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The number of survivors of childhood cancer in Europe has steadily increased as therapies and supportive care have improved in recent years. Survival rates after childhood cancer now reach and exceed 80% in developed European countries. However, the treatments that have improved survival are harsh and cause serious late effects that can greatly reduce the long-term quality of life of survivors. Late effects are varied and can include impairments in quality of life, as well as infertility and inner ear problems (ototoxicity). It is estimated that as many as 80% of survivors have experienced at least one serious late effect by their middle years.

Managing late effects is essential to providing the best possible long-term care, after the cancer is cured. As cancer survivors live longer, cancer researchers must focus on ensuring that survivors have the best quality of life possible. PanCareLIFE will determine the main predictors of impaired quality of life, monitoring quality of life continuously during treatment and follow-up care that can be used in clinics to improve long-term follow-up care for survivors.

**Fertility**

The effects of cancer treatments on fertility can be minimised by providing patients with counselling about their options for fertility preservation. At the moment, guidelines for such counselling do not exist. PanCareLIFE will identify both genetic and non-genetic risk factors for fertility impairment, and developing fertility preservation guidelines.

**Ototoxicity (Inner Ear Problems)**

In order to develop more effective ways of protecting hearing in survivors, PanCareLIFE will identify both genetic and non-genetic risk factors for inner ear problems. This will improve the outcomes for survivors by allowing doctors to choose treatments that will reduce the risk of inner ear problems for each individual patient.

**Quality of Life**

As cancer survivors live longer, cancer researchers must focus on ensuring that survivors have the best quality of life possible. PanCareLIFE will determine the main predictors of impaired quality of life, monitoring quality of life continuously during treatment and follow-up care that can be used in clinics to improve long-term follow-up care for survivors.

1 Inner ear problems (ototoxicity) include temporary or permanent inner ear dysfunction with symptoms of cochlear damage (e.g. hearing loss and tinnitus) or symptoms of injury to the vestibular apparatus (e.g. dizziness and vertigo).