

Creating a Vision of Women-Centric Cancer Care

Key Takeaways From the 2023 FemTechnology Summit Discussion Paper¹

Impact

Cancer care often overlooks **sex and gender specific needs**, leading to **disparities** in treatment **outcomes** and experiences for women.

Definition

Women-Centric Cancer Care improves the lives and health experiences of all women, regardless of where they live, by **empowering** them to make informed decisions and providing them with **evidence-based prevention and integrated healthcare** that is innovative, accessible, affordable, equitable, tailored, and holistically delivered.

34% 

more women than men are likely to experience **severe side effects** from cancer treatments.²

2.3 million 

women **die** prematurely from **cancer** each year. **All** of these could be **averted** through prevention or early detection (**1.5 M**) and access to optimal cancer care (**800 k**).³

Stats

Stakeholders - Call to Action

Policymaker

Implement and allocate funds for women-centric health policies and research



Caregiver

Provide advocacy, support, and maintain self-care



Researcher

Conduct sex- and gender-specific research. Include women in studies and research leadership



Insurance Payer & Employer

Reassess coverage policies and support comprehensive care



Healthcare Provider

Tailor treatments and care, facilitate informed decisions through active listening



Innovator

Develop women-centric solutions and engage in collaborative design



Examples of Core Questions to Ask to Ensure WCCC Is Delivered¹



Caregiver

1. What are the potential **side effects and recovery expectations** of her treatment?
2. What are her **care preferences and goals**, and how can you communicate them and ensure they are **respected**?
3. How can you help her navigate her **financial and insurance matters**, including **managing bills and paperwork**?

Researcher

1. Is the study population **diverse and representative** of women affected by cancer?
2. Can female-specific **biomarkers** be included for **sex-specific** cancer insights?
3. What **social determinants of health** are considered, and how do they impact women's cancer experiences?



Healthcare Provider

1. What **gender-specific** factors will impact her treatment and care? What are her **personal preferences and goals** for treatment and care?
2. What **psychological and emotional challenges** is she facing, and how can we provide support and counseling?
3. How can **technology and digital tools** enhance communication, monitoring, and support for women living with cancer?

Innovator

1. How can we improve **early detection** and **non-invasive diagnosis**?
2. How can we promote **survivorship** and life beyond cancer for women who have **completed treatment**?
3. Are there **gender-specific** risk factors or considerations for this type of cancer?
4. What **technologies and digital tools** can facilitate communication, education, and support for women living with cancer?



Insurance Payer, Employer, Policymaker

1. What **barriers** to cancer screening, diagnosis, and treatment exist for women, and how can they be **removed**?
2. What **educational initiatives** can be implemented to **raise awareness** of risk factors, symptoms, and prevention?
3. How can the **long-term care and survivorship** needs be addressed?

As a sponsor of the 2023 FemTechnology Summit, Genentech/Roche contributed to the creation of the Discussion Paper and this Key Takeaways resource. These resources can be found at femtechnology.org and are owned solely by FemTechnology

References: **1.** Annichine M, Baba Y, Bassi S, et al. Creating a Vision of Women-Centric Cancer Care (WCCC). FemTechnology Summit, 2024. Discussion Paper. <https://femtechnology.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/WCCC-Discussion-Paper.pdf> **2.** Unger JM, Vaidya R, Albain KS, et al. Sex differences in risk of severe adverse events in patients receiving immunotherapy, targeted therapy, or chemotherapy in cancer clinical trials. *J Clin Oncol.* 2022;40(13):1474-1486. doi:10.1200/JCO.21.02377 **3.** Ginsburg O, Vanderpuye V, Beddoe AM, et al. Women, power, and cancer: a Lancet commission. *Lancet.* 2023;402(10417):2113-2166. doi:10.1016/S0140-6736(23)01701-4