

About PHOENIX

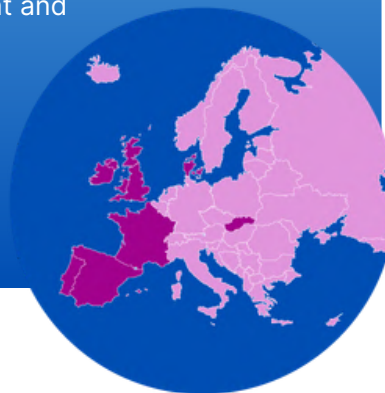
Every year, thousands of children across Europe are diagnosed with aggressive solid tumours. While significant progress has been made in childhood cancer treatment, many patients with relapsed or treatment-resistant disease still face limited therapeutic options.

PHOENIX brings together leading European hospitals, research organisations, universities, industry and patient-focused partners to accelerate the development of innovative therapies that aim to improve outcomes while reducing the long-term impact of treatment for children and adolescents with cancer.



"Children and adolescents with cancer need therapies adapted to their biology and age, which are effective but also less toxic. With this project, we aim not only to improve survival, but also the quality of life of patients and their families."

Funded by the Horizon Europe Cancer Mission, PHOENIX is a **6-year** collaborative project bringing together **13 organisations** from **7 European countries**. The consortium combines expertise in paediatric oncology, clinical research, pharmaceutical development, personalised medicine, patient engagement and communication to accelerate the development of safer treatments for children with cancer.



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PHOENIX

Advancing safer therapies for children with high-risk cancers



PHOENIX brings together leading European experts in paediatric oncology to develop safer, more personalised treatments for children and adolescents with relapsed or treatment-resistant solid tumours.

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Background

Childhood cancer remains one of the leading causes of disease-related death among children and adolescents. Although survival rates have improved considerably over recent decades, children with relapsed or refractory solid tumours continue to face poor prognoses and limited treatment options.

Current therapies often rely on intensive chemotherapy, radiotherapy and surgery. While these approaches have saved many lives, they can also lead to severe long-term physical, cognitive and emotional side effects that affect survivors throughout adulthood.

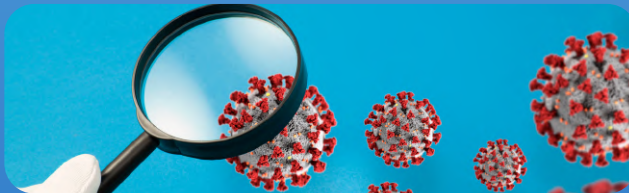


These challenges highlight the need for new therapeutic strategies that are not only effective against cancer, but also safer for young patients, preserving their health and quality of life beyond treatment.

Mission

PHOENIX aims to improve the treatment of children and adolescents with relapsed or treatment-resistant solid tumours by developing safer, more effective and more personalised therapeutic approaches.

At the heart of PHOENIX is the first multinational Phase I/II clinical trial evaluating ibrilatazar, an innovative anticancer drug designed to offer a safer therapeutic approach for children. The project also integrates biomarker discovery and liquid biopsy technologies to support personalised treatment strategies.



"Children deserve treatments that not only save their lives, but also protect their future."

PHOENIX at a glance

Programme:

Horizon Europe – Cancer Mission

Duration:

6 years

Consortium:

13 partners

Countries:

7

Coordinator:

Vall d'Hebron Research Institute (VHIR)

Clinical trial:

Phase I/II

Target patients:

Children and adolescents with relapsed or refractory solid tumours



PHOENIX Approach

PHOENIX addresses childhood cancer through an integrated approach that combines clinical research, pharmaceutical innovation, personalised medicine and patient-centred care.

Together, these activities aim to accelerate the development of safer therapies and improve outcomes for children and adolescents with high-risk cancers.



Clinical trial

Conduct the first multinational Phase I/II clinical trial evaluating ibrilatazar in paediatric patients with relapsed or refractory solid tumours.



Innovative therapies

Assess ibrilatazar both as a single agent and in combination with chemotherapy and immunotherapy.



Paediatric formulation

Develop a child-friendly oral formulation to improve treatment administration and adherence.



Precision medicine

Identify biomarkers and integrate liquid biopsy technologies to support personalised treatment strategies.



Equity

Investigate social and healthcare barriers that influence access to innovative cancer treatments across Europe.



Future impact

Generate evidence to support future standards of care and improve long-term outcomes for children with cancer.