



EONS STRATEGY

2024-2028

Executive Summary

Foreword

The European Oncology Nursing Society (EONS), established in 1984, serves as a European umbrella organisation committed to providing leadership and expertise in all aspects of cancer nursing – including research, practice, education, communication and advocacy – for cancer nurses. EONS has a current membership of almost 28,000 cancer nurses from all over Europe ([EONS website](#)). EONS aims to promote recognition of cancer nursing throughout Europe, with the ultimate goal of improving and ensuring quality care for people affected by cancer. With members in 33 countries across the broader geographical region of Europe, EONS achieves its strategic goals and initiatives through a C.A.R.E plan (**C**ommunication, **A**dvocacy, **R**esearch, **E**ducation, and **E**arly Career Nurses, including the Young Cancer Nurses ambassadors' network) each overseen by a working group comprised of individual and national society members.

EONS highly values the input of its volunteer board, working groups and task group members. National societies and the advisory board of EONS provide valuable support alongside patient and caregiver advocates. EONS strives to improve working conditions and opportunities for professional growth for cancer nurses and promotes healthy work environments: a workplace in which nurses collaborate with and receive the support of nursing management to continually maintain and improve the health, safety and wellbeing of all nurses. This includes an emphasis on health, healthy behaviours and self-care of nurses, workplace safety, opportunities for professional growth and support of overall well-being at work.

EONS' position is that a cancer nurse is a qualified registered nurse who has the authority and full responsibility to provide essential nursing care to people affected by cancer. This care is based upon their evidence-based, specialised, ethical and personal knowledge and skills. Cancer nurses are fully accountable in all settings where people with cancer are cared for and across the cancer care continuum for all nursing services and associated patient outcomes provided under their direction. (EONS, 2022)

The full strategy is available at: <https://cancernurse.eu/about-eons/strategy/>

EONS values, vision and mission 2024-2028

EONS values for 2024-2028

EONS' core values are equity, integrity, diversity, inclusiveness, responsibility, and respectfulness. The core strength of EONS comes from its members and team who are committed to advancing cancer nursing and care through better health care systems, research, education, advocacy and investment in healthy and safe work environments, and to sustainable and quality care for people affected by cancer across their lifespan.

EONS Vision for 2024-2028

Our vision is that people affected by cancer are cared for by specialist cancer nurses across Europe. We envisage cancer nurses becoming confident and empowered, operating as leaders in practice, research, education and policy within the multidisciplinary cancer care setting. We envision a Europe where the health system fluently manages the onboarding of early career nurses and nurses at all career stages.

More precisely, we want to see nurses:

- finding meaning and satisfaction in safe and rewarding work environments
- able to practice to the full extent of their expertise
- enjoying partnership and collaboration with nursing teams, multidisciplinary teams and the European and international cancer nursing communities

EONS Mission for 2024-2028

Our mission is to provide leadership to ensure that all people affected by cancer benefit from the care of educated, and competent cancer nurses. We bring together clinicians, academics, policy makers and patient advocates in order to advance evidence-based cancer nursing and the care of people affected by cancer and to empower and enable cancer nurses to practice safely and to the full extent of their expertise.

Strategic priorities and objectives 2024-2028

The EONS strategy is implemented through the C.A.R.E plan (**C**ommunication, **A**dvocacy, **R**esearch and **E**ducation) by the EONS Board, management team and working groups who focus on:

Strategic priority: Practice

Promote organisational structures that supports sustainable capacity building in cancer nursing and encourages cancer nurses to maintain a personal and professional balance.

Provide tools and resources to empower nurses to advocate for the integration of principles of evidence-based, person- and family-centered cancer care.

Advocate for and with patients affected by cancer and empower people who need a stronger voice by enabling them to express their needs and make their own decisions.

Strategic priority: Research

Sustain engagement with contemporary evidence, to ensure its effective use in research, education and advocacy activities.

Conduct rigorous research to generate and disseminate new evidence to address knowledge gaps, and advance cancer nursing as a specialist area of practice.

Build capacity and provide opportunities for nurses to learn, network and develop research literacy (knowledge, confidence and awareness), skills and experience.

Strategic priority: Education

Promote the recognition of cancer nursing as a specialty across Europe through communication, advocacy, research and education.

Improve cancer nurses' access to flexible, fit for purpose, evidence-based education.

Support education programmes that are aligned to the EONS Cancer Nursing Education Framework and their translation into cancer nursing practice across Europe.

Strategic priority: Leadership and management

Empower nursing-driven leadership to implement multidisciplinary service across the cancer care continuum.

Lead efforts addressing existing disparities in cancer nursing communities at all levels by influencing policy.

Support a culture of wellness and safety in the work environments of cancer nurses.

Strategic priority: Sustainable EONS

Stay informed about current and future cancer nursing trends and needs; determine and allocate resources and finances to provide the best outcomes for all cancer nurses EONS represents.

Identify areas relevant to the organisation's sustainability and prioritize its core activities while developing innovation as a not-for-profit organisation.

Continue initiatives to seek various funding opportunities with support from the EONS Board.

Enhance the collaborative system for working groups to be engaged in helping to achieve EONS' strategic and organisational goals.