

THE TRANSLATIONAL CANCER NETWORK

Vision and Strategy

The Translational Cancer Network was established in 2023 and is already counting around 180 member from AU, AUH, and external collaborators. The network combines basic and clinical research in and around Aarhus within cancer.

VISION

Our vision is to create a seamless and dynamic translational cancer network that breaks down the barriers that have traditionally hindered the translation of scientific discoveries into tangible clinical applications.

We wish to bring basic science into clinical practice and vice versa by fostering interdisciplinary communication, promoting translational research, and leveraging technological advancements. We aim to accelerate the delivery of innovative healthcare solutions for the benefit of patients with cancer, long-term survivors, and relatives.

We want to involve the public and patients in our translational research through communication and outreach. Our network will work as a bridge between the laboratory, the clinic and society, where researchers, doctors, other healthcare professionals, patients, and relatives collaborate to understand, treat, and prevent cancer.

We envision a future where scientists and clinicians work hand in hand, encouraging an environment of open dialogue and mutual understanding. This collaboration will involve regular interactions, joint conferences, and shared learning opportunities, promoting cross-pollination of ideas and expertise.

DIRECT STRATEGIES

It is TCN strategy to: (1) develop an environment that enables clinicians to actively participate in research despite time constraints and foster productive collaboration between clinical practice and basic research endeavours; (2) provide a framework that allows basic researchers to better pinpoint and understand key clinical problems.

This can be achieved by

- Implement network dating events between senior basic researchers and clinical units.
- Better awareness within the Hospital clinical units of the various research activities conducted outside the clinical department, e.g. through presentation of basic research projects at clinical departments.
- Engage PhD students across disciplines to meet and discuss scientific challenges and solutions.
- Yearly research dissemination meetings with the public where cancer translational research is presented.