

South Moravian Comprehensive Cancer Infrastructure (SMCCI)



COUNTRY

Czech Republic

LOCATION

Brno / South Moravia

PERIOD

November 2024
– September 2025

CATCHMENT AREA

1.2 million inhabitants

TARGET COVERAGE

80% of eligible cancer
patients in the region

CORE PARTNERS

OEI-accredited
comprehensive cancer
centre, two university
hospitals, six regional
hospitals, a medical
school, a research
institute and a research
network

OVERALL MATURITY CHANGE

From 29% to 45%
(+16%)

The CCI4EU Deep Dive in South Moravia supported the development of the South Moravian Comprehensive Cancer Infrastructure (SMCCI), bringing together cancer care providers, academic institutions and research partners across the region.

The intervention focused on three priority areas – structure of the CCI, outcomes research and patient pathways – with the aim of supporting a more integrated, equitable and sustainable model of cancer care across South Moravia.

Focus Areas



Structure of the CCI

Outcomes Research

Patient Pathway

Why This Deep Dive



South Moravia already had an existing network for cancer care, with patient care organised through pathways across the region. However, these pathways were not always formally linked, and research activity remained concentrated in three large hospitals in Brno. The Deep Dive was designed to support the development of a more structured regional infrastructure, extending research activity across participating institutions and strengthening the integration of outcomes research into routine care.

The Deep Dive confirmed that South Moravia already had important strengths on which to build. These included an existing referral network, strong academic involvement, an accredited Comprehensive Cancer Centre, and established research and data assets, including the involvement of the Institute of Health Information and Statistics of the Czech Republic and CZECRIN.

At the same time, several important gaps were identified. Collaboration in research was still largely informal rather than systematic. Clinicians had limited protected time for research, hospital information systems varied across institutions, and experience with PREMs remained limited. In the area of patient pathways, existing pathways were not aligned with all partners, key performance indicators were not clearly defined, responsibilities across the pathway were not always clear, and the lack of an interoperable IT solution limited continuity and coordination of care.

Work Performed



Co-creation of the situational analysis with participating institutions

Site visits conducted across participating centres

Co-development of colorectal and cervical cancer patient pathways using the iPAAC methodology

Engagement of local stakeholders and support for progress against the agreed action plan

Initiation of more formal collaboration across the network

Support for early integration of outcomes research into routine care

Contribution to the development of two new patient pathways

Support for implementation through educational and networking activities, including online courses, regional conferences, and observerships

Key Developments



Definition of a national CCI involving 19 core institutions

Progress toward formal governance, including draft cooperation agreements

Establishment of the CCC in Bratislava with defined partners and governance structure

Development of breast cancer patient pathway and initial colorectal cancer pathway

Strong involvement of patient organisations in pathway development

Introduction of breast cancer nurse roles and patient coordination concepts

Increased alignment between stakeholders at national level

Progress toward integration of research, care and education

Next Steps



The Deep Dive established the foundations for a national cancer infrastructure in Slovakia, but full implementation depends on political approval and sustained support.

The future roadmap includes:

- Formal approval and implementation of the CCI through the National Oncology Programme (2026–2030)
- Signing of cooperation agreements and establishment of governance structures
- Further development and accreditation preparation of the Bratislava CCC
- Expansion and implementation of patient pathways across all regions
- Strengthening clinical trial capacity and research infrastructure
- Improving data systems and IT interoperability
- Addressing regulatory and reimbursement barriers (e.g. MDTs, screening, innovative treatments)
- Increasing screening uptake and reducing inequalities in access to care

Photo Report

