



## Cancer Challenges during COVID-19 Pandemic

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### Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

The COVID-19 pandemic, which presented a greater risk of severe morbidity in older and fragile patients, resulted in higher mortality for people with chronic diseases (particularly cardiovascular disease and diabetes) and cancer, highlighting the weakness of many welfare systems all over the world.

Most responsive cancer institutes have had to redesign their strategies to continue their activities. In particular, new therapeutic protocols and follow-up procedures have been implemented. Patients have had to be carefully evaluated to plan the optimal personalized treatment and to adopt the most appropriate therapeutic strategies, including telemedicine and digital monitoring. Healthcare professionals have had to be monitored for exposure to SARS-CoV-2 using genetic/antigen diagnostic kits and serological tests and, most recently, have been vaccinated with one of the several—not yet fully studied—available vaccines.

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