

## Deutsche Krebshilfe: Call for Applications: Priority Programme 'Physical Exercise and Cancer Patients'

Deutsche Krebshilfe supports measures related to cancer prevention, early cancer diagnosis, cancer treatment and after-treatment, psychosocial care, self help and health promotion.

Physical exercise has shown positive effects in the prevention of various cancers and in the rehabilitation of cancer patients after primary treatment. In patients with advanced cancer, physical exercise is considered to have supportive and synergistic effects with palliative treatments. These benefits of physical exercise may be due to somatic as well as psychooncologic effects.

However, systematic physical exercise is not yet fully integrated into standard oncological therapeutic regimes until today. This is true for clinical pathways as well as patient awareness.

This initiative of Deutsche Krebshilfe aims at supporting the development of routine treatment pathways that reflect the potential benefits of organized physical exercise for cancer patients. In order to enhance the acceptance of physical exercise by medical staff and patients, its details and effects should be analyzed for a better understanding of the underlying mechanisms of action as well as its prospective outcome.

Therefore, Deutsche Krebshilfe is now calling for research proposals which address the following issues:

- acceptance and effects of physical intervention during systemic adjuvant and palliative cancer treatment (e. g. chemotherapy, radiotherapy, hormone therapy, immunological treatment)
- impact of physical exercise on treatment tolerability and compliance
- relation between physical exercise and other supportive interventions (e.g. psycho-oncology)
- specific impact of physical exercise on the functions of the immune system
- effects of physical exercise on the quality of life under treatment

**Important information:** The procedure for application and evaluation consists of three steps. Prospective applicants must submit a letter of intent to Deutsche Krebshilfe by **29 Jul 2011, 13:00**. Project outlines in English must be submitted not later than **22 Aug 2011, 13:00**. If the preliminary evaluation is favourable, full applications must be submitted by **12 Apr 2012, 13:00** to Deutsche Krebshilfe.

Please find detailed guidelines on the application and further information on the evaluation procedure at [www.krebshilfe.de/ausschreibungen.html](http://www.krebshilfe.de/ausschreibungen.html).