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This activity has received funding from EIT Food, the innovation community on Food of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), a body of the EU, under the Horizon 2020, the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation

New food solutions for cancer patients.
#EITOncofood #EnjoyFoodAgain

There were around 7.1 million patients who were diagnosed with cancer or were undergoing treatment for cancer in Europe in 2016. (The World Health Organization).

Close to 70% of patients undergoing treatments experience side-effects (taste loss, bad taste in mouth, metallic taste, saliva absence, sores in mouth, vomiting, loss of appetite) that may have a large impact on the daily food intake.



The Project

The ONCOFOOD will design and develop **new innovative food solutions** for cancer patients considering not only their nutritional requirements but also their sensory alterations, **promoting the pleasure of eating and preventing malnutrition.**

Based on the needs of cancer patient, the barriers for current food propositions and the expectation they have towards new remedies, a range of food solutions will be developed to deal with alterations in taste and smell. The opinion of cancer patients is key to the success of the project. We will collaborate with them through focus groups and interviews and through engagement in testing and acceptance of these new products.

In addition, ground-breaking food technologies such as 3D printing will provide new food solutions for those cancer patients that experience dysphagia or temporarily need a soft diet at hospital.

One of the main challenges for cancer patients undergoing treatment is to prevent or mitigate malnutrition.

The current clinical nutrition market offers different oral nutritional support products. However, they do not address the pleasure of eating, nor patients' food preferences, thus leading to a negative impact on their quality of life.



Expected Outcomes



A **unique and innovative range of high added value food products** aimed at cancer patients focusing specifically on their nutritional and sensory requirements that the current market is not offering.



A **broad impact** not only in business creation but also on society and specially cancer patients.

