Prof. An De Groef, PT

Expression of interest, 10-02-2022

Call:

HORIZON-MISS-2021-CANCER-02-02: Develop and validate a set of quality of life and patient preference measures for cancer patients and survivors

Improving (after)care for patients diagnosed with cancer is highly important. Prioritizing the identification of the needs of cancer patients and survivors, and consequent development and validation of outcome measures that do matter for cancer patients and survivors is crucial. At the departments of rehabilitation of the University of Antwerp and Leuven, research on the assessment, prevention and treatment of different comorbidities during and after cancer is one of the focus domain. The goal of these research groups is:

- to excel by performing high-impact innovative research in patients with cancer patients/ survivors, across the full spectrum of care
- to communicate and establish a dialogue with (inter)national researchers, clinicians and patients, by engaging them and considering their demands and needs
- to contribute to high-quality and multidisciplinary care for cancer patients/ survivors by providing evidence-based training for (inter)national clinicians
- to advice on policy making to improve the efficacy and effectiveness of edema and oncology care in society

Interested in:

Participation in coordinating a Work Package focused on the (further) development and validation of a set of quality of life and patient preference measures for cancer patients and survivors. In collaboration with the University Hospitals of Antwerp and Leuven and their regional network, we have access to a large group of cancer patients/survivors in Belgium.

Experience:

An De Groef is physiotherapist and holds a PhD in Biomedical Sciences since 2016. Currently, An De Groef is postdoctoral fellow of the Research Foundation Flanders (FWO) at the University of Leuven and University of Antwerp and Assistant Professor at both universities as well. Her topic of interest is the evaluation, prevention and treatment of different physical comorbidities, including exercsic capacity, pain, upper limb dysfunctions and sensory dysfunctions in different cancer populations. She has a special interest in educational and behavioral interventions, including physical activity and telerehabilitation. As physiotherapist she has clinical experience in the evaluation and treatment of cancer survivors. An De Groef has also different (inter)national responsibilities in professional organization in the field of oncology rehabilitation, e.g. Kom Op Tegen Kanker, Stichting Tegen Kanker, Professional Association for Phbysiotherapists and the European Pain Federation.

More information: <u>www.caredon.org</u>

