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## Evaluating the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of implementing person-centred follow-up care for childhood cancer survivors in four European countries: the PanCareFollowUp Care prospective cohort study protocol

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3 **Evaluating the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of implementing person-centred follow-up care for**  
4 **childhood cancer survivors in four European countries: the PanCareFollowUp Care prospective**  
5 **cohort study protocol**  
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**List of abbreviations:**

FAIR = Findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable

GCP = Good Clinical Practice

HCP(s) = Health care provider(s)

ICER(s) = Incremental cost-effectiveness ratio(s)

IGHG = International Late Effects of Childhood Cancer Guideline Harmonization Group

PanCare = Pan-European Network for Care of Survivors after Childhood and Adolescent Cancer

PROM = Patient-reported outcome measure

PREM = Patient-reported experience measure

RE-AIM = Reach, Effectiveness, Adoption, Implementation and Maintenance

SD = Standard deviation

SurPass = Survivorship Passport

T1-5 = Time points 1-5

## Abstract

**Introduction** – Long-term survival after childhood cancer often comes at the expense of late, adverse health conditions. However, survivorship care is often not available for adult survivors in Europe. The PanCareFollowUp Consortium therefore developed the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention, an innovative person-centred survivorship care model based on experiences in the Netherlands. This paper describes the protocol of the prospective cohort study (Care Study) to evaluate the feasibility and the health economic, clinical and patient-reported outcomes of implementing PanCareFollowUp Care as usual care in four European countries.

**Methods and analysis** – In this prospective, longitudinal cohort study with at least six months of follow-up, 800 childhood cancer survivors will receive the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention across four study sites in Belgium, Czech Republic, Italy and Sweden, representing different health care systems. The PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention will be evaluated according to the RE-AIM (Reach, Effectiveness, Adoption, Implementation and Maintenance) framework. Clinical and research data are collected through questionnaires, a clinic visit for multiple medical assessments and a follow-up call. The primary outcome is empowerment, assessed with the Health Education Impact Questionnaire (HEIQ). A central data centre will perform quality checks, data cleaning, data validation, and provide support in data analysis. Multilevel models will be used for repeated outcome measures, with subgroup analysis, e.g. by centre, attained age, sex or diagnosis.

**Ethics and dissemination** - This study will be conducted in accordance with the guidelines of Good Clinical Practice and the Declaration of Helsinki. The study protocol has been reviewed and approved by all relevant ethics committees. The evidence and insights gained by this study will be summarised in a Replication Manual, also including the tools required to implement the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention in other countries. This Replication Manual will become freely available through PanCare and will be disseminated through policy and press releases.

**Trial registration** - NL8918, registered at the Netherlands Trial Register at 24 September 2020, <https://www.trialregister.nl/trial/8918>.



## Article summary

### *Strengths and limitations of this study*

- The PanCareFollowUp Care Study is designed and conducted together with survivor representatives, ensuring the outcome measures are relevant for survivors and that PanCareFollowUp Care meets their needs and expectations.
- We include survivors from four different European countries, representing a variety of health care systems across Europe; and their experiences are used to improve the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention before free distribution of the materials in a Replication Manual.
- The PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention is evaluated in a real life setting with a minimal number of exclusion criteria.
- Since the Care Study has a limited follow-up time, a model-based economic evaluation will complement the analyses.
- Participants are their own controls and effects are evaluated as changes from baseline within an individual or institution.

## Introduction

Over the last decades, five-year survival rates of childhood cancer in Europe have increased substantially, from 30% in the 1970s to 80% in the early 2000s (1). Today, the European population of childhood cancer survivors, estimated at minimally 300,000, is rising by about 12,000 per year (2). Yet, many survivors not only experience the burden of previous cancer diagnosis, but also face treatment-related late effects (3, 4). These may become apparent years or even decades after finishing therapy (5) and might have a significant adverse impact on quality of life (6, 7). Moreover, the transition from paediatric to adult health care settings often lacks continuity. As a result, many adults who survived childhood cancer have increased health care use and experience problems in participation, which generate a substantial burden for survivors and societies in general (8-10). Early detection of new health conditions is essential as it could prevent further harm (11). This requires lifelong survivorship care with frequent adaptations of the follow-up plan.

Currently, only one third of European paediatric oncology clinics provide survivorship care to adult survivors of childhood cancer (12). In 2006, an international group of paediatric oncologists, psychologists, nurses, epidemiologists, survivors and their parents agreed in the Erice statement that has recently been updated and reconfirmed (13, 14) that follow-up care should be available and accessible for all survivors throughout their lifespan.

In the past decade, international evidence-based clinical practice guidelines have been developed to support early detection and treatment of (a)symptomatic late effects, including those developed by the International Late Effects of Childhood Cancer Guideline Harmonization Group (IGHG), sometimes in collaboration with the PanCareSurFup project (15-23). A European model of care guideline is published and guidelines for the transition from childhood to adult healthcare settings and health promotion are currently being developed (24, 25). Yet, implementation lags behind. Recently, a person-centred approach for survivorship care for adult survivors has been implemented in Nijmegen, the Netherlands (26). All Dutch survivors of childhood cancer are invited for follow-up care by a long-term follow-up care clinic, in which multidisciplinary teams deliver person-centred care based on contemporary surveillance guidelines (27). The first positive effects of this person-centred approach have been reported (24, 26). The next step is to validate this person-centred approach for survivorship care in other countries.

The PanCareFollowUp Consortium, established in 2018, is a unique multidisciplinary European collaboration between 14 project partners from 10 European countries, including survivors ([www.pancarefollowup.eu](http://www.pancarefollowup.eu)) (28). The aim of the consortium is to improve the quality of life for

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3 survivors of childhood, adolescent and young adult cancer by bringing evidence-based, person-  
4 centred care to clinical practice. The PanCareFollowUp Consortium has developed two  
5 interventions: 1) a person-centred and guideline-based model of survivorship care  
6 (PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention) (see Box 1) (29) and 2) an eHealth lifestyle coaching model  
7 (PanCareFollowUp Lifestyle Intervention). The protocol of the first intervention is described in this  
8 paper (version 3, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021), the protocol of the second one will be described separately.  
9 Both will be evaluated within the PanCareFollowUp project. The consortium published a Care  
10 Intervention Manual that contains instructions and tools required for implementing the  
11 PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention. At the project end, Replication Manuals that contain the  
12 instructions and tools required for implementation of the PanCareFollowUp Interventions will be  
13 freely distributed.  
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23 The overall aim of the PanCareFollowUp Care Study is to evaluate the feasibility and (cost-)  
24 effectiveness of implementing PanCareFollowUp Care as usual care for adult survivors of childhood  
25 cancer in four study sites in four European countries. Four objectives have been formulated: 1) To  
26 what extent is implementing PanCareFollowUp Care in the participating study sites feasible?; 2)  
27 What are the patient-reported experiences and outcomes, including survivor empowerment, of  
28 PanCareFollowUp Care and how do they change?; 3) What is the number and nature of pre-existing  
29 and new clinical events detected by PanCareFollowUp Care among participating survivors?; and 4)  
30 What is the cost-effectiveness and cost-utility of implementing PanCareFollowUp Care relative to  
31 usual care from the perspective of survivors, health care providers (HCPs), and society at large?  
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### 39 **Box 1: The PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention**

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41 The PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention is based on a person-centred care model (26) that aims to  
42 meet the physical, psychological and social needs of (adult) survivors of childhood cancer through  
43 shared decision-making about prevention, surveillance and treatment options. The Care  
44 Intervention consists of three steps:  
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49 a) *Preparation of the clinic visit by both the survivor and the health care provider (HCP).* The  
50 survivor provides information about their health, wellbeing, needs and preferences by  
51 completing the PanCareFollowUp Survivor Questionnaire. The HCP prepares a Treatment  
52 Summary describing the childhood cancer treatment that the survivor has received, reviews  
53 the relevant surveillance recommendations and the PanCareFollowUp Survivor  
54 Questionnaire provided by the survivor, and thereupon prepares the Standard Survivorship  
55 Care Plan.  
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- b) *Clinic visit including tailored follow-up care.* After obtaining a medical history and performing a physical examination, the survivor and HCP jointly discuss the results of the Survivor Questionnaire, and the Standard Survivorship Care Plan. Together, they agree on a plan for diagnostic tests and potential referral if needed, based on surveillance guidelines or clinical indication. Based on these shared decisions, as well as potential test results, the HCP creates a Draft Individualised Survivorship Care Plan and provides tailored health education.
- c) *Follow-up call.* The survivor and HCP discuss the test results and the preferred model of care for future follow-up care. The results of these shared decisions are incorporated in the final Individualised Survivorship Care Plan, that the survivor may share with other HCPs.

The PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention ends after co-creation and delivery of the Individualised Survivorship Care Plan. Survivors will thereafter remain under surveillance either at or under the guidance of their clinic, frequently adjusting their Individualised Survivorship Care Plan when needed.

## 30 **Methods and analysis**

### 31 *Study population, setting and recruitment*

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Survivors fulfil the inclusion criteria if they are or have been: diagnosed with cancer before the age of 19 years; treated or registered at one of the four study sites; treated with chemotherapy and/or radiation therapy for childhood cancer with or without surgery; at least five years from primary cancer diagnosis; at least one year off treatment (also applying to treatment of subsequent benign or malignant neoplasms or relapse of the primary cancer); and currently at least 16 years of age.

Exclusion criteria consist of: being unable to complete the study questionnaires because of severe neurocognitive sequelae or insufficient understanding of the language used (even with help from another person); or having previously received complete follow-up care that is similar to the care as described in the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention Manual (Box 1).

This international prospective cohort study will be conducted at four study sites located in four European countries: Belgium, Czech Republic, Italy, and Sweden. All sites currently provide long-term follow-up care, either within a paediatric (Belgium, Italy) or adult (Czech Republic, Sweden) oncology centre, using a set of (inter)national guidelines and protocols. Each study site aims to include 200 survivors who complete the study. With an estimated non-response and early drop-out (informed consent signed, but no actual participation in the study) of 40 to 50% based on previous

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3 experience and an estimated late drop-out (at any point after completing the T1 questionnaire) of 5-  
4 10% during the study, approximately 350 to 400 survivors will therefore be invited at each site. To  
5 assess the feasibility of this recruitment strategy, each centre screened their respective registries  
6 and estimated a total of 5,944 eligible survivors.  
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10 Each study site developed a recruitment strategy within the prerequisites of this study, that fits best  
11 within their own logistics (Appendix A). Selected survivors will be invited by an invitation letter, an  
12 invitation e-mail or by phone (depending on the usual procedure at each study site), and receive an  
13 information sheet, including contact details for additional information, and an informed consent  
14 form. Reasons for non-participation can be provided. One option of the pre-set reasons is 'not  
15 participating because the questionnaires are being provided via internet'. In this case, the study site  
16 may decide to offer the option for paper questionnaires. Survivors who give informed consent but  
17 do not respond to the first questionnaire, even after reminders, are considered early drop-outs and  
18 will be excluded from the study, as essential data about these survivors will not be available. The  
19 first participant was enrolled in February 2021, and at 1 March 2022 456 participants were enrolled  
20 and completed the clinic visit. The estimated last inclusion is on 30 September 2022, with last data  
21 collection 31 May 2023.  
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31 Participating survivors can withdraw from the study at any time if they wish. They are not obliged to  
32 provide a reason for withdrawal, although it will be asked and recorded if available. To assess  
33 representativeness of the final study sample, the four centres will provide aggregated data about  
34 their total eligible population of survivors including population distributions of gender, current age,  
35 age at diagnosis, type of cancer and distance to the late effects clinic. This will be compared to the  
36 distributions among the included survivors per clinic.  
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42 During recruitment and data collection, careful monitoring of enrolment, (non-)response, reasons  
43 for non-response and early and late drop-out will be performed by the four study sites in close  
44 collaboration with the central data centre at the Danish Cancer Society Research Centre.  
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#### 48 *Intervention*

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50 Survivors of childhood cancer who receive PanCareFollowUp Care (i.e., care in accordance with the  
51 PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention Manual and as outlined in Box 1) will be followed up until six  
52 months after the clinic visit. The implementation of person-centred care in this project is facilitated  
53 by a narrated Powerpoint and an on-site workshop for all HCPs involved in the study. An add-on  
54 study investigating the feasibility of delivering PanCareFollowUp Care using the digital Survivorship  
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3 Passport (SurPass) tool (30) will be conducted at the Italian clinic, where SurPass is already  
4 implemented.  
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7 *Primary and secondary outcomes*  
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10 This study uses a variety of outcomes to answer the four research objectives (Figure 1).  
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12 *1) To what extent is implementing PanCareFollowUp Care in the participating study sites feasible?*  
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15 Feasibility of implementation is of major importance to ensure sustainability of the  
16 PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention. Therefore, feasibility indicators as well as an evaluation of  
17 barriers and facilitators are included to inform about the experiences of implementing  
18 PanCareFollowUp Care, both from the survivor's and the HCP's perspective. These include drop-outs  
19 at different time-points, use of and experiences with the Survivorship Care Plan, and shared-decision  
20 making.  
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26 *2) What are the experiences and outcomes as reported by participating survivors receiving*  
27 *PanCareFollowUp Care?*  
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30 The primary outcome for this study is empowerment measured by the Health Education Impact  
31 Questionnaire (HEIQ) (31). Empowerment has been defined by the EU Joint Action on Patient Safety  
32 and Quality of Care as a 'multidimensional process that helps people gain control over their own  
33 lives and increase their capacity to act on issues that they themselves define as important', a  
34 definition adapted from Lutrell et al. (32, 33). Empowerment has been selected as the primary  
35 outcome because childhood cancer survivors encounter several transition moments starting from  
36 diagnosis, after which a greater responsibility for their own health and care is required. It is essential  
37 that survivors receive the support they need to manage and advocate for their needs. Moreover,  
38 empowerment is important to manage future health problems.  
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46 Secondary outcomes consist of a variety of patient-reported experiences and outcomes (PREMs and  
47 PROMs), such as satisfaction and quality of life.  
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50 *3) What is the number and nature of pre-existing and new clinical events detected by*  
51 *PanCareFollowUp Care among participating survivors?*  
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54 Clinical outcomes are outcomes of symptoms and diseases and have been defined based on  
55 published or almost published guidelines of the IGHG and the PanCareFollowUp Recommendations.  
56 A total of 116 clinical outcomes were defined, which reflects the wide range of late effects that  
57 survivors may encounter affecting both physical health and psychosocial wellbeing (Figure 1). The  
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number and range of pre-existing and newly detected health problems (symptomatic and asymptomatic) per survivor will be described, including the results of clinical examinations (e.g. echocardiogram or blood tests).

4) *What is the cost-effectiveness and cost-utility of implementing PanCareFollowUp Care relative to usual care from the perspective of survivors, HCPs, and society at large?*

The cost-effectiveness and cost-utility of the care model will be determined. Health economic outcomes reflect the time, time off work and monetary investments made by the survivor, accompanying relatives or friends, the HCP and other staff in relation to the clinic visit while receiving or providing PanCareFollowUp Care. We do not take costs outside the clinic visit into account, i.e., costs related to possible (follow-up) primary care physician visits, mental health services, or referrals to other specialists outside the clinical setting. Costs related to the clinic visit, as associated with PanCareFollowUp Care, are compared to potential benefits measured in terms of PREMs and PROMs.

An overall evaluation of implementing the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention will be performed throughout the project according to the RE-AIM (Reach, Effectiveness, Adoption, Implementation and Maintenance) framework to assess the impact ([www.re-aim.org](http://www.re-aim.org)) (34) (Table 1).

**Table 1. RE-AIM framework applied to the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention.**

Components	Related outcomes/actions in the Care Study
Reach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No. and proportion of participants vs. non-responders</li> <li>Representativeness of participating survivors<sup>a</sup> (comparison of distribution: gender, current age, age at diagnosis and type of cancer)</li> <li>Reasons for (non-)participation</li> </ul>
Effectiveness/efficacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Main outcome empowerment<sup>a</sup></li> <li>Patient-reported outcome and experience measures, and clinical, feasibility and health economic outcomes<sup>a</sup></li> </ul>
Adoption <sup>b</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multidisciplinarity of HCPs involved</li> <li>Recruitment rate</li> <li>Barriers and facilitators for recruitment</li> </ul>
Implementation <sup>b</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use of SCP and reasons for non-use</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adaptations made to the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention or implementation strategy</li> <li>• Time and costs of PanCareFollowUp Care for survivors and HCPs</li> <li>• Barriers and facilitators for implementation</li> </ul>
Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replication Manual including updated implementation and recruitment strategy, publicly available for current and new centres</li> <li>• Overview of requirements for study sites to make the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention routine care</li> </ul>

Abbreviations: HCPs = health care providers, SCP = Survivorship Care Plan. <sup>a</sup> Comparisons will be made according to subgroups of gender, current age, age at diagnosis and type of cancer. <sup>b</sup> This information will be collected at each study site separately.

#### *Patient and public involvement*

Survivor representatives from Childhood Cancer International-Europe are included in the project as members of the PanCareFollowUp Consortium (28). They are involved throughout the project and reach out to their respective national and international networks when needed. Survivors were involved in setting the research agenda by writing the grant application and the study protocol, developing and reviewing the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention materials, evaluating the study questionnaires, monitoring the progress of the PanCareFollowUp Care Study and creating awareness on social media (29). They helped consider ways to mitigate the burden of completing the study questionnaires or remembering the childhood cancer history for participants. After the end of data collection, survivor representatives will be involved in the interpretation of the study results and dissemination to participants, survivor networks and the general public.

#### *Power calculation*

We aim to include 200 participants at each of the four study sites (total n=800). The primary outcome measure is change in empowerment between T1 and T5 as measured by the HEIQ (35). We use six constructs (cancer version including five constructs plus one additional construct, namely self-monitoring and insight) with mean scores ranging from 2.9 (standard deviation (SD): 0.64) to 3.2 (SD: 0.48). Taking the construct with the largest SD (thus needing the highest number of participants to demonstrate a statistically significant change), limiting it to a single study site, with a 2-sided  $\alpha$  of 0.05, a power of 80%, we will need 200 participants to identify an effect size of 0.2 given a mean



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3 score of 2.9 (SD: 0.64). That is enough power to demonstrate a small to medium effect. The actual  
4 power is larger since we ignored measuring empowerment repeatedly, having four centres (800  
5 patients instead of 200) and using constructs with smaller SDs.  
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### 8 9 *Data collection*

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11 Data will be collected from participating survivors as well as from their HCPs at five time points (T1-  
12 T5) during a follow-up period of six to eight months (Figure 2). We will use data collected in the  
13 context of care delivery, and combine it with additional data collected specifically for research  
14 purposes. For the latter, there are three data collection moments for survivors and four for HCPs.  
15 These time points are linked to the structure of the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention, which  
16 consists of three steps: 1) Preparation of the clinic visit by survivor and HCP (corresponding with T1),  
17 2) Clinic visit (corresponding with T2), and 3) Follow-up call (two to four weeks after T2,  
18 corresponding with T3). Thereafter, there is data collection at 1 week after the follow-up call (T4)  
19 and 6 months after the clinic visit (T5).  
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27 The main data collection instruments consist of the PanCareFollowUp Survivor Questionnaire (care),  
28 the Treatment Summary (care), medical history, physical examinations and diagnostic tests during  
29 and after the clinic visit (care), and additional online study questionnaires for survivors and HCPs  
30 (research). The English versions of the study questionnaires for survivors have been pretested by  
31 three survivors, whereas the English questionnaires for HCPs have been pretested with at least two  
32 HCPs in each centre before the start of the data collection. The questionnaires for survivors have  
33 subsequently been translated to the local languages of the study sites, i.e. Czech, Dutch, Italian and  
34 Swedish.  
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### 41 42 *Statistical analysis*

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44 For analysing outcomes measured multiple times, like the primary outcome, we will analyse  
45 multilevel models for repeated measures applying a fixed effect to control for study site. Next, we  
46 will perform subgroup analyses for relevant groups by including interaction terms. These subgroups  
47 will be identified based on the literature combined with knowledge from professionals. The final  
48 selection will be determined during the study, however, possible subgroups may be distinguished  
49 according to centre, sex, time since cancer diagnosis, treatment type, or distance to late effects  
50 clinic. The models will be adjusted for confounders, which will be identified during the study based  
51 on the literature and expert opinion. Clinical findings will be described at each time point, like the  
52 number of prevalent conditions as well of new diseases detected, diagnoses of sub-clinical diseases,  
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3 relapse of the original tumour, late effects and diagnostic measurements. The results will be  
4 adjusted for multiple testing.  
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7 For the health economic evaluation, we will calculate incremental cost-effectiveness ratios (ICERs)  
8 for different outcomes. The estimated benefits of the intervention in terms of empowerment  
9 (HEIQ), quality of life (SF-36, EQ-5D-5L, ICECAP-A), and other outcomes are compared to the  
10 additional costs of implementing the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention. Costs include resources  
11 incurred at the level of the hospital and the survivor. At the hospital level, we measure the time of  
12 physicians and other hospital staff for tasks related to the clinic visit and the follow-up call, costs for  
13 diagnostic and screening tests and other consumables for the clinic visit. At the survivor level, we  
14 measure the time investment and travel costs of survivors and relatives or friends, and loss of  
15 productive time at the workplace or in education. These costs are investigated separately on each  
16 level, hospital and survivor, as well as on an aggregated level. To account for statistical uncertainty in  
17 the cost data, we will apply a bootstrap approach using empirical and/or theoretical distributions on  
18 different cost positions. Results are displayed in a cost-effectiveness plane. Since there are no  
19 uniform ceiling values on ICERs across countries (and for the different outcomes), we will also show  
20 cost-effectiveness acceptability curves, which account for statistical uncertainty in the ICERs and in  
21 the ceiling values.  
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25 In the calculation of ICERs, we will take into account the follow-up of six months, which implies that  
26 longer-run effects of PanCareFollowUp Care on outcomes such as survival cannot be measured  
27 within the study, and effects on other outcomes such as quality of life may be small. We therefore  
28 complement our analysis with a model-based economic evaluation approach using data from this  
29 study as well as information from the literature on longer-term effects of follow-up interventions  
30 and patient pathways, which will allow us to gain a more comprehensive picture on the cost-  
31 effectiveness of PanCareFollowUp Care.  
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#### 33 *Handling missing data*

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35 Automated reminders and phone calls by the clinics are used to ensure that all patients and HCPs  
36 complete all questionnaires to minimise the number of missing data. In case of missing data for  
37 certain PROMs and PREMs, we will replace missing values with the mean of the remaining items of  
38 the scale as recommended by the manuals. In case of other missing data, we will perform sensitivity  
39 analyses, i.e. perform the analyses with the complete cases and repeat the analyses with imputed  
40 values.  
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#### 43 *Data management*

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3 A cloud-based Electronic Data Capture platform has been developed by the Danish Cancer Society  
4 using Castor EDC ([www.castoredc.com](http://www.castoredc.com)). This platform can be accessed by each of the four study  
5 sites for data entry. Castor EDC is compliant with all the important regulations regarding research:  
6 GDPR, ISO 27001 & ISO 9001 with servers located in the Netherlands including several measures to  
7 ensure security, adequacy and veracity of the collected data: regular back-ups (four times per day);  
8 personal accounts with individual user rights; audit, data and edit trail of all entered and changed  
9 data; and real-time edit checks to identify discrepancies in entered data.

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16 Participating survivors complete their questionnaires directly in Castor EDC through a personalised  
17 link they receive by e-mail. Clinical data will be provided by HCPs or retrieved from survivors'  
18 medical records and entered into Castor EDC by local data managers according to a data entry  
19 instruction manual. All personal and sensitive data collected in the PanCareFollowUp project will be  
20 pseudonymised.  
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25 After the end of the data collection period, data will be exported from Castor to servers at the  
26 Danish Cancer Society. Experienced data managers will perform quality checks, data cleaning, and  
27 validation of data collected at the four sites and will set up data for the respective statistical analyses  
28 as subsets of the main database, governed by Data Transfer Agreements. The investigators will  
29 properly address all the ethical, legal, and safety aspects of the study and comply fully with EU  
30 Regulation 2016/679 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal  
31 data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data  
32 Protection Regulation).  
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### 39 **Ethics and dissemination**

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42 This study will be conducted in accordance with the guidelines of Good Clinical Practice by the  
43 International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human  
44 Use and the Declaration of Helsinki, written to protect those involved in clinical studies. The study  
45 protocol has been reviewed and approved by all relevant ethics committees: Brno, Ethics Committee  
46 of St. Anne's University Hospital (13 August 2019); Leuven, Ethics Committee Research University  
47 Hospitals Leuven (16 December 2020); Stockholm, Ethics Review Authority Stockholm (26 October  
48 2020); Genoa, N. Liguria Regional Ethics Committee (13 July 2020).  
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55 Written informed consent will be obtained from all study participants before enrolment and data  
56 collection. An independent ethics advisor from Denmark is available to provide feedback and advice  
57 on ethics issues that may arise. An external study steering committee has been appointed to act as  
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3 an advisory capacity with study oversight and external advice. The committee includes a survivor  
4 representative, a clinical oncologist, a late effects specialist, an ethicist and a statistician.  
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7 Incidental findings based on participants' completion of the questionnaires are unlikely given the  
8 nature of the questions, except for one question of the Brief Symptom Inventory-18 on suicidal  
9 thoughts. The central data centre and the four study sites will regularly check for any positive answers  
10 on this specific question, and inform the health care provider as soon as possible, but within a  
11 maximum of two weeks. Worrisome answers at the pre-visit questionnaire will be discussed at the  
12 clinic visit. In the post-visit questionnaires, the survivor is informed that he or she can contact their  
13 general physician or late effects clinic in case of worrisome symptoms or complaints.  
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20 After the project, a Replication Manual will be developed for anyone interested in implementing the  
21 PanCareFollowUp Care for adult survivors of childhood cancer. It will include an updated  
22 Intervention Manual based on the Care Study results and additional focus groups with project  
23 stakeholders after the study closes. The Replication Manual will include all materials required for  
24 implementation in different languages and will become freely available through PanCare.  
25 PanCareFollowUp is aligned with EC Open Science Initiative, providing open access to all  
26 publications, and participates in the H2020 Open Research Data Pilot. The PanCareFollowUp  
27 Consortium will ensure that the collected data is findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable  
28 (FAIR). A dissemination plan including policy and press releases has been created warranting  
29 publications and lay language summaries on the different outcomes collected, to be distributed  
30 through the networks of PanCare and several (inter)national childhood cancer organisations. In  
31 addition, results will be published in peer-reviewed journals and presented on the project website.  
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#### 41 **Disclaimer**

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43 The material presented and views expressed here are the responsibility of the author(s) only. The EU  
44 Commission takes no responsibility for any use made of the information set out.  
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#### 48 49 50 51 52 53 **Declarations**

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57 *Protocol date and identifier*

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59 March 9<sup>th</sup> 2020, first version.  
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2  
3 May 19<sup>th</sup> 2020, second version (adjustment in the paragraph about local data storage and transfer to  
4 central database).  
5

6  
7 January 21<sup>st</sup> 2021, third version (adjustment in the paragraph about data controllership and data  
8 processorship).  
9

10  
11 *Protocol amendments*  
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14 Protocol amendments, if any, will need to be approved by all investigators and are available upon  
15 request.  
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18 *Consent for publication*  
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20  
21 Not applicable.  
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23  
24 *Availability of data and materials*  
25

26  
27 Not applicable.  
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29  
30 *Competing interests*  
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32  
33 The authors declare that they have no competing interests.  
34

35  
36 *Funding*  
37

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39 [grant number 824982], and the Swedish Childhood Cancer Fund [grant number EU 2018-0002], and  
40 the Italian Ministry of Health [grant number not applicable]. The funding bodies and primary sponsor  
41 had no role in the design of the study; in the collection, management, analysis and interpretation of  
42 data; in writing of the report; or in the decision to submit the report for publication.  
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45  
46 *Primary sponsor*  
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53  
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10 *Data monitoring committee*

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12 Not applicable, since this intervention is care as usual.  
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15 *Auditing*

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17 Not applicable, since this intervention is care as usual.  
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20 *Access to data*

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22 During the conduct of the Care Study, the study sponsor (Princess Máxima Center for Pediatric  
23 Oncology) will act as data controller, whereas the study sites are each joint controllers of the data  
24 collected at their own study site, and the Danish Cancer Society will act as data processor. Access to  
25 the data is regulated by a Data Processing Agreement between the Princess Máxima Center for  
26 Pediatric Oncology and the Danish Cancer Society, and by Study Site Agreements between the Princess  
27 Máxima Center for Pediatric Oncology and each of the four study sites. A Data Transfer Agreement  
28 between the Princess Máxima Center and specific project partners will govern the transfer of data for  
29 purposes of analysis after data collection has been completed.  
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37 *Individual participant-level data (IPD) sharing*

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39 Public access to the full protocol, participant-level dataset and statistical code will be granted upon  
40 request, provided that their use is in agreement with the individual informed consent forms and  
41 contractual project agreements.  
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45 *Author contributions*

46  
47 RK, JK, MR and LK contributed to the conception and design of the work and drafted and substantially  
48 revised the manuscript. RH, MM, TK, KK, AB, SB, LEF, SE, JFW, RH, AK, JL, GM, RM, KO, HP, SP, KR, RS,  
49 MR, AU, CF and LH contributed to the conception and design of the work and critically revised the  
50 manuscript. All authors read and approved of the final manuscript.  
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59  
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6 Castor database.  
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For peer review only

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For peer review only

## Figure legends

**Figure 1. Overview of all patient-reported outcome measures (PROMs) and experience measures (PREMs), clinical outcomes, feasibility outcomes and health economic outcomes used in the Care Study.** Outcomes that are specific for males or females are indicated as such between brackets. For the clinical outcomes, it is indicated whether they are assessed through a diagnostic test according to the guidelines (d), Survivor Questionnaire (q), or both (d+q). Other clinical outcomes are assessed through medical history and/or physical examination. Abbreviations: BPI = Brief Pain Inventory, BSI-18 = Brief Symptom Inventory-18, CD-RISC 25 = Connor-Davidson Resilience Scale (25 items), ET = Emotion Thermometer, HCP = health care provider, HEIQ = health education impact questionnaire, HRQoL = health-related quality of life, ICECAP-A = ICEpop CAPability measure for Adults, LH/FSH = luteinising hormone/follicle-stimulating hormone, PROMIS = Patient-Reported Outcomes Measurement Information System, PCL-5 = PTSD Checklist for DSM-5, QoL = quality of life, Satisfaction Qx = Satisfaction questionnaire by Blaauwbroek et al, SCP = Survivorship Care Plan, SDM-Q-9 = 9-item shared decision-making questionnaire (patient perspective), SF-36 = Short Form-36 (36 items, version 1), SQx = Survivor Questionnaire (part of the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention), TSH = thyroid-stimulating hormone, SDM-Q-Doc = 9-item Shared Decision-Making Questionnaire (HCP perspective).

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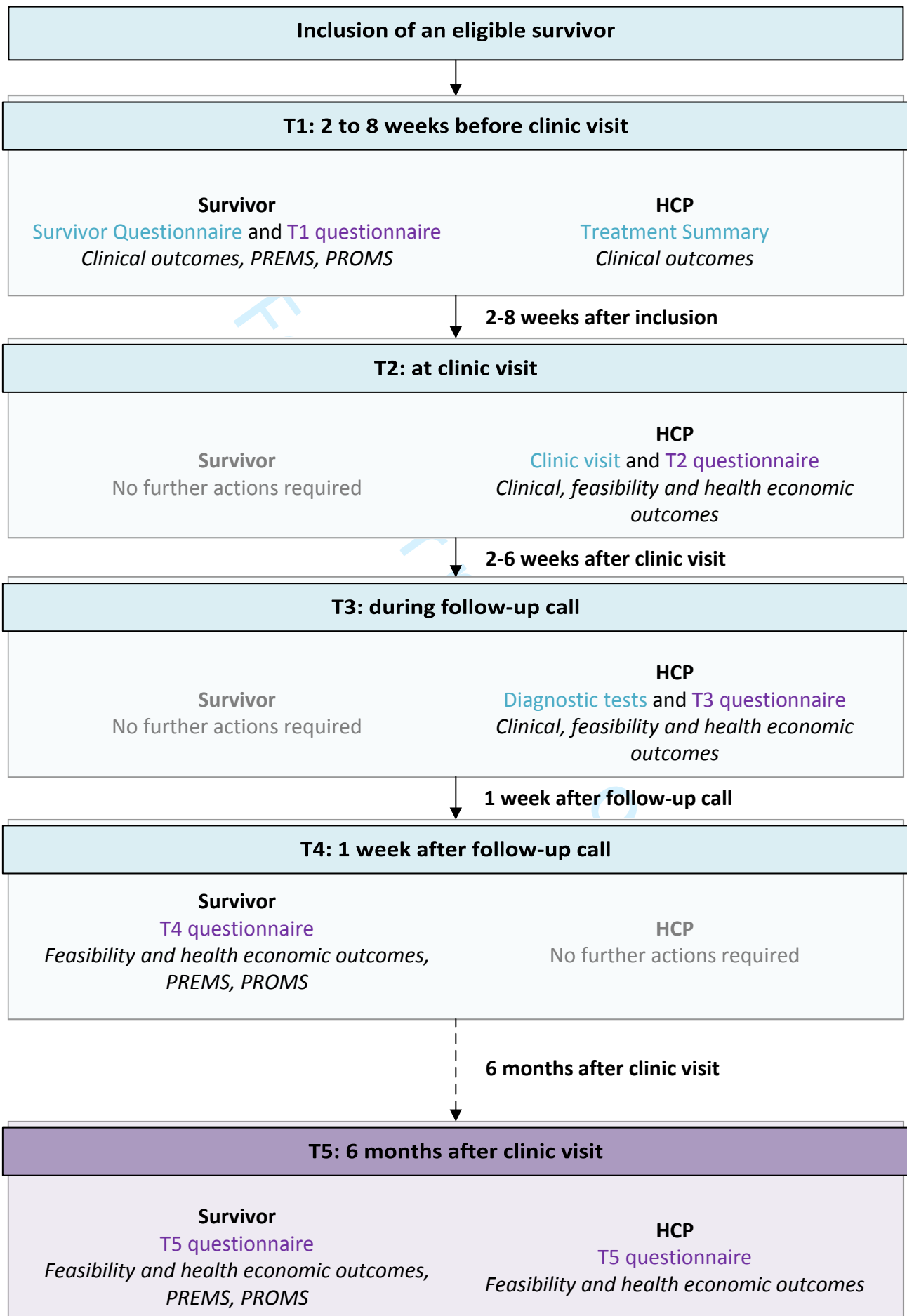
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<sup>j</sup> Bingham Iii, C.O., et al., PROMIS Fatigue short forms are reliable and valid in adults with rheumatoid arthritis. *J Patient Rep Outcomes*, 2019. 3(1): p. 14.

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**Figure 2. Flowchart of data collection after inclusion of an eligible survivor.** Abbreviations: HCP = health care provider, PREMS = patient-reported experience measures, PROMS = patient-reported outcome measures, T1 = time point 1, T2 = time point 2, T3 = time point 3, T4 = time point 4, T5 = time point 5. The boxes describe for each time point the timing of data collection, the person providing data (survivor, HCP or both), the data collection instruments (Survivor Questionnaire, Treatment Summary or T1-T5 study questionnaire) and the types of outcomes collected. Depicted in blue is data collected for care, and in purple for research purposes.

<b>PROMs or PREMs: survivors</b>	Premature ovarian insufficiency (females) (d)	Neurocognitive problems: language	Telangiectasias of the eye
Empowerment (HEIQ) <sup>a</sup> (primary outcome)	Testosterone deficiency (males) (d)	Neurocognitive problems: memory	Xerophthalmia
Patient satisfaction (Satisfaction Qx) <sup>b</sup>	TSH deficiency (d)	Neurocognitive problems: motor integration	<b>Feasibility outcomes: survivor</b>
Shared decision-making (SDM-Q-9) <sup>c</sup>	<i>Gastro-intestinal</i>	Neurocognitive problems: processing speed	Received care according to SCP
Resilience (CD-RISC 25) <sup>d</sup>	Bowel obstruction	Psychological distress (q)	Success of communication
HRQoL (EQ-5D-5L, SF-36, ICECAP-A) <sup>e</sup>	Chronic enterocolitis	Stress-related mental disorder	Missing information
Psychological distress (BSI-18) <sup>f</sup>	Gastro-intestinal strictures or fistula	Suicidal ideation (q)	<i>Italian study site only: Use of and satisfaction with SurPass</i>
Post-traumatic stress symptoms (PCL-5) <sup>g</sup>	<i>Hepato-biliary</i>	Unemployment (q)	
Distress (ET) <sup>h</sup>	Cholelithiasis	<i>Renal and urinary tract</i>	<b>Feasibility outcomes: HCP (per clinic)</b>
Fatigue (SQx + PROMIS Fatigue – Short Form 8a +) <sup>ij</sup>	Hepatobiliary dysfunction (d)	Bladder fibrosis	No. of eligible survivors invited
Pain (BPI) <sup>k</sup>	Hepatocellular liver injury (stage 1) (d)	Dysfunctional voiding (q)	No. of participating survivors per time point
Lifestyle (SQx)	Iron overload (d)	Glomerular kidney dysfunction (d)	No. of non-responders
Social functioning (SQx)	Liver cirrhosis	Haemorrhagic cystitis	Reasons for non-response
<b>Clinical outcomes</b>	Liver fibrosis	Hydronephrosis	No. of drop-outs per time point
<i>Auditory</i>	Liver synthetic dysfunction (d)	Tubular kidney dysfunction (d)	Reasons for drop-outs per time point
Hearing loss (d + q)	<i>Immunological</i>	Vesicoureteral reflux	Composition of multidisciplinary team
Tinnitus (q)	Spleen problems (overwhelming infections)	<i>Reproductive</i>	Use of the SCP
<i>Cardiac</i>	<i>Musculoskeletal</i>	Impaired fertility (q)	Reasons for non-use of SCP, if applicable
Arrhythmia (d + q)	Craniofacial growth problems	Impaired spermatogenesis (males) (d + q)	Shared decision making (HCP perspective; SDM-Q-Doc) <sup>f</sup>
Cardiomyopathy (d)	Osteonecrosis	Low birth weight of offspring (females) (q)	Extent to which SCP of participating survivors has been implemented and reasons for deviating
Pericardial disease (d)	Reduced bone mineral density (d)	Miscarriage (females) (q)	<i>Italian study site only: no. of SurPasses delivered, recommendation brochures given and SurPasses shared with physicians, SurPass user statistics</i>
Valvular heart disease (d)	Spine kyphosis	Physical sexual dysfunction (males) (q)	
<i>Dental</i>	Spine scoliosis	Premature birth of offspring (females) (q)	
Dental caries	<i>Neurological</i>	<i>Respiratory</i>	
Dental developmental problems	Cavernomas	Pulmonary dysfunction (d + q)	<b>Health economic outcomes: survivor</b>
Xerostomia (q)	Cerebrovascular accidents	<i>Subsequent neoplasm</i>	Time investment of survivor (preparation for clinic visit, travel, total time in clinic, follow-up appointments)
<i>Dermatologic</i>	Neurogenic bladder	Subsequent neoplasm (benign or malignant) (d + q)	
Alopecia	Neurogenic bowel	<i>Vascular</i>	Time investment of relatives (travel, total time in clinic, follow-up appointments)
<i>Endocrine</i>	Optic chiasm neuropathy	Aneurysms	
ACTH deficiency (d)	Pain (q)	Asymptomatic coronary artery disease	Travel costs of survivor and relatives
Amenorrhea (females) (q)	Peripheral motor neuropathy (q)	Carotid artery disease	Other extra costs for survivor and relatives
Central precocious puberty (d)	Peripheral sensory neuropathy (q)	Dyslipidaemia (d)	Loss of time for survivor and relatives at paid work or in education
Diabetes mellitus (d)	<i>Psychosocial and neurocognitive</i>	Hypertension	
Failure in pubertal progression	Adjustment difficulties	<i>Visual</i>	<b>Health economic outcomes: HCP</b>
Growth hormone deficiency (d)	Anxiety (q)	Cataract	Time investment of HCP and other staff tasks related to clinic visit (preparation, clinic visit, tasks following clinic visit, follow-up call)
Hyperthyroidism (d)	Behavioural problems	Chronic painful eye	
Hypothyroidism (peripheral) (d)	Fatigue (q)	Glaucoma	
Impaired glucose metabolism (d)	Low educational status (q)	Keratitis	Costs for diagnostic and screening tests
LH/FSH deficiency (d)	Neurocognitive problems: academics	Lacrimal duct atrophy	Costs for other consumables for clinic visit
Obesity	Neurocognitive problems: attention	Maculopathy	
Overweight	Neurocognitive problems: executive function	Papillopathy	
Premature menopause (females) (d)	Neurocognitive problems: intelligence	Retinopathy	



### Appendix A: Recruitment strategy of each study site

Sweden starts with inviting a random sample, prioritising survivors who are lost to follow-up or have not visited the study site in the past five years, and might invite survivors who received care more recently depending on the recruitment rate among the initial population.

Italy starts with inviting survivors who already have a scheduled appointment at their clinic, but who had not already received the Survivorship Passport, and are resident in the Liguria region. They will invite 350 to 400 survivors to be able to include 200 survivors. They will subsequently recruit scheduled survivors resident in other regions, and if the number is still insufficient, they will actively invite other survivors to the clinic.

The Czech Republic starts with selecting a random sample of 250 survivors from the clinic's database whom they will gradually invite over the recruitment period. If more survivors need to be invited to reach the inclusion aim within the recruitment period, they will invite survivors who have a scheduled appointment at their clinic and who meet the study inclusion criteria

Belgium starts to invite, in alphabetical order the survivors of 18 year and older with a primary cancer diagnosis with a date of diagnosis in or before 1990, regardless of whether or not they already received some long-term follow-up. Simultaneously, 20 survivors who were scheduled for a clinic visit in March and April 2021 have also been invited to participate in this study. In the second wave, they will invite the survivors with a diagnosis in 1990-2000 in alphabetic order. And, if needed, the survivors diagnosed in 2001-2020, again in alphabetic order.





SPIRIT 2013 Checklist: Recommended items to address in a clinical trial protocol and related documents\*

Section/item	Item No	Description	Addressed on page number
<b>Administrative information</b>			
Title	1	Descriptive title identifying the study design, population, interventions, and, if applicable, trial acronym	1
Trial registration	2a	Trial identifier and registry name. If not yet registered, name of intended registry	6
	2b	All items from the World Health Organization Trial Registration Data Set	1-25
Protocol version	3	Date and version identifier	8, 17, 18
Funding	4	Sources and types of financial, material, and other support	18
Roles and responsibilities	5a	Names, affiliations, and roles of protocol contributors	1,2
	5b	Name and contact information for the trial sponsor	18
	5c	Role of study sponsor and funders, if any, in study design; collection, management, analysis, and interpretation of data; writing of the report; and the decision to submit the report for publication, including whether they will have ultimate authority over any of these activities	18
	5d	Composition, roles, and responsibilities of the coordinating centre, steering committee, endpoint adjudication committee, data management team, and other individuals or groups overseeing the trial, if applicable (see Item 21a for data monitoring committee)	18, 19

1 **Introduction**

2

3 Background and rationale 6a Description of research question and justification for undertaking the trial, including summary of relevant studies (published and unpublished) examining benefits and harms for each intervention 7, 8

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6 6b Explanation for choice of comparators 8, 11, 12

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8 Objectives 7 Specific objectives or hypotheses 8

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10 Trial design 8 Description of trial design including type of trial (eg, parallel group, crossover, factorial, single group), allocation ratio, and framework (eg, superiority, equivalence, noninferiority, exploratory) 9

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14 **Methods: Participants, interventions, and outcomes**

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16 Study setting 9 Description of study settings (eg, community clinic, academic hospital) and list of countries where data will be collected. Reference to where list of study sites can be obtained 9

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19 Eligibility criteria 10 Inclusion and exclusion criteria for participants. If applicable, eligibility criteria for study centres and individuals who will perform the interventions (eg, surgeons, psychotherapists) 9

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22 Interventions 11a Interventions for each group with sufficient detail to allow replication, including how and when they will be administered 8, 9, 10, ref 29

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25 11b Criteria for discontinuing or modifying allocated interventions for a given trial participant (eg, drug dose change in response to harms, participant request, or improving/worsening disease) 10

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28 11c Strategies to improve adherence to intervention protocols, and any procedures for monitoring adherence (eg, drug tablet return, laboratory tests) N/A

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31 11d Relevant concomitant care and interventions that are permitted or prohibited during the trial N/A

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34 Outcomes 12 Primary, secondary, and other outcomes, including the specific measurement variable (eg, systolic blood pressure), analysis metric (eg, change from baseline, final value, time to event), method of aggregation (eg, median, proportion), and time point for each outcome. Explanation of the clinical relevance of chosen efficacy and harm outcomes is strongly recommended 11, 12

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40 Participant timeline 13 Time schedule of enrolment, interventions (including any run-ins and washouts), assessments, and visits for participants. A schematic diagram is highly recommended (see Figure) 10, Fig 2

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1	Sample size	14	Estimated number of participants needed to achieve study objectives and how it was determined, including clinical and statistical assumptions supporting any sample size calculations	9, 10, 13, 14
2				
3				
4	Recruitment	15	Strategies for achieving adequate participant enrolment to reach target sample size	10, 15, App A
5				

### 6 **Methods: Assignment of interventions (for controlled trials)**

#### 7 Allocation:

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9				
10	Sequence	16a	Method of generating the allocation sequence (eg, computer-generated random numbers), and list of any factors for stratification. To reduce predictability of a random sequence, details of any planned restriction (eg, blocking) should be provided in a separate document that is unavailable to those who enrol participants or assign interventions	N/A
11	generation			
12				
13				
14				
15				
16	Allocation	16b	Mechanism of implementing the allocation sequence (eg, central telephone; sequentially numbered, opaque, sealed envelopes), describing any steps to conceal the sequence until interventions are assigned	N/A
17	concealment			
18	mechanism			
19				
20	Implementation	16c	Who will generate the allocation sequence, who will enrol participants, and who will assign participants to interventions	N/A
21				
22				
23				
24	Blinding (masking)	17a	Who will be blinded after assignment to interventions (eg, trial participants, care providers, outcome assessors, data analysts), and how	N/A
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26				
27		17b	If blinded, circumstances under which unblinding is permissible, and procedure for revealing a participant's allocated intervention during the trial	N/A
28				
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### 31 **Methods: Data collection, management, and analysis**

32				
33	Data collection	18a	Plans for assessment and collection of outcome, baseline, and other trial data, including any related processes to promote data quality (eg, duplicate measurements, training of assessors) and a description of study instruments (eg, questionnaires, laboratory tests) along with their reliability and validity, if known. Reference to where data collection forms can be found, if not in the protocol	14
34	methods			
35				
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39		18b	Plans to promote participant retention and complete follow-up, including list of any outcome data to be collected for participants who discontinue or deviate from intervention protocols	10, 15, App A
40				
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1	Data management	19	Plans for data entry, coding, security, and storage, including any related processes to promote data quality (eg, double data entry; range checks for data values). Reference to where details of data management procedures can be found, if not in the protocol	15, 16
2				
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4				
5	Statistical methods	20a	Statistical methods for analysing primary and secondary outcomes. Reference to where other details of the statistical analysis plan can be found, if not in the protocol	14, 15
6				
7				
8		20b	Methods for any additional analyses (eg, subgroup and adjusted analyses)	14
9				
10		20c	Definition of analysis population relating to protocol non-adherence (eg, as randomised analysis), and any statistical methods to handle missing data (eg, multiple imputation)	14
11				
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14	<b>Methods: Monitoring</b>			
15				
16	Data monitoring	21a	Composition of data monitoring committee (DMC); summary of its role and reporting structure; statement of whether it is independent from the sponsor and competing interests; and reference to where further details about its charter can be found, if not in the protocol. Alternatively, an explanation of why a DMC is not needed	19
17				
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22		21b	Description of any interim analyses and stopping guidelines, including who will have access to these interim results and make the final decision to terminate the trial	N/A
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25	Harms	22	Plans for collecting, assessing, reporting, and managing solicited and spontaneously reported adverse events and other unintended effects of trial interventions or trial conduct	17
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27				
28	Auditing	23	Frequency and procedures for auditing trial conduct, if any, and whether the process will be independent from investigators and the sponsor	19
29				
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31				
32	<b>Ethics and dissemination</b>			
33				
34	Research ethics approval	24	Plans for seeking research ethics committee/institutional review board (REC/IRB) approval	16
35				
36				
37	Protocol amendments	25	Plans for communicating important protocol modifications (eg, changes to eligibility criteria, outcomes, analyses) to relevant parties (eg, investigators, REC/IRBs, trial participants, trial registries, journals, regulators)	18
38				
39				
40				
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42				

1	Consent or assent	26a	Who will obtain informed consent or assent from potential trial participants or authorised surrogates, and how (see Item 32)	10, 16
2				
3				
4		26b	Additional consent provisions for collection and use of participant data and biological specimens in ancillary studies, if applicable	N/A
5				
6				
7	Confidentiality	27	How personal information about potential and enrolled participants will be collected, shared, and maintained in order to protect confidentiality before, during, and after the trial	15, 16, 19
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9				
10	Declaration of interests	28	Financial and other competing interests for principal investigators for the overall trial and each study site	18
11				
12				
13	Access to data	29	Statement of who will have access to the final trial dataset, and disclosure of contractual agreements that limit such access for investigators	19
14				
15				
16	Ancillary and post-trial care	30	Provisions, if any, for ancillary and post-trial care, and for compensation to those who suffer harm from trial participation	17
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20	Dissemination policy	31a	Plans for investigators and sponsor to communicate trial results to participants, healthcare professionals, the public, and other relevant groups (eg, via publication, reporting in results databases, or other data sharing arrangements), including any publication restrictions	17
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22				
23				
24		31b	Authorship eligibility guidelines and any intended use of professional writers	19
25				
26		31c	Plans, if any, for granting public access to the full protocol, participant-level dataset, and statistical code	19
27				
28				
29	<b>Appendices</b>			
30				
31	Informed consent materials	32	Model consent form and other related documentation given to participants and authorised surrogates	Submitted separately
32				
33				
34	Biological specimens	33	Plans for collection, laboratory evaluation, and storage of biological specimens for genetic or molecular analysis in the current trial and for future use in ancillary studies, if applicable	N/A
35				
36				

37 \*It is strongly recommended that this checklist be read in conjunction with the SPIRIT 2013 Explanation & Elaboration for important clarification on the items.  
 38 Amendments to the protocol should be tracked and dated. The SPIRIT checklist is copyrighted by the SPIRIT Group under the Creative Commons  
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# BMJ Open

## Evaluating the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of implementing person-centred follow-up care for childhood cancer survivors in four European countries: the PanCareFollowUp Care prospective cohort study protocol

Journal:	<i>BMJ Open</i>
Manuscript ID	bmjopen-2022-063134.R1
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<b>Secondary Subject Heading</b> :	Health policy, Oncology, Paediatrics, Patient-centred medicine, Research methods
<b>Keywords</b> :	International health services < HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION & MANAGEMENT, Health economics < HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION & MANAGEMENT, Paediatric oncology < ONCOLOGY, Paediatric oncology < PAEDIATRICS, Organisation of health services < HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION & MANAGEMENT

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Manuscripts

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3 **Evaluating the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of implementing person-centred follow-up care for**  
4 **childhood cancer survivors in four European countries: the PanCareFollowUp Care prospective**  
5 **cohort study protocol**  
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7 cancer survivors: PanCareFollowUp Care  
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14 decision-making; empowerment; quality of life; clinical trial protocol;

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16 cohort study; prospective study; multicenter study, cost effectiveness  
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**List of abbreviations:**

FAIR = Findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable

GCP = Good Clinical Practice

HCP(s) = Health care provider(s)

ICER(s) = Incremental cost-effectiveness ratio(s)

IGHG = International Late Effects of Childhood Cancer Guideline Harmonization Group

PanCare = Pan-European Network for Care of Survivors after Childhood and Adolescent Cancer

PROM = Patient-reported outcome measure

PREM = Patient-reported experience measure

RE-AIM = Reach, Effectiveness, Adoption, Implementation and Maintenance

SD = Standard deviation

SurPass = Survivorship Passport

T1-5 = Time points 1-5

## Abstract

**Introduction** – Long-term survival after childhood cancer often comes at the expense of late, adverse health conditions. However, survivorship care is often not available for adult survivors in Europe. The PanCareFollowUp Consortium therefore developed the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention, an innovative person-centred survivorship care model based on experiences in the Netherlands. This paper describes the protocol of the prospective cohort study (Care Study) to evaluate the feasibility and the health economic, clinical and patient-reported outcomes of implementing PanCareFollowUp Care as usual care in four European countries.

**Methods and analysis** – In this prospective, longitudinal cohort study with at least six months of follow-up, 800 childhood cancer survivors will receive the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention across four study sites in Belgium, Czech Republic, Italy and Sweden, representing different health care systems. The PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention will be evaluated according to the RE-AIM (Reach, Effectiveness, Adoption, Implementation and Maintenance) framework. Clinical and research data are collected through questionnaires, a clinic visit for multiple medical assessments and a follow-up call. The primary outcome is empowerment, assessed with the Health Education Impact Questionnaire (HEIQ). A central data centre will perform quality checks, data cleaning, data validation, and provide support in data analysis. Multilevel models will be used for repeated outcome measures, with subgroup analysis, e.g. by centre, attained age, sex or diagnosis.

**Ethics and dissemination** - This study will be conducted in accordance with the guidelines of Good Clinical Practice and the Declaration of Helsinki. The study protocol has been reviewed and approved by all relevant ethics committees. The evidence and insights gained by this study will be summarised in a Replication Manual, also including the tools required to implement the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention in other countries. This Replication Manual will become freely available through PanCare and will be disseminated through policy and press releases.

**Trial registration** - NL8918, registered at the Netherlands Trial Register at 24 September 2020, <https://www.trialregister.nl/trial/8918>.

## Article summary

### *Strengths and limitations of this study*

- The PanCareFollowUp Care Study is designed and conducted together with survivor representatives, ensuring the outcome measures are relevant for survivors and that PanCareFollowUp Care meets their needs and expectations.
- We include survivors from four different European countries, representing a variety of health care systems across Europe; and their experiences are used to improve the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention before free distribution of the materials in a Replication Manual.
- The PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention is evaluated in a real life setting with a minimal number of exclusion criteria.
- Since the Care Study has a limited follow-up time, a model-based economic evaluation will complement the analyses.
- Participants are their own controls and effects are evaluated as changes from baseline within an individual or institution.

## Introduction

Over the last decades, five-year survival rates of childhood cancer in Europe have increased substantially, from 30% in the 1970s to 80% in the early 2000s (1). Today, the European population of childhood cancer survivors, estimated at minimally 300,000, is rising by about 12,000 per year (2). Yet, many survivors not only experience the burden of previous cancer diagnosis, but also face treatment-related late effects (3, 4). These may become apparent years or even decades after finishing therapy (5) and might have a significant adverse impact on quality of life (6, 7). Moreover, the transition from paediatric to adult health care settings often lacks continuity. As a result, many adults who survived childhood cancer have increased health care use and experience problems in participation, which generate a substantial burden for survivors and societies in general (8-10). Early detection of new health conditions is essential as it could prevent further harm (11). This requires lifelong survivorship care with frequent adaptations of the follow-up plan.

Currently, only one third of European paediatric oncology clinics provide survivorship care to adult survivors of childhood cancer (12). In 2006, an international group of paediatric oncologists, psychologists, nurses, epidemiologists, survivors and their parents agreed in the Erice statement that has recently been updated and reconfirmed (13, 14) that follow-up care should be available and accessible for all survivors throughout their lifespan.

In the past decade, international evidence-based clinical practice guidelines have been developed to support early detection and treatment of (a)symptomatic late effects, including those developed by the International Late Effects of Childhood Cancer Guideline Harmonization Group (IGHG), sometimes in collaboration with the PanCareSurFup project (15-23). A European model of care guideline is published and guidelines for the transition from childhood to adult health care settings and health promotion are currently being developed (24, 25). Yet, implementation lags behind. Recently, a person-centred approach for survivorship care for adult survivors has been implemented in Nijmegen, the Netherlands (26). All Dutch survivors of childhood cancer are invited for follow-up care by a long-term follow-up care clinic, in which multidisciplinary teams deliver person-centred care based on contemporary surveillance guidelines (27). The first positive effects of this person-centred approach have been reported (24, 26). The next step is to validate this person-centred approach for survivorship care in other countries.

The PanCareFollowUp Consortium, established in 2018, is a unique multidisciplinary European collaboration between 14 project partners from 10 European countries, including survivors ([www.pancarefollowup.eu](http://www.pancarefollowup.eu)) (28). The aim of the consortium is to improve the quality of life for

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3 survivors of childhood, adolescent and young adult cancer by bringing evidence-based, person-  
4 centred care to clinical practice. The PanCareFollowUp Consortium has developed two  
5 interventions: 1) a person-centred and guideline-based model of survivorship care  
6 (PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention) (see Box 1) (29) and 2) an eHealth lifestyle coaching model  
7 (PanCareFollowUp Lifestyle Intervention). The protocol of the first intervention is described in this  
8 paper (version 3, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021), the protocol of the second one will be described separately.  
9 Both will be evaluated within the PanCareFollowUp project. The consortium published a Care  
10 Intervention Manual that contains instructions and tools required for implementing the  
11 PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention. At the project end, Replication Manuals that contain the  
12 instructions and tools required for implementation of the PanCareFollowUp Interventions will be  
13 freely distributed.  
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23 The overall aim of the PanCareFollowUp Care Study is to evaluate the feasibility and (cost-)  
24 effectiveness of implementing PanCareFollowUp Care as usual care for adult survivors of childhood  
25 cancer in four study sites in four European countries. Four objectives have been formulated: 1) To  
26 what extent is implementing PanCareFollowUp Care in the participating study sites feasible?; 2)  
27 What are the patient-reported experiences and outcomes, including survivor empowerment, of  
28 PanCareFollowUp Care and how do they change?; 3) What is the number and nature of pre-existing  
29 and new clinical events detected by PanCareFollowUp Care among participating survivors?; and 4)  
30 What is the cost-effectiveness and cost-utility of implementing PanCareFollowUp Care relative to  
31 usual care from the perspective of survivors, health care providers (HCPs), and society at large?  
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### 39 **Box 1: The PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention**

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41 The PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention is based on a person-centred care model (26) that aims to  
42 meet the physical, psychological and social needs of (adult) survivors of childhood cancer through  
43 shared decision-making about prevention, surveillance and treatment options. The Care  
44 Intervention consists of three steps:  
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49 a) *Preparation of the clinic visit by both the survivor and the health care provider (HCP).* The  
50 survivor provides information about their health, wellbeing, needs and preferences by  
51 completing the PanCareFollowUp Survivor Questionnaire. The HCP prepares a Treatment  
52 Summary describing the childhood cancer treatment that the survivor has received, reviews  
53 the relevant surveillance recommendations and the PanCareFollowUp Survivor  
54 Questionnaire provided by the survivor, and thereupon prepares the Standard Survivorship  
55 Care Plan.  
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- b) *Clinic visit including tailored follow-up care.* After obtaining a medical history and performing a physical examination, the survivor and HCP jointly discuss the results of the Survivor Questionnaire, and the Standard Survivorship Care Plan. Together, they agree on a plan for diagnostic tests and potential referral if needed, based on surveillance guidelines or clinical indication. Based on these shared decisions, as well as potential test results, the HCP creates a Draft Individualised Survivorship Care Plan and provides tailored health education.
- c) *Follow-up call.* The survivor and HCP discuss the test results and the preferred model of care for future follow-up care. The results of these shared decisions are incorporated in the final Individualised Survivorship Care Plan, that the survivor may share with other HCPs.

The PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention ends after co-creation and delivery of the Individualised Survivorship Care Plan. Survivors will thereafter remain under surveillance either at or under the guidance of their clinic, frequently adjusting their Individualised Survivorship Care Plan when needed.

## 30 **Methods and analysis**

### 31 *Study population, setting and recruitment*

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Survivors fulfil the inclusion criteria if they are or have been: diagnosed with cancer before the age of 19 years; treated or registered at one of the four study sites; treated with chemotherapy and/or radiation therapy for childhood cancer with or without surgery; at least five years from primary cancer diagnosis; at least one year off treatment (also applying to treatment of subsequent benign or malignant neoplasms or relapse of the primary cancer); and currently at least 16 years of age.

Exclusion criteria consist of: being unable to complete the study questionnaires because of severe neurocognitive sequelae or insufficient understanding of the language used (even with help from another person); or having previously received complete follow-up care that is similar to the care as described in the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention Manual (Box 1).

This international prospective cohort study will be conducted at four study sites located in four European countries: Belgium, Czech Republic, Italy, and Sweden. All sites currently provide long-term follow-up care, either within a paediatric (Belgium, Italy) or adult (Czech Republic, Sweden) oncology centre, using a set of (inter)national guidelines and protocols. Each study site aims to include 200 survivors who complete the study. With an estimated non-response and early drop-out (informed consent signed, but no actual participation in the study) of 40 to 50% based on previous



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3 experience and an estimated late drop-out (at any point after completing the T1 questionnaire) of 5-  
4 10% during the study, approximately 350 to 400 survivors will therefore be invited at each site. To  
5 assess the feasibility of this recruitment strategy, each centre screened their respective registries  
6 and estimated a total of 5,944 eligible survivors.  
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10 Each study site developed a recruitment strategy within the prerequisites of this study, that fits best  
11 within their own logistics (Appendix A). Selected survivors will be invited by an invitation letter, an  
12 invitation e-mail or by phone (depending on the usual procedure at each study site), and receive an  
13 information sheet, including contact details for additional information, and an informed consent  
14 form. Reasons for non-participation can be provided. One option of the pre-set reasons is 'not  
15 participating because the questionnaires are being provided via internet'. In this case, the study site  
16 may decide to offer the option for paper questionnaires. Survivors who give informed consent but  
17 do not respond to the first questionnaire, even after reminders, are considered early drop-outs and  
18 will be excluded from the study, as essential data about these survivors will not be available. The  
19 first participant was enrolled in February 2021, and at 1 March 2022 456 participants were enrolled  
20 and completed the clinic visit. The estimated last inclusion is on 30 September 2022, with last data  
21 collection 31 May 2023.  
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31 Participating survivors can withdraw from the study at any time if they wish. They are not obliged to  
32 provide a reason for withdrawal, although it will be asked and recorded if available. To assess  
33 representativeness of the final study sample, the four centres will provide aggregated data about  
34 their total eligible population of survivors including population distributions of gender, current age,  
35 age at diagnosis, type of cancer and distance to the late effects clinic. This will be compared to the  
36 distributions among the included survivors per clinic.  
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42 During recruitment and data collection, careful monitoring of enrolment, (non-)response, reasons  
43 for non-response and early and late drop-out will be performed by the four study sites in close  
44 collaboration with the central data centre at the Danish Cancer Society Research Centre.  
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#### 48 *Intervention*

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50 Survivors of childhood cancer who receive PanCareFollowUp Care (i.e., care in accordance with the  
51 PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention Manual and as outlined in Box 1) will be followed up until six  
52 months after the clinic visit. The implementation of person-centred care in this project is facilitated  
53 by a narrated Powerpoint and an on-site workshop for all HCPs involved in the study. An add-on  
54 study investigating the feasibility of delivering PanCareFollowUp Care using the digital Survivorship  
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3 Passport (SurPass) tool (30) will be conducted at the Italian clinic, where SurPass is already  
4 implemented.  
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7 *Primary and secondary outcomes*  
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10 This study uses a variety of outcomes to answer the four research objectives (Figure 1). These are  
11 measured from time point 1 (T1) before the clinic visit until T5 at six months after the clinic visit  
12 (Figure 2). Outcomes are provided by survivors and HCPs through questionnaires, a clinic visit and  
13 diagnostic tests.  
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17 *1) To what extent is implementing PanCareFollowUp Care in the participating study sites feasible?*  
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20 Feasibility of implementation is of major importance to ensure sustainability of the  
21 PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention. Therefore, feasibility indicators measured by questionnaires  
22 among survivors and HCPs as well as an evaluation of barriers and facilitators are included to inform  
23 about the experiences of implementing PanCareFollowUp Care (Figure 2). Items include, among  
24 others, drop-outs at different time-points, use of and experiences with the Survivorship Care Plan,  
25 and shared-decision making (Figure 1).  
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31 *2) What are the experiences and outcomes as reported by participating survivors receiving*  
32 *PanCareFollowUp Care?*  
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35 The primary outcome for this study is empowerment measured by the Health Education Impact  
36 Questionnaire (HEIQ) (31). Empowerment has been defined by the EU Joint Action on Patient Safety  
37 and Quality of Care as a 'multidimensional process that helps people gain control over their own  
38 lives and increase their capacity to act on issues that they themselves define as important', a  
39 definition adapted from Lutrell et al. (32, 33). Empowerment has been selected as the primary  
40 outcome because childhood cancer survivors encounter several transition moments starting from  
41 diagnosis, after which a greater responsibility for their own health and care is required. It is essential  
42 that survivors receive the support they need to manage and advocate for their needs. Moreover,  
43 empowerment is important to manage future health problems. We have included six of the eight  
44 scales of the HEIQ relevant to cancer survivors in our study (Social integration and support, Health  
45 service navigation, Constructive attitudes and approaches, Skill and technique acquisition, Emotional  
46 distress, Self-Monitoring and insight). The HEIQ has previously been used in cancer patient and  
47 survivor populations (34-36). It allows to calculate a mean for each scale indicating higher or lower  
48 empowerment in the respective domain within a participant compared to the baseline assessment.  
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3 Secondary outcomes consist of a variety of patient-reported experiences and outcomes (PREMs and  
4 PROMs), such as satisfaction and quality of life (Figure 1).  
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7 *3) What is the number and nature of pre-existing and new clinical events detected by*  
8 *PanCareFollowUp Care among participating survivors?*  
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11 Clinical outcomes are outcomes of symptoms and diseases and have been defined based on  
12 published or almost published guidelines of the IGHG and the PanCareFollowUp Recommendations.  
13 A total of 116 clinical outcomes were defined, which reflects the wide range of late effects that  
14 survivors may encounter affecting both physical health and psychosocial wellbeing (Figure 1). Clinical  
15 outcomes include past and current medical history, are collected through survivor self-report in the  
16 Survivor Questionnaire (with verification at the clinic visit), and physician-report in the Treatment  
17 Summary, after the clinic visit and after potential diagnostic tests (Figure 2). The number and range  
18 of pre-existing and newly detected health problems (symptomatic and asymptomatic) per survivor  
19 will be described, including the results of clinical examinations (e.g. echocardiogram or blood tests).  
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27 *4) What is the cost-effectiveness and cost-utility of implementing PanCareFollowUp Care relative to*  
28 *usual care from the perspective of survivors, HCPs, and society at large?*  
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31 The cost-effectiveness and cost-utility of the care model will be determined by using health  
32 economic outcomes (Figure 1). These reflect the time, time off work and monetary investments  
33 made by the survivor, accompanying relatives or friends, the HCP and other staff in relation to the  
34 clinic visit while receiving or providing PanCareFollowUp Care, and are collected using  
35 questionnaires (Figure 2). We do not take costs outside the clinic visit into account, i.e., costs related  
36 to possible (follow-up) primary care physician visits, mental health services, or referrals to other  
37 specialists outside the clinical setting. Costs related to the clinic visit, as associated with  
38 PanCareFollowUp Care, are compared to potential benefits measured in terms of PREMs and  
39 PROMs.  
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48 An overall evaluation of implementing the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention will be performed  
49 throughout the project according to the RE-AIM (Reach, Effectiveness, Adoption, Implementation  
50 and Maintenance) framework to assess the impact ([www.re-aim.org](http://www.re-aim.org)) (37) (Table 1).  
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53 **Table 1. RE-AIM framework applied to the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention.**  
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Components	Related outcomes/actions in the Care Study
Reach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="596 1939 1294 1973">• No. and proportion of participants vs. non-responders</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Representativeness of participating survivors<sup>a</sup> (comparison of distribution: gender, current age, age at diagnosis and type of cancer)</li> <li>• Reasons for (non-)participation</li> </ul>
Effectiveness/efficacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Main outcome empowerment<sup>a</sup></li> <li>• Patient-reported outcome and experience measures, and clinical, feasibility and health economic outcomes<sup>a</sup></li> </ul>
Adoption <sup>b</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multidisciplinary of HCPs involved</li> <li>• Recruitment rate</li> <li>• Barriers and facilitators for recruitment</li> </ul>
Implementation <sup>b</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of SCP and reasons for non-use</li> <li>• Adaptations made to the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention or implementation strategy</li> <li>• Time and costs of PanCareFollowUp Care for survivors and HCPs</li> <li>• Barriers and facilitators for implementation</li> </ul>
Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replication Manual including updated implementation and recruitment strategy, publicly available for current and new centres</li> <li>• Overview of requirements for study sites to make the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention routine care</li> </ul>

Abbreviations: HCPs = health care providers, SCP = Survivorship Care Plan. <sup>a</sup> Comparisons will be made according to subgroups of gender, current age, age at diagnosis and type of cancer. <sup>b</sup> This information will be collected at each study site separately.

#### *Patient and public involvement*

Survivor representatives from Childhood Cancer International-Europe are included in the project as members of the PanCareFollowUp Consortium (28). They are involved throughout the project and reach out to their respective national and international networks when needed. Survivors were involved in setting the research agenda by writing the grant application and the study protocol, developing and reviewing the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention materials, evaluating the study questionnaires, monitoring the progress of the PanCareFollowUp Care Study and creating awareness on social media (29). They helped consider ways to mitigate the burden of completing the study questionnaires or remembering the childhood cancer history for participants. After the end of data

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3 collection, survivor representatives will be involved in the interpretation of the study results and  
4 dissemination to participants, survivor networks and the general public.  
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#### 6 7 *Power calculation* 8

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10 We aim to include 200 participants at each of the four study sites (total n=800). The primary  
11 outcome measure is change in empowerment between T1 and T5 as measured by the HEIQ (34). We  
12 use six constructs (cancer version including five constructs plus one additional construct, namely  
13 self-monitoring and insight) with mean scores ranging from 2.9 (standard deviation (SD): 0.64) to 3.2  
14 (SD: 0.48). Taking the construct with the largest SD (thus needing the highest number of participants  
15 to demonstrate a statistically significant change), limiting it to a single study site, with a 2-sided  $\alpha$  of  
16 0.05, a power of 80%, we will need 200 participants to identify an effect size of 0.2 given a mean  
17 score of 2.9 (SD: 0.64). That is enough power to demonstrate a small to medium effect. The actual  
18 power is larger since we ignored measuring empowerment repeatedly, having four centres (800  
19 patients instead of 200) and using constructs with smaller SDs.  
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#### 27 *Data collection* 28

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30 Data will be collected from participating survivors as well as from their HCPs at five time points (T1-  
31 T5) during a follow-up period of six to eight months (Figure 2). We will use data collected in the  
32 context of care delivery, and combine it with additional data collected specifically for research  
33 purposes. For the latter, there are three data collection moments for survivors and four for HCPs.  
34 These time points are linked to the structure of the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention, which  
35 consists of three steps: 1) Preparation of the clinic visit by survivor and HCP (corresponding with T1),  
36 2) Clinic visit (corresponding with T2), and 3) Follow-up call (two to four weeks after T2,  
37 corresponding with T3). Thereafter, there is data collection at 1 week after the follow-up call (T4)  
38 and 6 months after the clinic visit (T5).  
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46 The main data collection instruments consist of the PanCareFollowUp Survivor Questionnaire (care),  
47 the Treatment Summary (care), medical history, physical examinations and diagnostic tests during  
48 and after the clinic visit (care), and additional online study questionnaires for survivors and HCPs  
49 (research). The Survivor Questionnaire and Treatment Summary are available through open access  
50 (29). The English versions of the study questionnaires for survivors have been pretested by three  
51 survivors, whereas the English questionnaires for HCPs have been pretested with at least two HCPs  
52 in each centre before the start of the data collection. The questionnaires for survivors have  
53 subsequently been translated to the local languages of the study sites, i.e. Czech, Dutch, Italian and  
54 Swedish.  
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### *Statistical analysis*

For analysing outcomes measured multiple times, like the primary outcome, we will analyse multilevel models for repeated measures applying a fixed effect to control for study site. Next, we will perform subgroup analyses for relevant groups by including interaction terms. These subgroups will be identified based on the literature combined with knowledge from professionals. The final selection will be determined during the study, however, possible subgroups may be distinguished according to centre, sex, time since cancer diagnosis, treatment type, or distance to late effects clinic. The models will be adjusted for confounders, which will be identified during the study based on the literature and expert opinion. Clinical findings will be described at each time point, like the number of prevalent conditions as well as new diseases detected, diagnoses of sub-clinical diseases, relapse of the original tumour, late effects and diagnostic measurements. The results will be adjusted for multiple testing.

For the health economic evaluation, we will calculate incremental cost-effectiveness ratios (ICERs) for different outcomes. The estimated benefits of the intervention in terms of empowerment (HEIQ), quality of life (Short-Form 36 (SF-36), EQ-5D-5L, ICEpop CAPability measure for Adults (ICECAP-A)), and other outcomes are compared to the additional costs of implementing the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention. Costs include resources incurred at the level of the hospital and the survivor. At the hospital level, we measure the time of physicians and other hospital staff for tasks related to the clinic visit and the follow-up call, costs for diagnostic and screening tests and other consumables for the clinic visit. At the survivor level, we measure the time investment and travel costs of survivors and relatives or friends, and loss of productive time at the workplace or in education. These costs are investigated separately on each level, hospital and survivor, as well as on an aggregated level. To account for statistical uncertainty in the cost data, we will apply a bootstrap approach using empirical and/or theoretical distributions on different cost positions. Results are displayed in a cost-effectiveness plane. Since there are no uniform ceiling values on ICERs across countries (and for the different outcomes), we will also show cost-effectiveness acceptability curves, which account for statistical uncertainty in the ICERs and in the ceiling values.

The calculation of ICERs needs to be interpreted in light of the relatively short follow-up period of six months within the study. This implies that the cost-effectiveness analysis mainly focuses on short-run effects, while longer-run effects of PanCareFollowUp Care on outcomes such as survival cannot be measured within the study. Moreover, effects on other outcomes such as quality of life may be small. In order to provide information about the potential medium- to long-run effects, we will complement our analysis with a model-based economic evaluation approach using data from this

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3 study as well as information from the literature on longer-term effects of follow-up interventions  
4 and patient pathways, as well as related cost estimations. This will allow us to gain a more  
5 comprehensive picture on the cost-effectiveness of PanCareFollowUp Care.  
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#### 8 9 *Handling missing data*

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11 Automated reminders and phone calls by the clinics are used to ensure that all patients and HCPs  
12 complete all questionnaires to minimise the number of missing data. In case of missing data for  
13 certain PROMs and PREMs, we will replace missing values with the mean of the remaining items of  
14 the scale as recommended by the manuals. In case of other missing data, we will perform sensitivity  
15 analyses, i.e. perform the analyses with the complete cases and repeat the analyses with imputed  
16 values.  
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#### 22 23 *Data management*

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25 A cloud-based Electronic Data Capture platform has been developed by the Danish Cancer Society  
26 using Castor EDC ([www.castoredc.com](http://www.castoredc.com)). This platform can be accessed by each of the four study  
27 sites for data entry. Castor EDC is compliant with all the important regulations regarding research:  
28 GDPR, ISO 27001 & ISO 9001 with servers located in the Netherlands including several measures to  
29 ensure security, adequacy and veracity of the collected data: regular back-ups (four times per day);  
30 personal accounts with individual user rights; audit, data and edit trail of all entered and changed  
31 data; and real-time edit checks to identify discrepancies in entered data.  
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38 Participating survivors complete their questionnaires directly in Castor EDC through a personalised  
39 link they receive by e-mail. Clinical data will be provided by HCPs or retrieved from survivors'  
40 medical records and entered into Castor EDC by local data managers according to a data entry  
41 instruction manual. All personal and sensitive data collected in the PanCareFollowUp project will be  
42 pseudonymised.  
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48 After the end of the data collection period, data will be exported from Castor to servers at the  
49 Danish Cancer Society. Experienced data managers will perform quality checks, data cleaning, and  
50 validation of data collected at the four sites and will set up data for the respective statistical analyses  
51 as subsets of the main database, governed by Data Transfer Agreements. The investigators will  
52 properly address all the ethical, legal, and safety aspects of the study and comply fully with EU  
53 Regulation 2016/679 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal  
54 data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data  
55 Protection Regulation).  
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## Ethics and dissemination

This study will be conducted in accordance with the guidelines of Good Clinical Practice by the International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use and the Declaration of Helsinki, written to protect those involved in clinical studies. The study protocol has been reviewed and approved by all relevant ethics committees: Brno, Ethics Committee of St. Anne's University Hospital (13 August 2019); Leuven, Ethics Committee Research University Hospitals Leuven (16 December 2020); Stockholm, Ethics Review Authority Stockholm (26 October 2020); Genoa, N. Liguria Regional Ethics Committee (13 July 2020).

Written informed consent will be obtained from all study participants before enrolment and data collection. An independent ethics advisor from Denmark is available to provide feedback and advice on ethics issues that may arise. An external study steering committee has been appointed to act as an advisory capacity with study oversight and external advice. The committee includes a survivor representative, a clinical oncologist, a late effects specialist, an ethicist and a statistician.

Incidental findings based on participants' completion of the questionnaires are unlikely given the nature of the questions, except for one question of the Brief Symptom Inventory-18 on suicidal thoughts. The central data centre and the four study sites will regularly check for any positive answers on this specific question, and inform the HCP as soon as possible, but within a maximum of two weeks. Worrisome answers at the pre-visit questionnaire will be discussed at the clinic visit. In the post-visit questionnaires, the survivor is informed that he or she can contact their general physician or late effects clinic in case of worrisome symptoms or complaints.

After the project, a Replication Manual will be developed for anyone interested in implementing the PanCareFollowUp Care for adult survivors of childhood cancer. It will include an updated Intervention Manual based on the Care Study results and additional focus groups with project stakeholders after the study closes. The Replication Manual will include all materials required for implementation in different languages and will become freely available through PanCare. PanCareFollowUp is aligned with EC Open Science Initiative, providing open access to all publications, and participates in the H2020 Open Research Data Pilot. The PanCareFollowUp Consortium will ensure that the collected data is findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable (FAIR). A dissemination plan including policy and press releases has been created warranting publications and lay language summaries on the different outcomes collected, to be distributed through the networks of PanCare and several (inter)national childhood cancer organisations. In addition, results will be published in peer-reviewed journals and presented on the project website.



## Disclaimer

The material presented and views expressed here are the responsibility of the author(s) only. The EU Commission takes no responsibility for any use made of the information set out.



## Declarations

### *Protocol date and identifier*

March 9<sup>th</sup> 2020, first version.

May 19<sup>th</sup> 2020, second version (adjustment in the paragraph about local data storage and transfer to central database).

January 21<sup>st</sup> 2021, third version (adjustment in the paragraph about data controllership and data processorship).

### *Protocol amendments*

Protocol amendments, if any, will need to be approved by all investigators and are available upon request.

### *Consent for publication*

Not applicable.

### *Availability of data and materials*

Not applicable.

### *Competing interests*

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

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2  
3 the Italian Ministry of Health [grant number not applicable]. The funding bodies and primary sponsor  
4 had no role in the design of the study; in the collection, management, analysis and interpretation of  
5 data; in writing of the report; or in the decision to submit the report for publication.  
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9 *Primary sponsor*

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18 *Coordinator and contact for public and scientific queries*

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31 *Data monitoring committee*

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33 Not applicable, since this intervention is care as usual.  
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36 *Auditing*

37  
38 Not applicable, since this intervention is care as usual.  
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41 *Access to data*

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43 During the conduct of the Care Study, the study sponsor (Princess Máxima Center for Pediatric  
44 Oncology) will act as data controller, whereas the study sites are each joint controllers of the data  
45 collected at their own study site, and the Danish Cancer Society will act as data processor. Access to  
46 the data is regulated by a Data Processing Agreement between the Princess Máxima Center for  
47 Pediatric Oncology and the Danish Cancer Society, and by Study Site Agreements between the Princess  
48 Máxima Center for Pediatric Oncology and each of the four study sites. A Data Transfer Agreement  
49 between the Princess Máxima Center and specific project partners will govern the transfer of data for  
50 purposes of analysis after data collection has been completed.  
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57 *Individual participant-level data (IPD) sharing*  
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3 Public access to the full protocol, participant-level dataset and statistical code will be granted upon  
4 request, provided that their use is in agreement with the individual informed consent forms and  
5 contractual project agreements.  
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#### 8 9 *Author contributions*

10  
11 RK, JK, MR and LK contributed to the conception and design of the work and drafted and substantially  
12 revised the manuscript. RH, MM, TK, KK, AB, SB, LEF, SE, JFW, RH, AK, JL, GM, RM, KO, HP, SP, KR, RS,  
13 MR, AU, CF and LH contributed to the conception and design of the work and critically revised the  
14 manuscript. All authors read and approved of the final manuscript.  
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26 Castor database.  
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## Figure legends

**Figure 1. Overview of all patient-reported outcome measures (PROMs) and experience measures (PREMs), clinical outcomes, feasibility outcomes and health economic outcomes used in the Care Study.** Outcomes that are specific for males or females are indicated as such between brackets. For the clinical outcomes, it is indicated whether they are assessed through a diagnostic test according to the guidelines (d), Survivor Questionnaire (q), or both (d+q). Other clinical outcomes are assessed through medical history and/or physical examination. Abbreviations: BPI = Brief Pain Inventory, BSI-18 = Brief Symptom Inventory-18, CD-RISC 25 = Connor-Davidson Resilience Scale (25 items), ET = Emotion Thermometer, HCP = health care provider, HEIQ = health education impact questionnaire, HRQoL = health-related quality of life, ICECAP-A = ICEpop CAPability measure for Adults, LH/FSH = luteinising hormone/follicle-stimulating hormone, PROMIS = Patient-Reported Outcomes Measurement Information System, PCL-5 = PTSD Checklist for DSM-5, QoL = quality of life, Satisfaction Qx = Satisfaction questionnaire by Blaauwbroek et al, SCP = Survivorship Care Plan, SDM-Q-9 = 9-item shared decision-making questionnaire (patient perspective), SF-36 = Short Form-36 (36 items, version 1), SQx = Survivor Questionnaire (part of the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention), TSH = thyroid-stimulating hormone, SDM-Q-Doc = 9-item Shared Decision-Making Questionnaire (HCP perspective).

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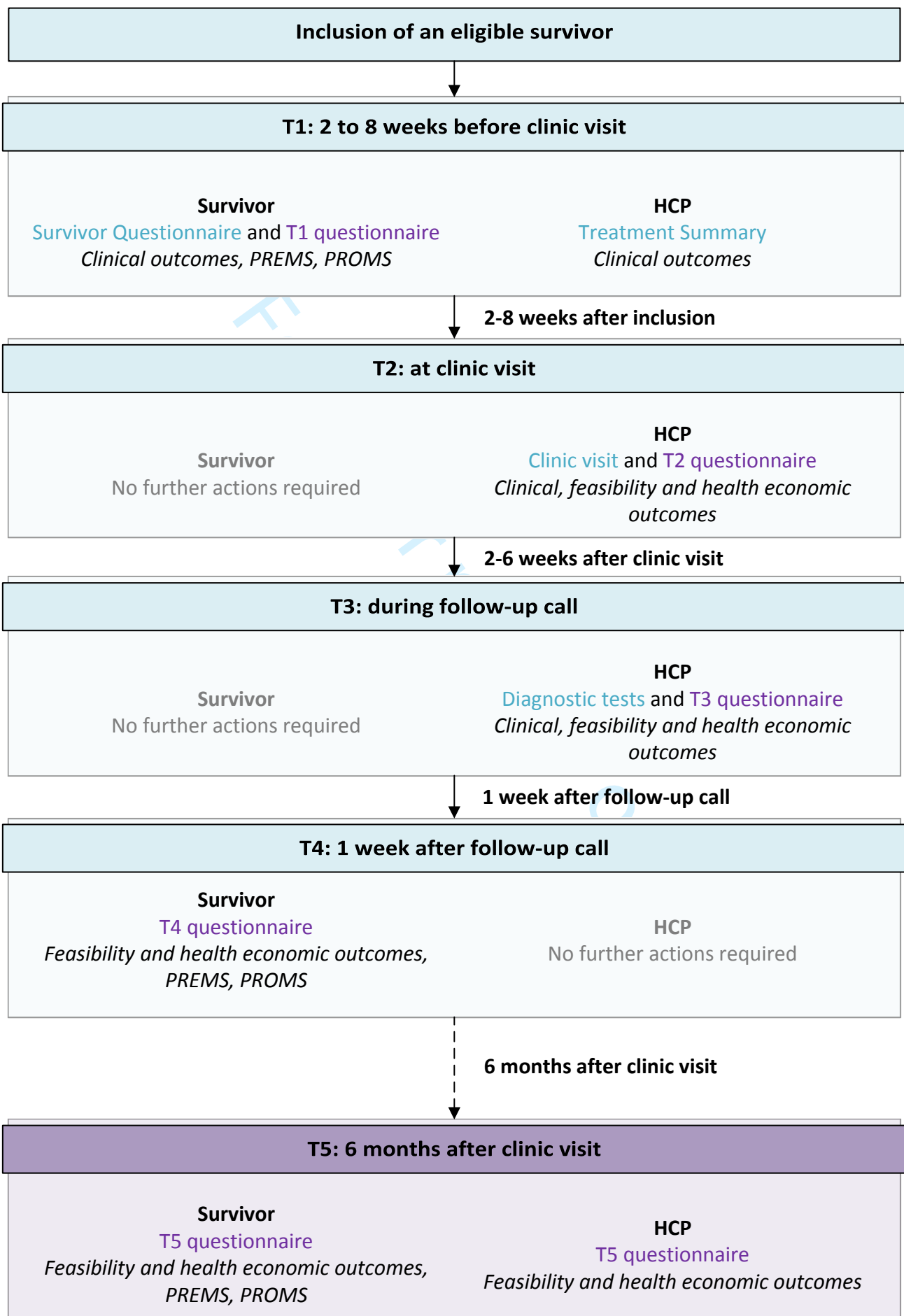
<sup>j</sup> Bingham Iii, C.O., et al., PROMIS Fatigue short forms are reliable and valid in adults with rheumatoid arthritis. *J Patient Rep Outcomes*, 2019. 3(1): p. 14.

<sup>k</sup> Cleeland, C.S. and K.M. Ryan, Pain assessment: global use of the Brief Pain Inventory. *Ann Acad Med Singapore*, 1994. 23(2): p. 129-38.

**Figure 2. Flowchart of data collection after inclusion of an eligible survivor.** Abbreviations: HCP = health care provider, PREMS = patient-reported experience measures, PROMS = patient-reported outcome measures, T1 = time point 1, T2 = time point 2, T3 = time point 3, T4 = time point 4, T5 = time point 5. The boxes describe for each time point the timing of data collection, the person providing data (survivor, HCP or both), the data collection instruments (Survivor Questionnaire, Treatment Summary or T1-T5 study questionnaire) and the types of outcomes collected. Depicted in blue is data collected for care, and in purple for research purposes.

<b>PROMs or PREMs: survivors</b>	Premature ovarian insufficiency (females) (d)	Neurocognitive problems: language	Telangiectasias of the eye
Empowerment (HEIQ) <sup>a</sup> (primary outcome)	Testosterone deficiency (males) (d)	Neurocognitive problems: memory	Xerophthalmia
Patient satisfaction (Satisfaction Qx) <sup>b</sup>	TSH deficiency (d)	Neurocognitive problems: motor integration	<b>Feasibility outcomes: survivor</b>
Shared decision-making (SDM-Q-9) <sup>c</sup>	<i>Gastro-intestinal</i>	Neurocognitive problems: processing speed	Received care according to SCP
Resilience (CD-RISC 25) <sup>d</sup>	Bowel obstruction	Psychological distress (q)	Success of communication
HRQoL (EQ-5D-5L, SF-36, ICECAP-A) <sup>e</sup>	Chronic enterocolitis	Stress-related mental disorder	Missing information
Psychological distress (BSI-18) <sup>f</sup>	Gastro-intestinal strictures or fistula	Suicidal ideation (q)	<i>Italian study site only: Use of and satisfaction with SurPass</i>
Post-traumatic stress symptoms (PCL-5) <sup>g</sup>	<i>Hepato-biliary</i>	Unemployment (q)	
Distress (ET) <sup>h</sup>	Cholelithiasis	<i>Renal and urinary tract</i>	<b>Feasibility outcomes: HCP (per clinic)</b>
Fatigue (SQx + PROMIS Fatigue – Short Form 8a +) <sup>ij</sup>	Hepatobiliary dysfunction (d)	Bladder fibrosis	No. of eligible survivors invited
Pain (BPI) <sup>k</sup>	Hepatocellular liver injury (stage 1) (d)	Dysfunctional voiding (q)	No. of participating survivors per time point
Lifestyle (SQx)	Iron overload (d)	Glomerular kidney dysfunction (d)	No. of non-responders
Social functioning (SQx)	Liver cirrhosis	Haemorrhagic cystitis	Reasons for non-response
<b>Clinical outcomes</b>	Liver fibrosis	Hydronephrosis	No. of drop-outs per time point
<i>Auditory</i>	Liver synthetic dysfunction (d)	Tubular kidney dysfunction (d)	Reasons for drop-outs per time point
Hearing loss (d + q)	<i>Immunological</i>	Vesicoureteral reflux	Composition of multidisciplinary team
Tinnitus (q)	Spleen problems (overwhelming infections)	<i>Reproductive</i>	Use of the SCP
<i>Cardiac</i>	<i>Musculoskeletal</i>	Impaired fertility (q)	Reasons for non-use of SCP, if applicable
Arrhythmia (d + q)	Craniofacial growth problems	Impaired spermatogenesis (males) (d + q)	Shared decision making (HCP perspective; SDM-Q-Doc) <sup>f</sup>
Cardiomyopathy (d)	Osteonecrosis	Low birth weight of offspring (females) (q)	Extent to which SCP of participating survivors has been implemented and reasons for deviating
Pericardial disease (d)	Reduced bone mineral density (d)	Miscarriage (females) (q)	<i>Italian study site only: no. of SurPasses delivered, recommendation brochures given and SurPasses shared with physicians, SurPass user statistics</i>
Valvular heart disease (d)	Spine kyphosis	Physical sexual dysfunction (males) (q)	
<i>Dental</i>	Spine scoliosis	Premature birth of offspring (females) (q)	
Dental caries	<i>Neurological</i>	<i>Respiratory</i>	
Dental developmental problems	Cavernomas	Pulmonary dysfunction (d + q)	<b>Health economic outcomes: survivor</b>
Xerostomia (q)	Cerebrovascular accidents	<i>Subsequent neoplasm</i>	Time investment of survivor (preparation for clinic visit, travel, total time in clinic, follow-up appointments)
<i>Dermatologic</i>	Neurogenic bladder	Subsequent neoplasm (benign or malignant) (d + q)	
Alopecia	Neurogenic bowel	<i>Vascular</i>	Time investment of relatives (travel, total time in clinic, follow-up appointments)
<i>Endocrine</i>	Optic chiasm neuropathy	Aneurysms	
ACTH deficiency (d)	Pain (q)	Asymptomatic coronary artery disease	Travel costs of survivor and relatives
Amenorrhea (females) (q)	Peripheral motor neuropathy (q)	Carotid artery disease	Other extra costs for survivor and relatives
Central precocious puberty (d)	Peripheral sensory neuropathy (q)	Dyslipidaemia (d)	Loss of time for survivor and relatives at paid work or in education
Diabetes mellitus (d)	<i>Psychosocial and neurocognitive</i>	Hypertension	
Failure in pubertal progression	Adjustment difficulties	<i>Visual</i>	<b>Health economic outcomes: HCP</b>
Growth hormone deficiency (d)	Anxiety (q)	Cataract	Time investment of HCP and other staff tasks related to clinic visit (preparation, clinic visit, tasks following clinic visit, follow-up call)
Hyperthyroidism (d)	Behavioural problems	Chronic painful eye	
Hypothyroidism (peripheral) (d)	Fatigue (q)	Glaucoma	
Impaired glucose metabolism (d)	Low educational status (q)	Keratitis	Costs for diagnostic and screening tests
LH/FSH deficiency (d)	Neurocognitive problems: academics	Lacrimal duct atrophy	Costs for other consumables for clinic visit
Obesity	Neurocognitive problems: attention	Maculopathy	
Overweight	Neurocognitive problems: executive function	Papillopathy	
Premature menopause (females) (d)	Neurocognitive problems: intelligence	Retinopathy	

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### Appendix A: Recruitment strategy of each study site

Sweden starts with inviting a random sample, prioritising survivors who are lost to follow-up or have not visited the study site in the past five years, and might invite survivors who received care more recently depending on the recruitment rate among the initial population.

Italy starts with inviting survivors who already have a scheduled appointment at their clinic, but who had not already received the Survivorship Passport, and are resident in the Liguria region. They will invite 350 to 400 survivors to be able to include 200 survivors. They will subsequently recruit scheduled survivors resident in other regions, and if the number is still insufficient, they will actively invite other survivors to the clinic.

The Czech Republic starts with selecting a random sample of 250 survivors from the clinic's database whom they will gradually invite over the recruitment period. If more survivors need to be invited to reach the inclusion aim within the recruitment period, they will invite survivors who have a scheduled appointment at their clinic and who meet the study inclusion criteria

Belgium starts to invite, in alphabetical order the survivors of 18 year and older with a primary cancer diagnosis with a date of diagnosis in or before 1990, regardless of whether or not they already received some long-term follow-up. Simultaneously, 20 survivors who were scheduled for a clinic visit in March and April 2021 have also been invited to participate in this study. In the second wave, they will invite the survivors with a diagnosis in 1990-2000 in alphabetic order. And, if needed, the survivors diagnosed in 2001-2020, again in alphabetic order.



SPIRIT 2013 Checklist: Recommended items to address in a clinical trial protocol and related documents\*

Section/item	Item No	Description	Addressed on page number
<b>Administrative information</b>			
Title	1	Descriptive title identifying the study design, population, interventions, and, if applicable, trial acronym	1
Trial registration	2a	Trial identifier and registry name. If not yet registered, name of intended registry	6
	2b	All items from the World Health Organization Trial Registration Data Set	1-25
Protocol version	3	Date and version identifier	8, 17, 18
Funding	4	Sources and types of financial, material, and other support	18
Roles and responsibilities	5a	Names, affiliations, and roles of protocol contributors	1,2
	5b	Name and contact information for the trial sponsor	18
	5c	Role of study sponsor and funders, if any, in study design; collection, management, analysis, and interpretation of data; writing of the report; and the decision to submit the report for publication, including whether they will have ultimate authority over any of these activities	18
	5d	Composition, roles, and responsibilities of the coordinating centre, steering committee, endpoint adjudication committee, data management team, and other individuals or groups overseeing the trial, if applicable (see Item 21a for data monitoring committee)	18, 19

1 **Introduction**

2

3 Background and 6a Description of research question and justification for undertaking the trial, including summary of relevant 7, 8  
4 rationale studies (published and unpublished) examining benefits and harms for each intervention  
5

6 6b Explanation for choice of comparators 8, 11, 12  
7

8 Objectives 7 Specific objectives or hypotheses 8  
9

10 Trial design 8 Description of trial design including type of trial (eg, parallel group, crossover, factorial, single group),  
11 allocation ratio, and framework (eg, superiority, equivalence, noninferiority, exploratory) 9  
12  
13

14 **Methods: Participants, interventions, and outcomes**

15

16 Study setting 9 Description of study settings (eg, community clinic, academic hospital) and list of countries where data will 9  
17 be collected. Reference to where list of study sites can be obtained  
18

19 Eligibility criteria 10 Inclusion and exclusion criteria for participants. If applicable, eligibility criteria for study centres and 9  
20 individuals who will perform the interventions (eg, surgeons, psychotherapists)  
21

22 Interventions 11a Interventions for each group with sufficient detail to allow replication, including how and when they will be 8, 9, 10, ref 29  
23 administered  
24

25 11b Criteria for discontinuing or modifying allocated interventions for a given trial participant (eg, drug dose 10  
26 change in response to harms, participant request, or improving/worsening disease)  
27

28 11c Strategies to improve adherence to intervention protocols, and any procedures for monitoring adherence N/A  
29 (eg, drug tablet return, laboratory tests)  
30

31 11d Relevant concomitant care and interventions that are permitted or prohibited during the trial N/A  
32

33 Outcomes 12 Primary, secondary, and other outcomes, including the specific measurement variable (eg, systolic blood  
34 pressure), analysis metric (eg, change from baseline, final value, time to event), method of aggregation (eg, 11, 12  
35 median, proportion), and time point for each outcome. Explanation of the clinical relevance of chosen  
36 efficacy and harm outcomes is strongly recommended  
37

38 Participant timeline 13 Time schedule of enrolment, interventions (including any run-ins and washouts), assessments, and visits for 10, Fig 2  
39 participants. A schematic diagram is highly recommended (see Figure)  
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1	Sample size	14	Estimated number of participants needed to achieve study objectives and how it was determined, including clinical and statistical assumptions supporting any sample size calculations	9, 10, 13, 14
2				
3				
4	Recruitment	15	Strategies for achieving adequate participant enrolment to reach target sample size	10, 15, App A
5				

## 6 **Methods: Assignment of interventions (for controlled trials)**

### 7 Allocation:

10	Sequence generation	16a	Method of generating the allocation sequence (eg, computer-generated random numbers), and list of any factors for stratification. To reduce predictability of a random sequence, details of any planned restriction (eg, blocking) should be provided in a separate document that is unavailable to those who enrol participants or assign interventions	N/A
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16	Allocation concealment mechanism	16b	Mechanism of implementing the allocation sequence (eg, central telephone; sequentially numbered, opaque, sealed envelopes), describing any steps to conceal the sequence until interventions are assigned	N/A
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20	Implementation	16c	Who will generate the allocation sequence, who will enrol participants, and who will assign participants to interventions	N/A
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24	Blinding (masking)	17a	Who will be blinded after assignment to interventions (eg, trial participants, care providers, outcome assessors, data analysts), and how	N/A
25				
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27		17b	If blinded, circumstances under which unblinding is permissible, and procedure for revealing a participant's allocated intervention during the trial	N/A
28				
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## 31 **Methods: Data collection, management, and analysis**

33	Data collection methods	18a	Plans for assessment and collection of outcome, baseline, and other trial data, including any related processes to promote data quality (eg, duplicate measurements, training of assessors) and a description of study instruments (eg, questionnaires, laboratory tests) along with their reliability and validity, if known. Reference to where data collection forms can be found, if not in the protocol	14
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39		18b	Plans to promote participant retention and complete follow-up, including list of any outcome data to be collected for participants who discontinue or deviate from intervention protocols	10, 15, App A
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1	Data management	19	Plans for data entry, coding, security, and storage, including any related processes to promote data quality (eg, double data entry; range checks for data values). Reference to where details of data management procedures can be found, if not in the protocol	15, 16
2				
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5	Statistical methods	20a	Statistical methods for analysing primary and secondary outcomes. Reference to where other details of the statistical analysis plan can be found, if not in the protocol	14, 15
6				
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8		20b	Methods for any additional analyses (eg, subgroup and adjusted analyses)	14
9				
10		20c	Definition of analysis population relating to protocol non-adherence (eg, as randomised analysis), and any statistical methods to handle missing data (eg, multiple imputation)	14
11				
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14	<b>Methods: Monitoring</b>			
15				
16	Data monitoring	21a	Composition of data monitoring committee (DMC); summary of its role and reporting structure; statement of whether it is independent from the sponsor and competing interests; and reference to where further details about its charter can be found, if not in the protocol. Alternatively, an explanation of why a DMC is not needed	19
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22		21b	Description of any interim analyses and stopping guidelines, including who will have access to these interim results and make the final decision to terminate the trial	N/A
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25	Harms	22	Plans for collecting, assessing, reporting, and managing solicited and spontaneously reported adverse events and other unintended effects of trial interventions or trial conduct	17
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28	Auditing	23	Frequency and procedures for auditing trial conduct, if any, and whether the process will be independent from investigators and the sponsor	19
29				
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32	<b>Ethics and dissemination</b>			
33				
34	Research ethics approval	24	Plans for seeking research ethics committee/institutional review board (REC/IRB) approval	16
35				
36				
37	Protocol amendments	25	Plans for communicating important protocol modifications (eg, changes to eligibility criteria, outcomes, analyses) to relevant parties (eg, investigators, REC/IRBs, trial participants, trial registries, journals, regulators)	18
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1	Consent or assent	26a	Who will obtain informed consent or assent from potential trial participants or authorised surrogates, and how (see Item 32)	10, 16
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4		26b	Additional consent provisions for collection and use of participant data and biological specimens in ancillary studies, if applicable	N/A
5				
6				
7	Confidentiality	27	How personal information about potential and enrolled participants will be collected, shared, and maintained in order to protect confidentiality before, during, and after the trial	15, 16, 19
8				
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10	Declaration of interests	28	Financial and other competing interests for principal investigators for the overall trial and each study site	18
11				
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13	Access to data	29	Statement of who will have access to the final trial dataset, and disclosure of contractual agreements that limit such access for investigators	19
14				
15				
16	Ancillary and post-trial care	30	Provisions, if any, for ancillary and post-trial care, and for compensation to those who suffer harm from trial participation	17
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20	Dissemination policy	31a	Plans for investigators and sponsor to communicate trial results to participants, healthcare professionals, the public, and other relevant groups (eg, via publication, reporting in results databases, or other data sharing arrangements), including any publication restrictions	17
21				
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24		31b	Authorship eligibility guidelines and any intended use of professional writers	19
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26		31c	Plans, if any, for granting public access to the full protocol, participant-level dataset, and statistical code	19
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29	<b>Appendices</b>			
30				
31	Informed consent materials	32	Model consent form and other related documentation given to participants and authorised surrogates	Submitted separately
32				
33				
34	Biological specimens	33	Plans for collection, laboratory evaluation, and storage of biological specimens for genetic or molecular analysis in the current trial and for future use in ancillary studies, if applicable	N/A
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37 \*It is strongly recommended that this checklist be read in conjunction with the SPIRIT 2013 Explanation & Elaboration for important clarification on the items.  
 38 Amendments to the protocol should be tracked and dated. The SPIRIT checklist is copyrighted by the SPIRIT Group under the Creative Commons  
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# BMJ Open

## Evaluating the feasibility, effectiveness and costs of implementing person-centred follow-up care for childhood cancer survivors in four European countries: the PanCareFollowUp Care prospective cohort study protocol

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Keywords:	International health services < HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION & MANAGEMENT, Health economics < HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION & MANAGEMENT, Paediatric oncology < ONCOLOGY, Paediatric oncology < PAEDIATRICS, Organisation of health services < HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION & MANAGEMENT

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Manuscripts

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3 **Evaluating the feasibility, effectiveness and costs of implementing person-centred follow-up care**  
4 **for childhood cancer survivors in four European countries: the PanCareFollowUp Care prospective**  
5 **cohort study protocol**  
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7 cancer survivors: PanCareFollowUp Care  
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16 cohort study; prospective study; multicenter study, cost evaluation  
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23

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25 **Abstract word count:** 297 words  
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30 **Figures:** 3  
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**List of abbreviations:**

FAIR = Findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable

GCP = Good Clinical Practice

HCP(s) = Health care provider(s)  
IGHG = International Late Effects of Childhood Cancer Guideline Harmonization Group

PanCare = Pan-European Network for Care of Survivors after Childhood and Adolescent Cancer

PROM = Patient-reported outcome measure

PREM = Patient-reported experience measure

RE-AIM = Reach, Effectiveness, Adoption, Implementation and Maintenance

SD = Standard deviation

SurPass = Survivorship Passport

T1-5 = Time points 1-5

## Abstract

**Introduction** – Long-term survival after childhood cancer often comes at the expense of late, adverse health conditions. However, survivorship care is often not available for adult survivors in Europe. The PanCareFollowUp Consortium therefore developed the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention, an innovative person-centred survivorship care model based on experiences in the Netherlands. This paper describes the protocol of the prospective cohort study (Care Study) to evaluate the feasibility and the health economic, clinical and patient-reported outcomes of implementing PanCareFollowUp Care as usual care in four European countries.

**Methods and analysis** – In this prospective, longitudinal cohort study with at least six months of follow-up, 800 childhood cancer survivors will receive the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention across four study sites in Belgium, Czech Republic, Italy and Sweden, representing different health care systems. The PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention will be evaluated according to the RE-AIM (Reach, Effectiveness, Adoption, Implementation and Maintenance) framework. Clinical and research data are collected through questionnaires, a clinic visit for multiple medical assessments and a follow-up call. The primary outcome is empowerment, assessed with the Health Education Impact Questionnaire (HEIQ). A central data centre will perform quality checks, data cleaning, data validation, and provide support in data analysis. Multilevel models will be used for repeated outcome measures, with subgroup analysis, e.g. by centre, attained age, sex or diagnosis.

**Ethics and dissemination** - This study will be conducted in accordance with the guidelines of Good Clinical Practice and the Declaration of Helsinki. The study protocol has been reviewed and approved by all relevant ethics committees. The evidence and insights gained by this study will be summarised in a Replication Manual, also including the tools required to implement the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention in other countries. This Replication Manual will become freely available through PanCare and will be disseminated through policy and press releases.

**Trial registration** - NL8918, registered at the Netherlands Trial Register at 24 September 2020, <https://www.trialregister.nl/trial/8918>.



## Article summary

### *Strengths and limitations of this study*

- The PanCareFollowUp Care Study is designed and conducted together with survivor representatives, ensuring the outcome measures are relevant for survivors and that PanCareFollowUp Care meets their needs and expectations.
- We include survivors from four different European countries, representing a variety of health care systems across Europe; and their experiences are used to improve the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention before free distribution of the materials in a Replication Manual.
- The PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention is evaluated in a real life setting with a minimal number of exclusion criteria.
- Since the Care Study has a limited follow-up time, a model-based economic evaluation will complement the analyses.
- Participants are their own controls and effects are evaluated as changes from baseline within an individual or institution.

## Introduction

Over the last decades, five-year survival rates of childhood cancer in Europe have increased substantially, from 30% in the 1970s to 80% in the early 2000s (1). Today, the European population of childhood cancer survivors, estimated at minimally 300,000, is rising by about 12,000 per year (2). Yet, many survivors not only experience the burden of previous cancer diagnosis, but also face treatment-related late effects (3, 4). These may become apparent years or even decades after finishing therapy (5) and might have a significant adverse impact on quality of life (6, 7). Moreover, the transition from paediatric to adult health care settings often lacks continuity. As a result, many adults who survived childhood cancer have increased health care use and experience problems in participation, which generate a substantial burden for survivors and societies in general (8-10). Early detection of new health conditions is essential as it could prevent further harm (11). This requires lifelong survivorship care with frequent adaptations of the follow-up plan.

Currently, only one third of European paediatric oncology clinics provide survivorship care to adult survivors of childhood cancer (12). In 2006, an international group of paediatric oncologists, psychologists, nurses, epidemiologists, survivors and their parents agreed in the Erice statement that has recently been updated and reconfirmed (13, 14) that follow-up care should be available and accessible for all survivors throughout their lifespan.

In the past decade, international evidence-based clinical practice guidelines have been developed to support early detection and treatment of (a)symptomatic late effects, including those developed by the International Late Effects of Childhood Cancer Guideline Harmonization Group (IGHG), sometimes in collaboration with the PanCareSurFup project (15-23). A European model of care guideline is published and guidelines for the transition from childhood to adult health care settings and health promotion are currently being developed (24, 25). Yet, implementation lags behind. Recently, a person-centred approach for survivorship care for adult survivors has been implemented in Nijmegen, the Netherlands (26). All Dutch survivors of childhood cancer are invited for follow-up care by a long-term follow-up care clinic, in which multidisciplinary teams deliver person-centred care based on contemporary surveillance guidelines (27). The first positive effects of this person-centred approach have been reported (24, 26). The next step is to validate this person-centred approach for survivorship care in other countries.

The PanCareFollowUp Consortium, established in 2018, is a unique multidisciplinary European collaboration between 14 project partners from 10 European countries, including survivors ([www.pancarefollowup.eu](http://www.pancarefollowup.eu)) (28). The aim of the consortium is to improve the quality of life for

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3 survivors of childhood, adolescent and young adult cancer by bringing evidence-based, person-  
4 centred care to clinical practice. The PanCareFollowUp Consortium has developed two  
5 interventions: 1) a person-centred and guideline-based model of survivorship care  
6 (PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention) (see Box 1) (29) and 2) an eHealth lifestyle coaching model  
7 (PanCareFollowUp Lifestyle Intervention). The protocol of the first intervention is described in this  
8 paper (version 3, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021), the protocol of the second one will be described separately.  
9 Both will be evaluated within the PanCareFollowUp project. The consortium published a Care  
10 Intervention Manual that contains instructions and tools required for implementing the  
11 PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention. At the project end, Replication Manuals that contain the  
12 instructions and tools required for implementation of the PanCareFollowUp Interventions will be  
13 freely distributed.  
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23 The overall aim of the PanCareFollowUp Care Study is to evaluate the feasibility, effectiveness and  
24 costs of implementing PanCareFollowUp Care as usual care for adult survivors of childhood cancer in  
25 four study sites in four European countries. Four objectives have been formulated: 1) To what extent  
26 is implementing PanCareFollowUp Care in the participating study sites feasible?; 2) What are the  
27 patient-reported experiences and outcomes, including survivor empowerment, of PanCareFollowUp  
28 Care and how do they change?; 3) What is the number and nature of pre-existing and new clinical  
29 events detected by PanCareFollowUp Care among participating survivors?; and 4) What are the  
30 short-term (six months) and projected long-term costs per unit change of empowerment and other  
31 outcomes after implementing PanCareFollowUp Care from the perspective of survivors and health  
32 care providers (HCPs)?  
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#### 40 **Box 1: The PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention**

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43 The PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention is based on a person-centred care model (26) that aims to  
44 meet the physical, psychological and social needs of (adult) survivors of childhood cancer through  
45 shared decision-making about prevention, surveillance and treatment options. The Care  
46 Intervention consists of three steps:  
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51 a) *Preparation of the clinic visit by both the survivor and the health care provider (HCP).* The  
52 survivor provides information about their health, wellbeing, needs and preferences by  
53 completing the PanCareFollowUp Survivor Questionnaire. The HCP prepares a Treatment  
54 Summary describing the childhood cancer treatment that the survivor has received, reviews  
55 the relevant surveillance recommendations and the PanCareFollowUp Survivor  
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Questionnaire provided by the survivor, and thereupon prepares the Standard Survivorship Care Plan.

- b) *Clinic visit including tailored follow-up care.* After obtaining a medical history and performing a physical examination, the survivor and HCP jointly discuss the results of the Survivor Questionnaire, and the Standard Survivorship Care Plan. Together, they agree on a plan for diagnostic tests and potential referral if needed, based on surveillance guidelines or clinical indication. Based on these shared decisions, as well as potential test results, the HCP creates a Draft Individualised Survivorship Care Plan and provides tailored health education.
- c) *Follow-up call.* The survivor and HCP discuss the test results and the preferred model of care for future follow-up care. The results of these shared decisions are incorporated in the final Individualised Survivorship Care Plan, that the survivor may share with other HCPs.

The PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention ends after co-creation and delivery of the Individualised Survivorship Care Plan. Survivors will thereafter remain under surveillance either at or under the guidance of their clinic, frequently adjusting their Individualised Survivorship Care Plan when needed.

## Methods and analysis

### *Study population, setting and recruitment*

Survivors fulfil the inclusion criteria if they are or have been: diagnosed with cancer before the age of 19 years; treated or registered at one of the four study sites; treated with chemotherapy and/or radiation therapy for childhood cancer with or without surgery; at least five years from primary cancer diagnosis; at least one year off treatment (also applying to treatment of subsequent benign or malignant neoplasms or relapse of the primary cancer); and currently at least 16 years of age.

Exclusion criteria consist of: being unable to complete the study questionnaires because of severe neurocognitive sequelae or insufficient understanding of the language used (even with help from another person); or having previously received complete follow-up care that is similar to the care as described in the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention Manual (Box 1).

This international prospective cohort study will be conducted at four study sites located in four European countries: Belgium, Czech Republic, Italy, and Sweden. All sites currently provide long-term follow-up care, either within a paediatric (Belgium, Italy) or adult (Czech Republic, Sweden) oncology centre, using a set of (inter)national guidelines and protocols. Each study site aims to

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3 include 200 survivors who complete the study. With an estimated non-response and early drop-out  
4 (informed consent signed, but no actual participation in the study) of 40 to 50% based on previous  
5 experience and an estimated late drop-out (at any point after completing the T1 questionnaire) of 5-  
6 10% during the study, approximately 350 to 400 survivors will therefore be invited at each site. To  
7 assess the feasibility of this recruitment strategy, each centre screened their respective registries  
8 and estimated a total of 5,944 eligible survivors.  
9

10 Each study site developed a recruitment strategy within the prerequisites of this study, that fits best  
11 within their own logistics (Appendix A). Selected survivors will be invited by an invitation letter, an  
12 invitation e-mail or by phone (depending on the usual procedure at each study site), and receive an  
13 information sheet, including contact details for additional information, and an informed consent  
14 form. Reasons for non-participation can be provided. One option of the pre-set reasons is 'not  
15 participating because the questionnaires are being provided via internet'. In this case, the study site  
16 may decide to offer the option for paper questionnaires. Survivors who give informed consent but  
17 do not respond to the first questionnaire, even after reminders, are considered early drop-outs and  
18 will be excluded from the study, as essential data about these survivors will not be available. The  
19 first participant was enrolled in February 2021, and at 1 March 2022 456 participants were enrolled  
20 and completed the clinic visit. The estimated last inclusion is on 30 September 2022, with last data  
21 collection 31 May 2023.  
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23 Participating survivors can withdraw from the study at any time if they wish. They are not obliged to  
24 provide a reason for withdrawal, although it will be asked and recorded if available. To assess  
25 representativeness of the final study sample, the four centres will provide aggregated data about  
26 their total eligible population of survivors including population distributions of gender, current age,  
27 age at diagnosis, type of cancer and distance to the late effects clinic. This will be compared to the  
28 distributions among the included survivors per clinic.  
29

30 During recruitment and data collection, careful monitoring of enrolment, (non-)response, reasons  
31 for non-response and early and late drop-out will be performed by the four study sites in close  
32 collaboration with the central data centre at the Danish Cancer Society Research Centre.  
33

### 34 *Intervention*

35 Survivors of childhood cancer who receive PanCareFollowUp Care (i.e., care in accordance with the  
36 PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention Manual and as outlined in Box 1) will be followed up until six  
37 months after the clinic visit. The implementation of person-centred care in this project is facilitated  
38 by a narrated Powerpoint and an on-site workshop for all HCPs involved in the study. An add-on  
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3 study investigating the feasibility of delivering PanCareFollowUp Care using the digital Survivorship  
4 Passport (SurPass) tool (30) will be conducted at the Italian clinic, where SurPass is already  
5 implemented.  
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### 8 9 *Primary and secondary outcomes*

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11 This study uses a variety of outcomes to answer the four research objectives (Figure 1). These are  
12 measured from time point 1 (T1) before the clinic visit until T5 at six months after the clinic visit  
13 (Figure 2). Outcomes are provided by survivors and HCPs through questionnaires, a clinic visit and  
14 diagnostic tests.  
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#### 18 19 *1) To what extent is implementing PanCareFollowUp Care in the participating study sites feasible?*

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21 Feasibility of implementation is of major importance to ensure sustainability of the  
22 PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention. Therefore, feasibility indicators measured by questionnaires  
23 among survivors and HCPs as well as an evaluation of barriers and facilitators are included to inform  
24 about the experiences of implementing PanCareFollowUp Care (Figure 2). Items include, among  
25 others, drop-outs at different time-points, use of and experiences with the Survivorship Care Plan,  
26 and shared-decision making (Figure 1).  
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#### 32 33 *2) What are the experiences and outcomes as reported by participating survivors receiving 34 PanCareFollowUp Care?*

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36 The primary outcome for this study is empowerment measured by the Health Education Impact  
37 Questionnaire (HEIQ) (31). Empowerment has been defined by the EU Joint Action on Patient Safety  
38 and Quality of Care as a 'multidimensional process that helps people gain control over their own  
39 lives and increase their capacity to act on issues that they themselves define as important', a  
40 definition adapted from Lutrell et al. (32, 33). Empowerment has been selected as the primary  
41 outcome because childhood cancer survivors encounter several transition moments starting from  
42 diagnosis, after which a greater responsibility for their own health and care is required. It is essential  
43 that survivors receive the support they need to manage and advocate for their needs. Moreover,  
44 empowerment is important to manage future health problems. We have included six of the eight  
45 scales of the HEIQ relevant to cancer survivors in our study (Social integration and support, Health  
46 service navigation, Constructive attitudes and approaches, Skill and technique acquisition, Emotional  
47 distress, Self-Monitoring and insight). The HEIQ has previously been used in cancer patient and  
48 survivor populations (34-36). It allows to calculate a mean for each scale indicating higher or lower  
49 empowerment in the respective domain within a participant compared to the baseline assessment.  
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3 Secondary outcomes consist of a variety of patient-reported experiences and outcomes (PREMs and  
4 PROMs), such as satisfaction and quality of life (Figure 1).  
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7 *3) What is the number and nature of pre-existing and new clinical events detected by*  
8 *PanCareFollowUp Care among participating survivors?*  
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11 Clinical outcomes are outcomes of symptoms and diseases and have been defined based on  
12 published or almost published guidelines of the IGHG and the PanCareFollowUp Recommendations.  
13 A total of 116 clinical outcomes were defined, which reflects the wide range of late effects that  
14 survivors may encounter affecting both physical health and psychosocial wellbeing (Figure 1). Clinical  
15 outcomes include past and current medical history, are collected through survivor self-report in the  
16 Survivor Questionnaire (with verification at the clinic visit), and physician-report in the Treatment  
17 Summary, after the clinic visit and after potential diagnostic tests (Figure 2). The number and range  
18 of pre-existing and newly detected health problems (symptomatic and asymptomatic) per survivor  
19 will be described, including the results of clinical examinations (e.g. echocardiogram or blood tests).  
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27 *4) What are the short-term (six months) and projected long-term costs per unit change of*  
28 *empowerment and other outcomes after implementing PanCareFollowUp Care from the perspective*  
29 *of survivors and HCPs?*  
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33 The costs associated with implementing the care model will be determined by using health  
34 economic outcomes (Figure 1). These reflect the time, time off work and monetary investments  
35 made by the survivor, accompanying relatives or friends, the HCP and other staff in relation to the  
36 clinic visit while receiving or providing PanCareFollowUp Care, and are collected using  
37 questionnaires (Figure 2). We do not take costs outside the clinic visit into account, i.e., costs related  
38 to possible (follow-up) primary care physician visits, mental health services, or referrals to other  
39 specialists outside the clinical setting. Costs related to the clinic visit, as associated with  
40 PanCareFollowUp Care, are compared to potential benefits measured in terms of PREMs and  
41 PROMs.  
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49 An overall evaluation of implementing the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention will be performed  
50 throughout the project according to the RE-AIM (Reach, Effectiveness, Adoption, Implementation  
51 and Maintenance) framework to assess the impact ([www.re-aim.org](http://www.re-aim.org)) (37) (Table 1).  
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55 **Table 1. RE-AIM framework applied to the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention.**  
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Components	Related outcomes/actions in the Care Study
Reach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="596 1995 1294 2024">• No. and proportion of participants vs. non-responders</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Representativeness of participating survivors<sup>a</sup> (comparison of distribution: gender, current age, age at diagnosis and type of cancer)</li> <li>• Reasons for (non-)participation</li> </ul>
Effectiveness/efficacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Main outcome empowerment<sup>a</sup></li> <li>• Patient-reported outcome and experience measures, and clinical, feasibility and health economic outcomes<sup>a</sup></li> </ul>
Adoption <sup>b</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multidisciplinary of HCPs involved</li> <li>• Recruitment rate</li> <li>• Barriers and facilitators for recruitment</li> </ul>
Implementation <sup>b</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of SCP and reasons for non-use</li> <li>• Adaptations made to the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention or implementation strategy</li> <li>• Time and costs of PanCareFollowUp Care for survivors and HCPs</li> <li>• Barriers and facilitators for implementation</li> </ul>
Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replication Manual including updated implementation and recruitment strategy, publicly available for current and new centres</li> <li>• Overview of requirements for study sites to make the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention routine care</li> </ul>

Abbreviations: HCPs = health care providers, SCP = Survivorship Care Plan. <sup>a</sup> Comparisons will be made according to subgroups of gender, current age, age at diagnosis and type of cancer. <sup>b</sup> This information will be collected at each study site separately.

#### *Patient and public involvement*

Survivor representatives from Childhood Cancer International-Europe are included in the project as members of the PanCareFollowUp Consortium (28). They are involved throughout the project and reach out to their respective national and international networks when needed. Survivors were involved in setting the research agenda by writing the grant application and the study protocol, developing and reviewing the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention materials, evaluating the study questionnaires, monitoring the progress of the PanCareFollowUp Care Study and creating awareness on social media (29). They helped consider ways to mitigate the burden of completing the study questionnaires or remembering the childhood cancer history for participants. After the end of data



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3 collection, survivor representatives will be involved in the interpretation of the study results and  
4 dissemination to participants, survivor networks and the general public.  
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#### 6 7 *Power calculation* 8

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10 We aim to include 200 participants at each of the four study sites (total n=800). The primary  
11 outcome measure is change in empowerment between T1 and T5 as measured by the HEIQ (34). We  
12 use six constructs (cancer version including five constructs plus one additional construct, namely  
13 self-monitoring and insight) with mean scores ranging from 2.9 (standard deviation (SD): 0.64) to 3.2  
14 (SD: 0.48). Taking the construct with the largest SD (thus needing the highest number of participants  
15 to demonstrate a statistically significant change), limiting it to a single study site, with a 2-sided  $\alpha$  of  
16 0.05, a power of 80%, we will need 200 participants to identify an effect size of 0.2 given a mean  
17 score of 2.9 (SD: 0.64). That is enough power to demonstrate a small to medium effect. The actual  
18 power is larger since we ignored measuring empowerment repeatedly, having four centres (800  
19 patients instead of 200) and using constructs with smaller SDs.  
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#### 27 *Data collection* 28

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30 Data will be collected from participating survivors as well as from their HCPs at five time points (T1-  
31 T5) during a follow-up period of six to eight months (Figure 2). We will use data collected in the  
32 context of care delivery, and combine it with additional data collected specifically for research  
33 purposes. For the latter, there are three data collection moments for survivors and four for HCPs.  
34 These time points are linked to the structure of the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention, which  
35 consists of three steps: 1) Preparation of the clinic visit by survivor and HCP (corresponding with T1),  
36 2) Clinic visit (corresponding with T2), and 3) Follow-up call (two to four weeks after T2,  
37 corresponding with T3). Thereafter, there is data collection at 1 week after the follow-up call (T4)  
38 and 6 months after the clinic visit (T5).  
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46 The main data collection instruments consist of the PanCareFollowUp Survivor Questionnaire (care),  
47 the Treatment Summary (care), medical history, physical examinations and diagnostic tests during  
48 and after the clinic visit (care), and additional online study questionnaires for survivors and HCPs  
49 (research). The Survivor Questionnaire and Treatment Summary are available through open access  
50 (29). The English versions of the study questionnaires for survivors have been pretested by three  
51 survivors, whereas the English questionnaires for HCPs have been pretested with at least two HCPs  
52 in each centre before the start of the data collection. The questionnaires for survivors have  
53 subsequently been translated to the local languages of the study sites, i.e. Czech, Dutch, Italian and  
54 Swedish.  
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### *Statistical analysis*

For analysing outcomes measured multiple times, like the primary outcome, we will analyse multilevel models for repeated measures applying a fixed effect to control for study site. Next, we will perform subgroup analyses for relevant groups by including interaction terms. These subgroups will be identified based on the literature combined with knowledge from professionals. The final selection will be determined during the study. However, possible subgroups may be distinguished according to study site, sex, time since cancer diagnosis, treatment type, or distance to late effects clinic. The models will be adjusted for confounders, which will be identified during the study based on the literature and expert opinion. Clinical findings will be described at each time point, like the number of prevalent conditions as well as new diseases detected, diagnoses of sub-clinical diseases, relapse of the original tumour, late effects and diagnostic measurements. The results will be adjusted for multiple testing.

For the health economic evaluation, we will calculate the costs associated with the implementation of the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention in order to achieve change in different outcomes. The analysis of costs and benefits will be based on within-subject changes until six months of follow-up, and on model-based evaluations for longer-term predictions. The estimated benefits of the intervention are measured in terms of empowerment (HEIQ) and quality of life (Short-Form 36 (SF-36), EQ-5D-5L, ICEpop CAPability measure for Adults (ICECAP-A)). Costs include resources incurred at the level of the hospital and the survivor. At the hospital level, we measure the time of physicians and other hospital staff for tasks related to the clinic visit and the follow-up call, costs for diagnostic and screening tests and other consumables for the clinic visit. At the survivor level, we measure the time investment and travel costs of survivors and relatives or friends, and loss of productive time at the workplace or in education. These costs are investigated separately on each level, hospital and survivor, as well as on an aggregated level.

The calculation of cost per unit change of outcomes needs to be interpreted in light of the relatively short follow-up period of six months within the study. This implies that the cost evaluation mainly focuses on short-run effects, while longer-run effects of PanCareFollowUp Care on outcomes such as survival cannot be measured within the study. Moreover, effects on other outcomes such as quality of life may be small. In order to provide information about the potential medium- to long-run effects, we will complement our analysis with a model-based economic evaluation approach using data from this study as well as information from the literature on longer-term effects of follow-up interventions and patient pathways, as well as related cost estimations. This will allow us to gain a

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3 more comprehensive picture on the costs associated with the implementation of PanCareFollowUp  
4 Care.  
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#### 6 7 *Handling missing data*

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9 Automated reminders and phone calls by the clinics are used to ensure that all patients and HCPs  
10 complete all questionnaires to minimise the number of missing data. In case of missing data for  
11 certain PROMs and PREMs, we will replace missing values with the mean of the remaining items of  
12 the scale as recommended by the manuals. In case of other missing data, we will perform sensitivity  
13 analyses, i.e. perform the analyses with the complete cases and repeat the analyses with imputed  
14 values.  
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#### 20 21 *Data management*

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23 A cloud-based Electronic Data Capture platform has been developed by the Danish Cancer Society  
24 using Castor EDC ([www.castoredc.com](http://www.castoredc.com)). This platform can be accessed by each of the four study  
25 sites for data entry. Castor EDC is compliant with all the important regulations regarding research:  
26 GDPR, ISO 27001 & ISO 9001 with servers located in the Netherlands including several measures to  
27 ensure security, adequacy and veracity of the collected data: regular back-ups (four times per day);  
28 personal accounts with individual user rights; audit, data and edit trail of all entered and changed  
29 data; and real-time edit checks to identify discrepancies in entered data.  
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36 Participating survivors complete their questionnaires directly in Castor EDC through a personalised  
37 link they receive by e-mail. Clinical data will be provided by HCPs or retrieved from survivors'  
38 medical records and entered into Castor EDC by local data managers according to a data entry  
39 instruction manual. All personal and sensitive data collected in the PanCareFollowUp project will be  
40 pseudonymised.  
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45 After the end of the data collection period, data will be exported from Castor to servers at the  
46 Danish Cancer Society. Experienced data managers will perform quality checks, data cleaning, and  
47 validation of data collected at the four sites and will set up data for the respective statistical analyses  
48 as subsets of the main database, governed by Data Transfer Agreements. The investigators will  
49 properly address all the ethical, legal, and safety aspects of the study and comply fully with EU  
50 Regulation 2016/679 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal  
51 data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data  
52 Protection Regulation).  
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#### 59 **Ethics and dissemination**

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3 This study will be conducted in accordance with the guidelines of Good Clinical Practice by the  
4 International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human  
5 Use and the Declaration of Helsinki, written to protect those involved in clinical studies. The study  
6 protocol has been reviewed and approved by all relevant ethics committees: Brno, Ethics Committee  
7 of St. Anne's University Hospital (13 August 2019); Leuven, Ethics Committee Research University  
8 Hospitals Leuven (16 December 2020); Stockholm, Ethics Review Authority Stockholm (26 October  
9 2020); Genoa, N. Liguria Regional Ethics Committee (13 July 2020).

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16 Written informed consent will be obtained from all study participants before enrolment and data  
17 collection. An independent ethics advisor from Denmark is available to provide feedback and advice  
18 on ethics issues that may arise. An external study steering committee has been appointed to act as  
19 an advisory capacity with study oversight and external advice. The committee includes a survivor  
20 representative, a clinical oncologist, a late effects specialist, an ethicist and a statistician.

24  
25 Incidental findings based on participants' completion of the questionnaires are unlikely given the  
26 nature of the questions, except for one question of the Brief Symptom Inventory-18 on suicidal  
27 thoughts. The central data centre and the four study sites will regularly check for any positive answers  
28 on this specific question, and inform the HCP as soon as possible, but within a maximum of two weeks.  
29 Worrisome answers at the pre-visit questionnaire will be discussed at the clinic visit. In the post-visit  
30 questionnaires, the survivor is informed that he or she can contact their general physician or late  
31 effects clinic in case of worrisome symptoms or complaints.

36  
37 After the project, a Replication Manual will be developed for anyone interested in implementing the  
38 PanCareFollowUp Care for adult survivors of childhood cancer. It will include an updated  
39 Intervention Manual based on the Care Study results and additional focus groups with project  
40 stakeholders after the study closes. The Replication Manual will include all materials required for  
41 implementation in different languages and will become freely available through PanCare.

45  
46 PanCareFollowUp is aligned with EC Open Science Initiative, providing open access to all  
47 publications, and participates in the H2020 Open Research Data Pilot. The PanCareFollowUp  
48 Consortium will ensure that the collected data is findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable  
49 (FAIR). A dissemination plan including policy and press releases has been created warranting  
50 publications and lay language summaries on the different outcomes collected, to be distributed  
51 through the networks of PanCare and several (inter)national childhood cancer organisations. In  
52 addition, results will be published in peer-reviewed journals and presented on the project website.

## 58 **Disclaimer**

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3 The material presented and views expressed here are the responsibility of the author(s) only. The EU  
4 Commission takes no responsibility for any use made of the information set out (Figure 3).  
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7 [Insert Figure 3 – EU Emblem]  
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## 10 **Declarations**

### 11 *Protocol date and identifier*

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14  
15 March 9<sup>th</sup> 2020, first version.

16  
17 May 19<sup>th</sup> 2020, second version (adjustment in the paragraph about local data storage and transfer to  
18 central database).  
19

20  
21 January 21<sup>st</sup> 2021, third version (adjustment in the paragraph about data controllership and data  
22 processorship).  
23

### 24 *Protocol amendments*

25  
26  
27  
28 Protocol amendments, if any, will need to be approved by all investigators and are available upon  
29 request.  
30

### 31 *Consent for publication*

32  
33  
34  
35 Not applicable.

### 36 *Availability of data and materials*

37  
38  
39  
40 Not applicable.

### 41 *Competing interests*

42  
43  
44  
45 The authors declare that they have no competing interests.  
46

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53 had no role in the design of the study; in the collection, management, analysis and interpretation of  
54 data; in writing of the report; or in the decision to submit the report for publication.  
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### 58 *Primary sponsor*

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22 *Data monitoring committee*

23  
24  
25 Not applicable, since this intervention is care as usual.  
26

27 *Auditing*

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29  
30 Not applicable, since this intervention is care as usual.  
31

32 *Access to data*

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34  
35 During the conduct of the Care Study, the study sponsor (Princess Máxima Center for Pediatric  
36 Oncology) will act as data controller, whereas the study sites are each joint controllers of the data  
37 collected at their own study site, and the Danish Cancer Society will act as data processor. Access to  
38 the data is regulated by a Data Processing Agreement between the Princess Máxima Center for  
39 Pediatric Oncology and the Danish Cancer Society, and by Study Site Agreements between the Princess  
40 Máxima Center for Pediatric Oncology and each of the four study sites. A Data Transfer Agreement  
41 between the Princess Máxima Center and specific project partners will govern the transfer of data for  
42 purposes of analysis after data collection has been completed.  
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49 *Individual participant-level data (IPD) sharing*

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52 Public access to the full protocol, participant-level dataset and statistical code will be granted upon  
53 request, provided that their use is in agreement with the individual informed consent forms and  
54 contractual project agreements.  
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57 *Author contributions*  
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3 RK, JK, MR and LK contributed to the conception and design of the work and drafted and substantially  
4 revised the manuscript. RH, MM, TK, KK, AB, SB, LEF, SE, JFW, RH, AK, JL, GM, RM, KO, HP, SP, KR, RS,  
5 MR, AU, CF and LH contributed to the conception and design of the work and critically revised the  
6 manuscript. All authors read and approved of the final manuscript.  
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## Figure legends

**Figure 1. Overview of all patient-reported outcome measures (PROMs) and experience measures (PREMs), clinical outcomes, feasibility outcomes and health economic outcomes used in the Care Study.** Outcomes that are specific for males or females are indicated as such between brackets. For the clinical outcomes, it is indicated whether they are assessed through a diagnostic test according to the guidelines (d), Survivor Questionnaire (q), or both (d+q). Other clinical outcomes are assessed through medical history and/or physical examination. Abbreviations: BPI = Brief Pain Inventory, BSI-18 = Brief Symptom Inventory-18, CD-RISC 25 = Connor-Davidson Resilience Scale (25 items), ET = Emotion Thermometer, HCP = health care provider, HEIQ = health education impact questionnaire, HRQoL = health-related quality of life, ICECAP-A = ICEpop CAPability measure for Adults, LH/FSH = luteinising hormone/follicle-stimulating hormone, PROMIS = Patient-Reported Outcomes Measurement Information System, PCL-5 = PTSD Checklist for DSM-5, QoL = quality of life, Satisfaction Qx = Satisfaction questionnaire by Blaauwbroek et al, SCP = Survivorship Care Plan, SDM-Q-9 = 9-item shared decision-making questionnaire (patient perspective), SF-36 = Short Form-36 (36 items, version 1), SQx = Survivor Questionnaire (part of the PanCareFollowUp Care Intervention), TSH = thyroid-stimulating hormone, SDM-Q-Doc = 9-item Shared Decision-Making Questionnaire (HCP perspective).

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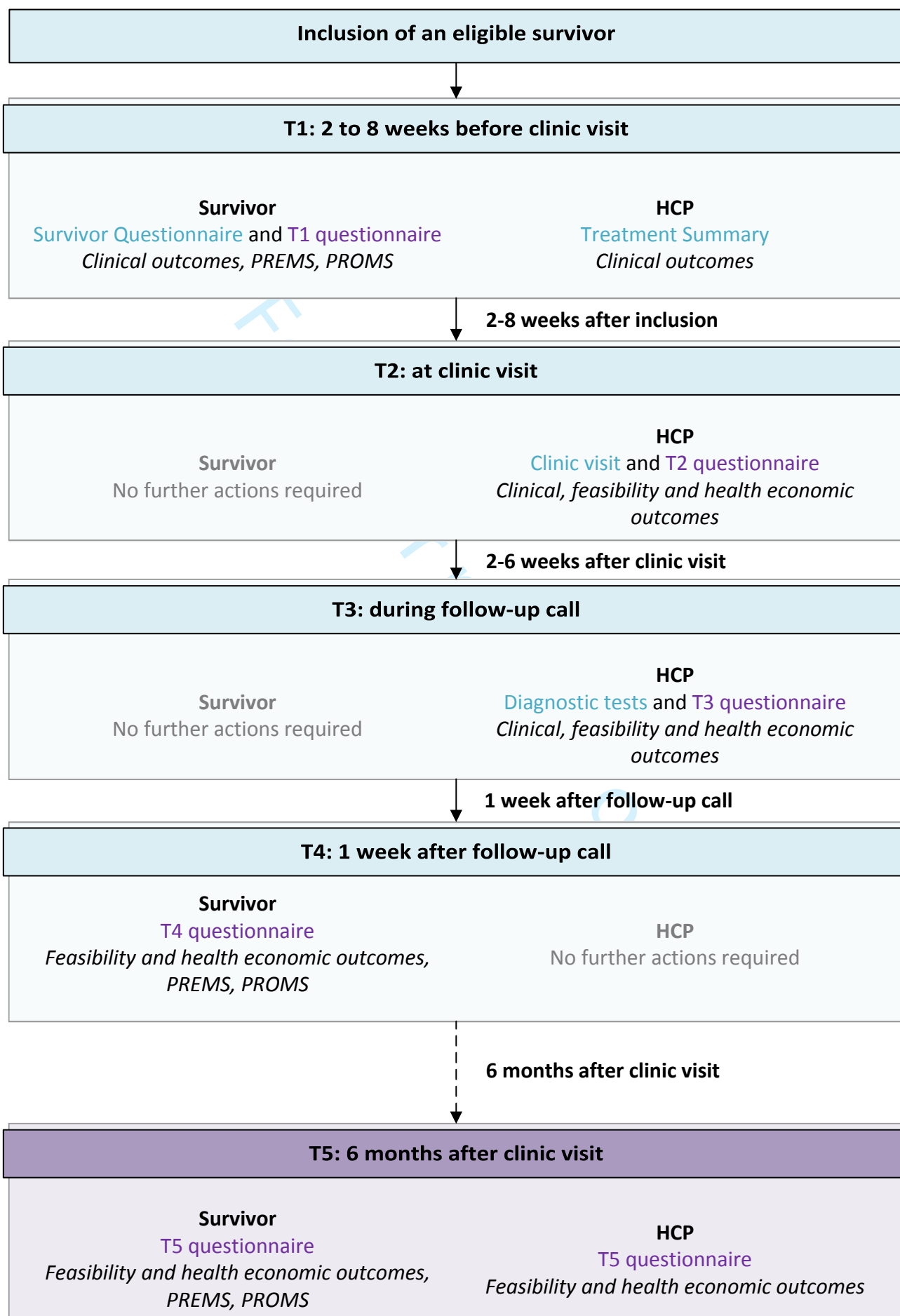
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**Figure 2. Flowchart of data collection after inclusion of an eligible survivor.** Abbreviations: HCP = health care provider, PREMS = patient-reported experience measures, PROMS = patient-reported outcome measures, T1 = time point 1, T2 = time point 2, T3 = time point 3, T4 = time point 4, T5 = time point 5. The boxes describe for each time point the timing of data collection, the person providing data (survivor, HCP or both), the data collection instruments (Survivor Questionnaire, Treatment Summary or T1-T5 study questionnaire) and the types of outcomes collected. Depicted in blue is data collected for care, and in purple for research purposes.

**Figure 3: EU Emblem**

<b>PROMs or PREMs: survivors</b>	Premature ovarian insufficiency (females) (d)	Neurocognitive problems: language	Telangiectasias of the eye
Empowerment (HEIQ) <sup>a</sup> (primary outcome)	Testosterone deficiency (males) (d)	Neurocognitive problems: memory	Xerophthalmia
Patient satisfaction (Satisfaction Qx) <sup>b</sup>	TSH deficiency (d)	Neurocognitive problems: motor integration	<b>Feasibility outcomes: survivor</b>
Shared decision-making (SDM-Q-9) <sup>c</sup>	<i>Gastro-intestinal</i>	Neurocognitive problems: processing speed	Received care according to SCP
Resilience (CD-RISC 25) <sup>d</sup>	Bowel obstruction	Psychological distress (q)	Success of communication
HRQoL (EQ-5D-5L, SF-36, ICECAP-A) <sup>e</sup>	Chronic enterocolitis	Stress-related mental disorder	Missing information
Psychological distress (BSI-18) <sup>f</sup>	Gastro-intestinal strictures or fistula	Suicidal ideation (q)	<i>Italian study site only: Use of and satisfaction with SurPass</i>
Post-traumatic stress symptoms (PCL-5) <sup>g</sup>	<i>Hepato-biliary</i>	Unemployment (q)	
Distress (ET) <sup>h</sup>	Cholelithiasis	<i>Renal and urinary tract</i>	<b>Feasibility outcomes: HCP (per clinic)</b>
Fatigue (SQx + PROMIS Fatigue – Short Form 8a +) <sup>ij</sup>	Hepatobiliary dysfunction (d)	Bladder fibrosis	No. of eligible survivors invited
Pain (BPI) <sup>k</sup>	Hepatocellular liver injury (stage 1) (d)	Dysfunctional voiding (q)	No. of participating survivors per time point
Lifestyle (SQx)	Iron overload (d)	Glomerular kidney dysfunction (d)	No. of non-responders
Social functioning (SQx)	Liver cirrhosis	Haemorrhagic cystitis	Reasons for non-response
<b>Clinical outcomes</b>	Liver fibrosis	Hydronephrosis	No. of drop-outs per time point
<i>Auditory</i>	Liver synthetic dysfunction (d)	Tubular kidney dysfunction (d)	Reasons for drop-outs per time point
Hearing loss (d + q)	<i>Immunological</i>	Vesicoureteral reflux	Composition of multidisciplinary team
Tinnitus (q)	Spleen problems (overwhelming infections)	<i>Reproductive</i>	Use of the SCP
<i>Cardiac</i>	<i>Musculoskeletal</i>	Impaired fertility (q)	Reasons for non-use of SCP, if applicable
Arrhythmia (d + q)	Craniofacial growth problems	Impaired spermatogenesis (males) (d + q)	Shared decision making (HCP perspective; SDM-Q-Doc) <sup>f</sup>
Cardiomyopathy (d)	Osteonecrosis	Low birth weight of offspring (females) (q)	Extent to which SCP of participating survivors has been implemented and reasons for deviating
Pericardial disease (d)	Reduced bone mineral density (d)	Miscarriage (females) (q)	<i>Italian study site only: no. of SurPasses delivered, recommendation brochures given and SurPasses shared with physicians, SurPass user statistics</i>
Valvular heart disease (d)	Spine kyphosis	Physical sexual dysfunction (males) (q)	
<i>Dental</i>	Spine scoliosis	Premature birth of offspring (females) (q)	
Dental caries	<i>Neurological</i>	<i>Respiratory</i>	
Dental developmental problems	Cavernomas	Pulmonary dysfunction (d + q)	<b>Health economic outcomes: survivor</b>
Xerostomia (q)	Cerebrovascular accidents	<i>Subsequent neoplasm</i>	Time investment of survivor (preparation for clinic visit, travel, total time in clinic, follow-up appointments)
<i>Dermatologic</i>	Neurogenic bladder	Subsequent neoplasm (benign or malignant) (d + q)	
Alopecia	Neurogenic bowel	<i>Vascular</i>	Time investment of relatives (travel, total time in clinic, follow-up appointments)
<i>Endocrine</i>	Optic chiasm neuropathy	Aneurysms	
ACTH deficiency (d)	Pain (q)	Asymptomatic coronary artery disease	Travel costs of survivor and relatives
Amenorrhea (females) (q)	Peripheral motor neuropathy (q)	Carotid artery disease	Other extra costs for survivor and relatives
Central precocious puberty (d)	Peripheral sensory neuropathy (q)	Dyslipidaemia (d)	Loss of time for survivor and relatives at paid work or in education
Diabetes mellitus (d)	<i>Psychosocial and neurocognitive</i>	Hypertension	
Failure in pubertal progression	Adjustment difficulties	<i>Visual</i>	<b>Health economic outcomes: HCP</b>
Growth hormone deficiency (d)	Anxiety (q)	Cataract	Time investment of HCP and other staff tasks related to clinic visit (preparation, clinic visit, tasks following clinic visit, follow-up call)
Hyperthyroidism (d)	Behavioural problems	Chronic painful eye	
Hypothyroidism (peripheral) (d)	Fatigue (q)	Glaucoma	
Impaired glucose metabolism (d)	Low educational status (q)	Keratitis	Costs for diagnostic and screening tests
LH/FSH deficiency (d)	Neurocognitive problems: academics	Lacrimal duct atrophy	Costs for other consumables for clinic visit
Obesity	Neurocognitive problems: attention	Maculopathy	
Overweight	Neurocognitive problems: executive function	Papillopathy	
Premature menopause (females) (d)	Neurocognitive problems: intelligence	Retinopathy	



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### Appendix A: Recruitment strategy of each study site

Sweden starts with inviting a random sample, prioritising survivors who are lost to follow-up or have not visited the study site in the past five years, and might invite survivors who received care more recently depending on the recruitment rate among the initial population.

Italy starts with inviting survivors who already have a scheduled appointment at their clinic, but who had not already received the Survivorship Passport, and are resident in the Liguria region. They will invite 350 to 400 survivors to be able to include 200 survivors. They will subsequently recruit scheduled survivors resident in other regions, and if the number is still insufficient, they will actively invite other survivors to the clinic.

The Czech Republic starts with selecting a random sample of 250 survivors from the clinic's database whom they will gradually invite over the recruitment period. If more survivors need to be invited to reach the inclusion aim within the recruitment period, they will invite survivors who have a scheduled appointment at their clinic and who meet the study inclusion criteria

Belgium starts to invite, in alphabetical order the survivors of 18 year and older with a primary cancer diagnosis with a date of diagnosis in or before 1990, regardless of whether or not they already received some long-term follow-up. Simultaneously, 20 survivors who were scheduled for a clinic visit in March and April 2021 have also been invited to participate in this study. In the second wave, they will invite the survivors with a diagnosis in 1990-2000 in alphabetic order. And, if needed, the survivors diagnosed in 2001-2020, again in alphabetic order.



SPIRIT 2013 Checklist: Recommended items to address in a clinical trial protocol and related documents\*

Section/item	Item No	Description	Addressed on page number
<b>Administrative information</b>			
Title	1	Descriptive title identifying the study design, population, interventions, and, if applicable, trial acronym	1
Trial registration	2a	Trial identifier and registry name. If not yet registered, name of intended registry	6
	2b	All items from the World Health Organization Trial Registration Data Set	1-25
Protocol version	3	Date and version identifier	8, 17, 18
Funding	4	Sources and types of financial, material, and other support	18
Roles and responsibilities	5a	Names, affiliations, and roles of protocol contributors	1,2
	5b	Name and contact information for the trial sponsor	18
	5c	Role of study sponsor and funders, if any, in study design; collection, management, analysis, and interpretation of data; writing of the report; and the decision to submit the report for publication, including whether they will have ultimate authority over any of these activities	18
	5d	Composition, roles, and responsibilities of the coordinating centre, steering committee, endpoint adjudication committee, data management team, and other individuals or groups overseeing the trial, if applicable (see Item 21a for data monitoring committee)	18, 19

1	<b>Introduction</b>			
2				
3	Background and	6a	Description of research question and justification for undertaking the trial, including summary of relevant	7, 8
4	rationale		studies (published and unpublished) examining benefits and harms for each intervention	
5				
6		6b	Explanation for choice of comparators	8, 11, 12
7				
8	Objectives	7	Specific objectives or hypotheses	8
9				
10	Trial design	8	Description of trial design including type of trial (eg, parallel group, crossover, factorial, single group),	
11			allocation ratio, and framework (eg, superiority, equivalence, noninferiority, exploratory)	9
12				
13				
14	<b>Methods: Participants, interventions, and outcomes</b>			
15				
16	Study setting	9	Description of study settings (eg, community clinic, academic hospital) and list of countries where data will	9
17			be collected. Reference to where list of study sites can be obtained	
18				
19	Eligibility criteria	10	Inclusion and exclusion criteria for participants. If applicable, eligibility criteria for study centres and	9
20			individuals who will perform the interventions (eg, surgeons, psychotherapists)	
21				
22	Interventions	11a	Interventions for each group with sufficient detail to allow replication, including how and when they will be	8, 9, 10, ref 29
23			administered	
24				
25		11b	Criteria for discontinuing or modifying allocated interventions for a given trial participant (eg, drug dose	10
26			change in response to harms, participant request, or improving/worsening disease)	
27				
28		11c	Strategies to improve adherence to intervention protocols, and any procedures for monitoring adherence	N/A
29			(eg, drug tablet return, laboratory tests)	
30				
31		11d	Relevant concomitant care and interventions that are permitted or prohibited during the trial	N/A
32				
33	Outcomes	12	Primary, secondary, and other outcomes, including the specific measurement variable (eg, systolic blood	11, 12
34			pressure), analysis metric (eg, change from baseline, final value, time to event), method of aggregation (eg,	
35			median, proportion), and time point for each outcome. Explanation of the clinical relevance of chosen	
36			efficacy and harm outcomes is strongly recommended	
37				
38	Participant timeline	13	Time schedule of enrolment, interventions (including any run-ins and washouts), assessments, and visits for	10, Fig 2
39			participants. A schematic diagram is highly recommended (see Figure)	
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1	Sample size	14	Estimated number of participants needed to achieve study objectives and how it was determined, including clinical and statistical assumptions supporting any sample size calculations	9, 10, 13, 14
2				
3				
4	Recruitment	15	Strategies for achieving adequate participant enrolment to reach target sample size	10, 15, App A
5				

### 6 **Methods: Assignment of interventions (for controlled trials)**

#### 7 Allocation:

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10	Sequence	16a	Method of generating the allocation sequence (eg, computer-generated random numbers), and list of any factors for stratification. To reduce predictability of a random sequence, details of any planned restriction (eg, blocking) should be provided in a separate document that is unavailable to those who enrol participants or assign interventions	N/A
11	generation			
12				
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16	Allocation	16b	Mechanism of implementing the allocation sequence (eg, central telephone; sequentially numbered, opaque, sealed envelopes), describing any steps to conceal the sequence until interventions are assigned	N/A
17	concealment			
18	mechanism			
19				
20	Implementation	16c	Who will generate the allocation sequence, who will enrol participants, and who will assign participants to interventions	N/A
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24	Blinding (masking)	17a	Who will be blinded after assignment to interventions (eg, trial participants, care providers, outcome assessors, data analysts), and how	N/A
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27		17b	If blinded, circumstances under which unblinding is permissible, and procedure for revealing a participant's allocated intervention during the trial	N/A
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### 31 **Methods: Data collection, management, and analysis**

32				
33	Data collection	18a	Plans for assessment and collection of outcome, baseline, and other trial data, including any related processes to promote data quality (eg, duplicate measurements, training of assessors) and a description of study instruments (eg, questionnaires, laboratory tests) along with their reliability and validity, if known. Reference to where data collection forms can be found, if not in the protocol	14
34	methods			
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39		18b	Plans to promote participant retention and complete follow-up, including list of any outcome data to be collected for participants who discontinue or deviate from intervention protocols	10, 15, App A
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1	Data management	19	Plans for data entry, coding, security, and storage, including any related processes to promote data quality (eg, double data entry; range checks for data values). Reference to where details of data management procedures can be found, if not in the protocol	15, 16
2				
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5	Statistical methods	20a	Statistical methods for analysing primary and secondary outcomes. Reference to where other details of the statistical analysis plan can be found, if not in the protocol	14, 15
6				
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8		20b	Methods for any additional analyses (eg, subgroup and adjusted analyses)	14
9				
10		20c	Definition of analysis population relating to protocol non-adherence (eg, as randomised analysis), and any statistical methods to handle missing data (eg, multiple imputation)	14
11				
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14	<b>Methods: Monitoring</b>			
15				
16	Data monitoring	21a	Composition of data monitoring committee (DMC); summary of its role and reporting structure; statement of whether it is independent from the sponsor and competing interests; and reference to where further details about its charter can be found, if not in the protocol. Alternatively, an explanation of why a DMC is not needed	19
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22		21b	Description of any interim analyses and stopping guidelines, including who will have access to these interim results and make the final decision to terminate the trial	N/A
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25	Harms	22	Plans for collecting, assessing, reporting, and managing solicited and spontaneously reported adverse events and other unintended effects of trial interventions or trial conduct	17
26				
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28	Auditing	23	Frequency and procedures for auditing trial conduct, if any, and whether the process will be independent from investigators and the sponsor	19
29				
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32	<b>Ethics and dissemination</b>			
33				
34	Research ethics approval	24	Plans for seeking research ethics committee/institutional review board (REC/IRB) approval	16
35				
36				
37	Protocol amendments	25	Plans for communicating important protocol modifications (eg, changes to eligibility criteria, outcomes, analyses) to relevant parties (eg, investigators, REC/IRBs, trial participants, trial registries, journals, regulators)	18
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1	Consent or assent	26a	Who will obtain informed consent or assent from potential trial participants or authorised surrogates, and how (see Item 32)	10, 16
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4		26b	Additional consent provisions for collection and use of participant data and biological specimens in ancillary studies, if applicable	N/A
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7	Confidentiality	27	How personal information about potential and enrolled participants will be collected, shared, and maintained in order to protect confidentiality before, during, and after the trial	15, 16, 19
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10	Declaration of interests	28	Financial and other competing interests for principal investigators for the overall trial and each study site	18
11				
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13	Access to data	29	Statement of who will have access to the final trial dataset, and disclosure of contractual agreements that limit such access for investigators	19
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16	Ancillary and post-trial care	30	Provisions, if any, for ancillary and post-trial care, and for compensation to those who suffer harm from trial participation	17
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20	Dissemination policy	31a	Plans for investigators and sponsor to communicate trial results to participants, healthcare professionals, the public, and other relevant groups (eg, via publication, reporting in results databases, or other data sharing arrangements), including any publication restrictions	17
21				
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23				
24		31b	Authorship eligibility guidelines and any intended use of professional writers	19
25				
26		31c	Plans, if any, for granting public access to the full protocol, participant-level dataset, and statistical code	19
27				
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29	<b>Appendices</b>			
30				
31	Informed consent materials	32	Model consent form and other related documentation given to participants and authorised surrogates	Submitted separately
32				
33				
34	Biological specimens	33	Plans for collection, laboratory evaluation, and storage of biological specimens for genetic or molecular analysis in the current trial and for future use in ancillary studies, if applicable	N/A
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\*It is strongly recommended that this checklist be read in conjunction with the SPIRIT 2013 Explanation & Elaboration for important clarification on the items. Amendments to the protocol should be tracked and dated. The SPIRIT checklist is copyrighted by the SPIRIT Group under the Creative Commons [“Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 3.0 Unported”](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/) license.