



# ONS TO THE CANCER PATIENT: IMPLEMENTATION OF AN EXTRA CORPORATE LEA

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## Background and aims

80% of patients with advanced malignant cancer show a condition named cachexia, tumor associated, an extreme state of malnutrition. Nutritional intervention has assumed relevant meaning in the cancer management. During 2020, has been requested the free delivery valuation of oral supplements (ONS) to cancer patients was submitted to the National Commission for the updating of Lea's, nothing has changed to date. The aim of this work is to showed how the Corporate it was decided to deliver these products to cancer patients into advanced stage and followed from integrated home care.

## Methods

The analysis was conducted retrospectively and the data extrapolated from the corporate dataset; the ONS consumptions and the number of patients were analyzed, from 2019 to 2022.

## Results

The disbursement of ONS to cancer patients, decided by the Corporate Nutrition Team, changed the supply trend starting from 2020. The results showed a increase, year on year, in the number of patients (from 5% to 65%) with an increase of costs (from 12% to 42%). The products used most are high-protein/high-calorie and low-volume.

## Conclusions

The goal of the Health Care must be priority of care; allow a better quality life for the patients, especially the frail, a reviewing the LEAs, is an ethical-moral-social urgency.

## Bibliography

Arends J et al. ESPEN guidelines on nutrition in cancer patients. Clin Nutr. 2017 Feb; 36 (1): 11-48; Cogorno L. et al. Nutrition in the cancer patient: where are we? The Endocrinologist (2022) 23: 163–167

