### Purpose
- The INCA Boot Camp for NET research patient advocates is a tool to build the capacity of NET patient advocates to actively contribute to the research process.
- The project has focused on building a community of educated patient advocates dedicated to driving patient engagement in NET research.

### Background
- The International Neuroendocrine Cancer Alliance (INCA) is an umbrella organization representing 27 neuroendocrine tumor (NET) patient advocacy and research organizations across 6 continents.
- One of INCA’s core pillars of activity is to advance meaningful NET research through active patient involvement in defining the global research agenda.
- Recognizing the significant value of informed patient input, INCA developed a training program to educate the community about its place in research.

### Methods
- The INCA Research Committee contracted an agency with extensive knowledge in delivering trainings to patients on research expertise.
- The agency developed and led a 9-month online training program which was free for all participants – NET patient advocates representing member organizations of INCA.
- The course utilized Google Classroom to allow the sharing and dissemination of reading materials, homework assignments and the recordings of the online sessions.
- Each session was accompanied by a homework assignment.

### The Boot Camp for Research Patient Advocates
- The INCA Boot Camp for Patient Research Advocates took place from June 2020 until February 2021.
- The course itself was an intensive training program aimed to educate leading NET patient advocates who would further share their newly-acquired knowledge in their local communities.

### All INCA members were invited to:
- Nominate active and engaged representatives from their respective organizations;
- Encourage the nominated candidates to further disseminate what they have learned during the course.

### The training opportunity was met with enthusiasm:
- 18 participants from 14 different countries across 5 continents registered for the course.

### The INCA Boot Camp was comprised of eight online sessions of approximately 90 minutes each, and discussed the following topics:
- How medicines development works
- Statistics and why they matter
- Importance of PROs and QoL
- Evidence-based patient advocacy
- Patient advocacy in action and CABs
- From R&D to access

The INCA Boot Camp was promoted by a social media campaign (INCABootCamp on Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram).

All participants were profiled in the INCA newsletter and on the INCA website where a sub-page was developed to boost awareness and information about the project’s goals and output. 
https://incaalliance.org/bootcamp/