

Summary SEP assessment of the Cancer Research Center Groningen (CRCG)

Overall, the CRCG research aligns well with the UMCG research strategy, effectively integrates clinical and preclinical research, aligns with patient care through the UMCG Comprehensive Cancer Center, and a 'high value' patient cohort (OncoLifes) is well embedded within the research programs. There is excellent social cohesion within the institute, and the committee applauds the organizational focus on patient benefit, the large opportunity for societal impact and the support services which facilitated the increase in acquired grants. The specific research programmes are extremely productive and generate high quality basic and translational research.

Research Quality

- Clearly define success criteria and goals, and integrate these into reward programmes.
- Strategic development of new programmes based on needs, interest and competitive advantage nationally and internationally is recommended, along with greater participation, influence and leadership in consortia.

Societal relevance

- Ensure clear vision, goals and expectations on societal impact through shared reflection, and proactively nurture and manage the impact pipeline.

Viability

- In order to make more productive connections in priority strategic areas, improved strategic planning at central levels and further support from the UMCG is advised.
- The institute should strategically position its portfolio nationally and internationally, and work towards the consolidation and co-location of oncology research labs and groups.
- In the domain of academic culture and conduct, clearly communicate expectations and conflict resolution mechanisms; increase diversity efforts at institute level specifically.