIES CONSULTATION:

Anchoring EUCCC Certification
in National Realities

WP5 – Inclusion, Certification and
Adherence to EUCCC Certification

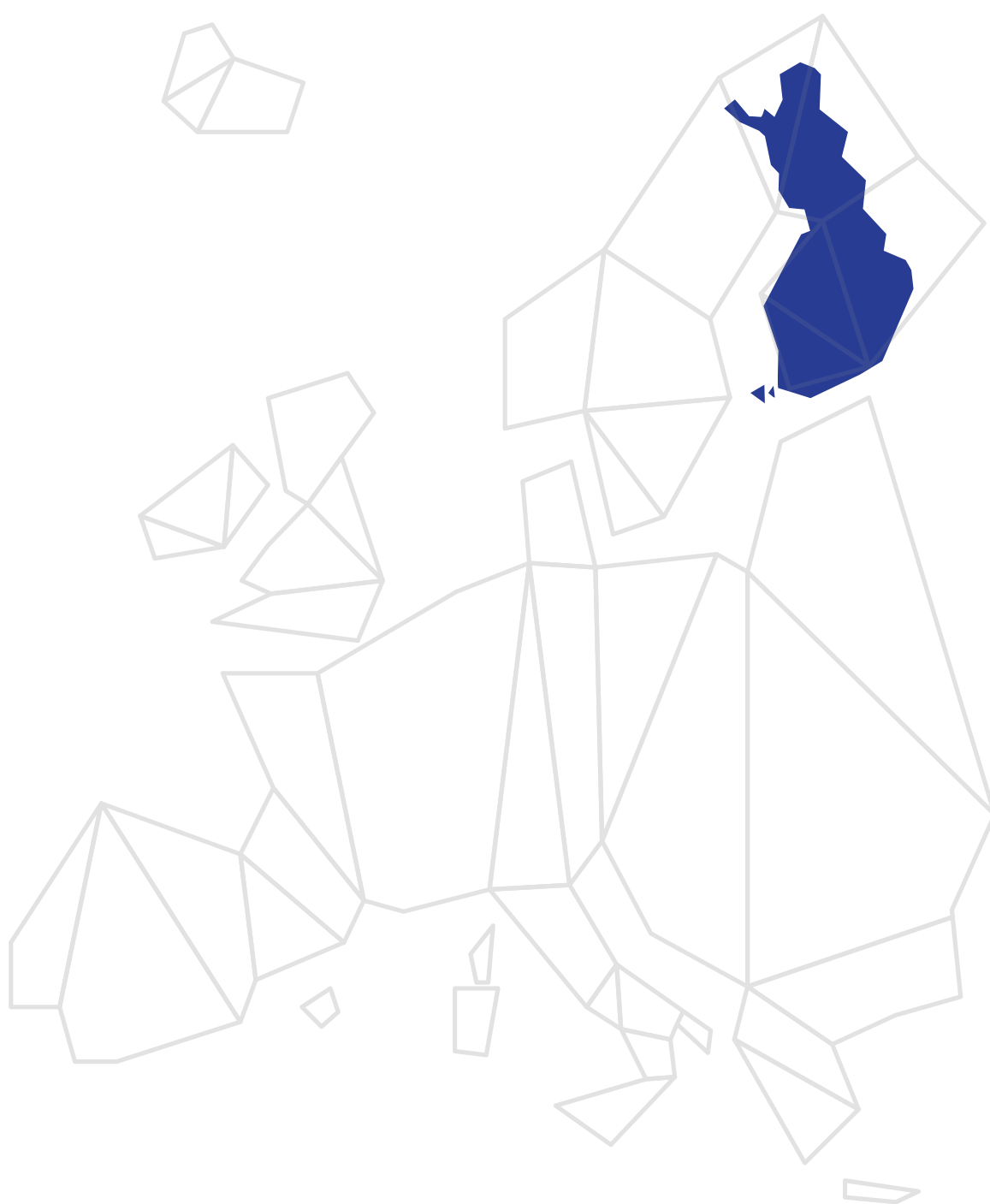
FINLAND COUNTRY PROFILE



Co-funded by
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THE EUROPEAN COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTRE NETWORK



Context: existing certification systems and organization of cancer care

Although voluntary, certification systems are appreciated in Finland

Helsinki University hospital is historically the second OECI-certified hospital after Cambridge (Cancer Research UK Cambridge Center). It is also an accredited member of the European Reference on Rare Adult Solid Cancers.

Four other university hospitals located in other collaborative areas (Tampere, Turku and Kuopio) are OECI-accredited cancer centers (non-comprehensive) and Oulu is a member of the OECI.

The national cancer network FICAN is a member of the OECI network.

Accreditation systems are appreciated in Finland. Also, Helsinki University Hospital Comprehensive Cancer Center is the first Nordic hospital to have “magnet hospital” status. Taking part in various accreditation systems is viewed in Finland as the best way to keep up with quality.

Finland has been very active with OECI, with the Ministry of Health having been very supportive of these accreditation processes.

Organization of cancer care

Cancer care in Finland is highly centralised, structured around a national network (FICAN) and five regional cancer networks (FICAN East, FICAN Mid, FICAN North, FICAN South and FICAN West):

- FICAN aims to implement and coordinate national policies and guidelines concerning cancer prevention, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation through collaboration with regional centers, while ensuring a research-based foundation for policy and guideline development.
- The five regional FICANs (East, Mid, North, South, West) are built around university hospitals and include all regional oncology facilities, medical universities, and research institutions.

A regional network is organised by well-being services counties, including hospitals and a medical university. Regional cancer centers collaborate with local hospitals and the university of the area to implement national policies and guidelines and ensure access to high-quality care.

Helsinki University Hospital Comprehensive Cancer Center is the largest center providing a broad range of cancer care services including radiation therapy, systemic therapies, surgery, specialised palliative and end-of-life care. It conducts research into new medical technologies and clinical trials for development of new oncology medicines and radiotherapy and is the only comprehensive cancer center in Finland accredited by the Organization of European Cancer Institutes (OECI).

Identified barriers towards the implementation of EUCCC certification in Finland

- Helsinki University Hospital Comprehensive Cancer Center expressed the concern that the **EUCCC concept might be too inclusive and that the criteria might be too easy and not encourage centers to improve continuously** (worry that the EU vision might dilute and devalue the concept of CCC).

“CCC status must reward the center making changes, not only ticking the box on existing practices. The level of requirements to become a CCCs must be high enough to make the center engage in change.”

Identified enablers towards the implementation of EUCCC certification in Finland

- Level of political support for accreditation in general is strong in Finland

A well-structured system, with the regional networks and the national FICAN. The role of FICAN is to institutionalise collaboration between all the cancer stakeholders on a territory. FICAN's have projects to strengthen the expertise of local hospitals, have more collaborations between researchers and clinicians. Idea is to improve training, research and cancer care, both at regional and national levels.

- New cancer plan is underway to be approved by the Ministry in autumn.
- There can be a high level of collaboration between entities in a regional network, but it is important that every level has a clear idea of their respective roles.

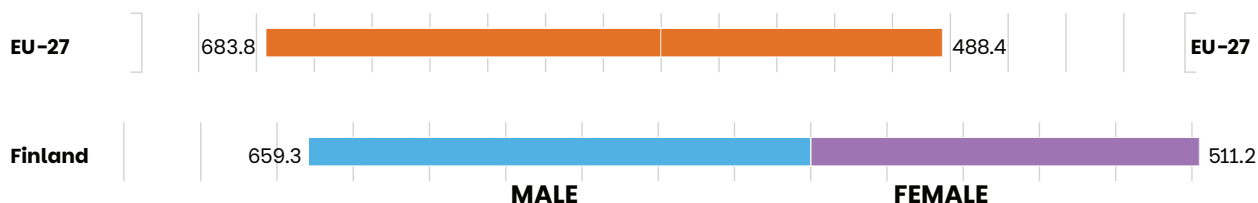
Number of OEI-certified CCCs: 1

Number of EUCCC pilot centers: 0

Epidemiology: incidence, mortality and survival rates

Incidence rate:

Estimated incidence, both sexes, all sites but non-melanoma skin, 2022 (per 100 000 population)



Mortality rate:

Cancer mortality
ASMR per 100 000 population



Survival rates:

For the selection of cancers:

Colon cancer 5-year survival
% survival for patients diagnosed 2010-2014



Breast cancer 5-year survival
% survival for women diagnosed 2010-2014



Lung cancer 5-year survival
% survival for patients diagnosed 2010-2014



Screening performance

Breast cancer screening
% of target population



Cervical cancer screening
% of target population



Colorectal cancer screening
% of target population



Risk factors

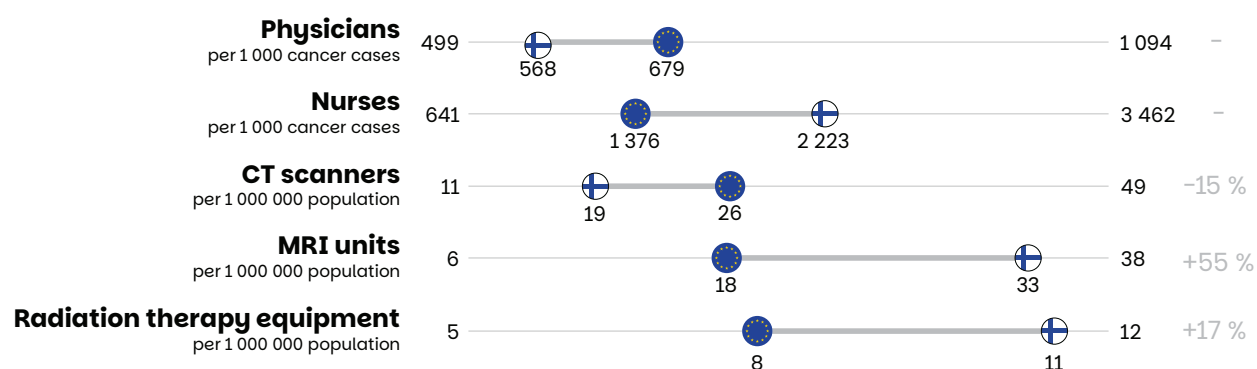
Daily smoking
% of population aged 15+



Alcohol consumption
Litres per capita, population aged 15+



Human resources and infrastructure



Number of clinical trials: 310



**For more information,
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