

Petition

In light of the oncology tsunami that is sweeping through our country, we call on the government and all citizens to declare war on cancer. In particular, we expect Polish people to be provided with the possibility of effective diagnostics and oncology treatment.

We wish to object to the violation of the patient's right to be treated in accordance with current medical knowledge. Many years of neglect and a lack of priority in this area have caused Polish patients to die prematurely.

Cancer is the epidemic of our time. **For the first time ever, the number of deaths from cancer has exceeded 100,000.** This is the most common cause of death of working-age Polish people, regardless of gender. **Subsequent reforms of the oncology care system have failed to yield the expected outcomes.** A lack of accountability in introducing changes has contributed to thousands of tragedies which could have been avoided.

Today, at the end of November 2018, the Oncoindex in Poland stands at minus 71. This is as many as 71 points short of the index value according to which oncology patients would be treated properly in line with modern medicine, as guaranteed by Polish law.

Conscious of our responsibility for our own lives, and for the health of our families and friends, we expect the government to implement a thorough reform of the cancer prevention, detection and treatment system, which is well thought-out and transparent. We also demand the publication of information on the outcome of spending our taxes on Polish oncology. **The time of no accountability and lack of concern for patient welfare is over.**

In accordance with Polish law, the state is obliged to provide patients with treatment which is consistent with current medical knowledge. The negative value of the Oncoindex is the amount of public debt that results in patient deaths, disabilities, exclusion from work and social life.

In view of the dramatic situation of patients, we demand that:

- firstly, **Polish oncology patients should be treated in a manner that corresponds to the current medical knowledge** and treatment standards accepted in Europe and that **indicators to monitor access to oncology therapies should be implemented** as part of the government document 'State Medication Policy';
- secondly, **the Reimbursement Act should stipulate the minimum level of expenditure on effective and safe pharmacotherapy** (while developing solutions to enable the effective negotiation of prices with manufacturers);
- thirdly, in response to the argument of budgetary limitations, **we demand that revenues from excise duty and tobacco and alcohol products should be allocated** to the oncology care system.

This is not a problem of a marginal group: one in four of us, our family and friends, suffers from cancer. That is why this should be a concern for all of us.

We, the undersigned, call on public institutions and on civil society to fight cancer.