Welcome to the January Issue of the MASCC Society News

This month we bid farewell to Don Gubitosa and welcome Leslie Johnson, MASCC’s new Study Group Coordinator and Manager of Sponsor Relationships. President Ian Olver looks forward to the new year and encourages all MASCC members to introduce their colleagues and trainees to the opportunities afforded by membership in our society. In this issue, we also bring you news about the CHILL Registry, an international initiative to collect and track evidence-based data about scalp cooling. As usual, we list upcoming meetings related to supportive cancer care. We extend a warm welcome to the new members who joined us in November. And we encourage every member to be a MASCC ambassador.

All issues of the MASCC Society News are available online at www.mascc.org/society-news. Older issues (through August, 2016) can be found in the back pages of our journal, Supportive Care in Cancer.

~ Toni Clark, Editor

A Message from
MASCC President Ian Olver

I wish you all a peaceful and joyful New Year and trust that you achieve all that you want during 2018. We enter the new year with a new Study Group Coordinator and Manager of Sponsor Relationships for MASCC. Don Gubitosa advised us a few months ago that he was unable to continue in these roles. He served us well, having brought a vast experience from his career in the pharmaceutical industry. It was great to meet him and work with him in person in Washington, and we appreciated his flexibility in ensuring a smooth handover to his successor. We thank Don on behalf of all of the MASCC members for his work for us.

I am pleased to introduce Don’s successor, Leslie Johnson (see article below). Her experience as a fundraising professional in the not-for-profit sector, most recently with Diabetes Canada, has included both research and corporate project coordination. Her strengths lie in building relationships among organizational partners, and she enjoys opportunities for innovation. Leslie lives in Toronto, and her geographic proximity to Melissa Chin is seen as a helpful coincidence. We welcome Leslie and look forward to working with her.

As noted elsewhere in this issue, we are seeking nominations for new members of MASCC’s Board of Directors for the two-year term beginning in June. Please participate in this important process and help us identify supportive care leaders who would be valuable additions to this dedicated group. You can nominate other MASCC members or yourself. See our website for selection criteria and a nomination form. Nominations are due by January 15, 2018.

With each issue of the Society News, we welcome new members. As we start a new year, I ask each of you to encourage your colleagues and your trainees interested in supportive care to join MASCC and its study groups, where they will gain an opportunity to contribute to supportive care at an international level. There are particular advantages for younger researchers to work with international experts and senior colleagues on practice guidelines and publications. The more MASCC grows, the more impact it makes in spreading the message of excellence in supportive care.

I hope you like our newly designed website, which will launch in the new year, and I look forward to seeing many of you in Vienna in June!

~ Ian Olver
Introducing Leslie Johnson, Study Group Coordinator and Manager of Sponsor Relationships

Leslie Johnson, of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, is MASCC’s new Study Group Coordinator and Manager of Sponsor Relationships. Leslie began work with MASCC on December 18th, replacing Don Gubitosa.

Leslie has more than nine years of experience in the nonprofit sector, including the pharmaceutical industry, with expertise in corporate fundraising, sponsorship solicitation, and project coordination. She has most recently worked as an Account Manager for Corporate Development at Diabetes Canada (formerly the Canadian Diabetes Association). In that role, she maintained strong rapport with existing and new corporate partners and coordinated internal and external stakeholder activities to maintain schedules and budgets. Her experience also includes the preparation of sponsorship proposals, presentations, and marketing materials, the research and writing of corporate foundation applications, and the solicitation and management of pharmaceutical partners for regional and national events. Her work toward improving partnership management increased the association’s revenues by 30% from 2016 to 2017.

As our new Study Group Coordinator, Leslie will provide support for the activities of our 16 Study Groups, such as serving as a liaison between SG leaders, MASCC leadership, and our Annual Meeting planners. She will support Study Groups with annual workshop applications and presentation at the Annual Meeting, coordinate different activities such as abstract reviewers, and organize and schedule business meetings at the Annual Meeting. As Manager of Sponsor Relationships, Leslie will manage sponsor relationships, especially with members of MASCC’s Corporate Advisory Council. She will work to establish new sponsors and Corporate Advisors for the association as well as work with our Professional Conference Organizer (Kenes) to manage sponsorships, and develop and oversee an annual sponsorship budget.

Leslie lives in Toronto with her husband and young son. A history buff, she once worked at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington DC, which was one of her most memorable career experiences. Leslie reports that she also makes a “mean shortbread”!

Welcome, Leslie. We look forward to working with you!

Feel free to contact Leslie at ljohnson@mascc.org.

Call for Board Nominations for 2018-2020

The term of our current Board of Directors members ends just before the Vienna meeting in June 2018. We need you to become involved in submitting nominations for the MASCC Board. We want the Board of Directors to represent the finest leaders in the field, and we need your input to make that happen! MASCC members can nominate other MASCC members or themselves for the two-year term beginning in June. Please refer to the MASCC website for selection criteria and to obtain a nomination form. Nominations are due by January 15, 2018.

MASCC-NICSO Joint Memberships Available

MASCC has partnered with the Italian Network of Supportive Care in Oncology — Network Italiano Cure di Supporto in Oncologia (NICSO) — to offer joint membership options. This offer is available during the 2018 calendar year.

A one-year joint membership to the two organizations includes €35 to NICSO and $50 USD to MASCC, which includes an online subscription to our official MASCC journal, Supportive Care in Cancer. For members under 35 years of age and for nurses, the membership fees are €15 to NICSO and $35 USD to MASCC (including journal subscription). For the first 30 new NICSO members under age 35, NICSO will cover the entire cost of MASCC membership.

If you are interested, please contact Maurizio Lucchesi (mauriziolucchesi84@gmail.com) or write to info@nicsonet.it.

NICSO is a multidisciplinary organization founded in 2013 and based in Terni, Italy. NICSO’s mission is to promote knowledge and education about supportive care and to conduct collaborative research with the aim of improving supportive care for cancer patients. For more information about NICSO, visit www.nicsonet.it.
Hair Loss, Scalp Cooling, and the CHILL Registry

Chemotherapy-induced hair loss is a common and distressing side effect of cancer therapy and presents a major supportive care challenge. Scalp cooling has been shown to be effective for preventing hair loss for many patients. Although the mechanism for its effect is not certain, it is hypothesized that cooling of the scalp causes cutaneous vasoconstriction, which reduces blood flow to the hair follicles thereby as well as the uptake of chemotherapeutic agents. Cooling also reduces biochemical activity, and this may make hair follicles less susceptible to the effects of chemotherapy. Two 2017 systematic reviews1 have documented the efficacy of scalp cooling for many patients with solid tumors who are receiving various types of chemotherapy, and long-term safety data are now available.2 Several members of MASCC’s Skin Toxicities Study Group have been leading the way in collecting efficacy and safety data and developing information channels for both patients and physicians.

CHILL stands for Cancer-related Hair Loss, International Leadership and Linkage. Its Executive Board includes MASCC members Corina van den Hurk (The Netherlands), Annie Young (United Kingdom), Frances Boyle (Sydney, Australia), and Mario Lacouture (United States). Other members of the Skin Toxicities Study Group have been involved in CHILL and projects related to hair loss and scalp cooling.

In June, CHILL announced a new initiative, a registry for collecting evidence-based data about scalp cooling in order to provide patient information and clinical guidance. The initiative was launched at the 2017 MASCC/ISOO Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. The CHILL Registry3 makes communication and global research accessible to all healthcare professionals interested in using scalp cooling with their chemotherapy patients. The registry collects data about severity of hair loss with and without scalp cooling, and the platform facilitates the exchange of information among patients, physicians, nurses, and researchers.

The data will be used to establish the best clinical practices, ensuring maximum effectiveness of scalp cooling and minimizing chemotherapy-induced hair loss. A new website, https://www.scalpcooling.org/, serves as a global hub for patients and care providers who are looking for information about hair loss and scalp cooling. The site also contains a decision aid that shows the chances of hair loss with and without scalp cooling.

Corina van den Hurk has said that “The launch of the CHILL Registry is a significant step forward as we work together to develop best practices in supportive care.” According to Annie Young, “Patient interest in scalp cooling is universal. This is a treatment that our patients want to use, and we need to ensure that best practices are developed to optimize success and also work to make it accessible to all.”

Besides helping to set up the CHILL Registry, members of the Skin Toxicities Study Group have collaborated on Annual Meeting presentations in Adelaide and Washington, a revised chapter on hair loss for the Second Edition of the MASCC Textbook on Cancer Supportive Care and Survivorship, a proposed workshop for 2018 Meeting in Vienna. The group is also developing a questionnaire on the impact of chemotherapy-induced alopecia. See the Skin Toxicities Study Group Page on our website for recent articles on scalp cooling for the prevention of chemotherapy-associated hair loss. For more information, contact Corina van den Hurk, C.vandenHurk@iknl.nl, +31-88-234-6058.

---


3Scalp Cooling Safe, Long-term European Data Show, Medscape.

3The CHILL Registry is funded by Dignitana, maker of The DigniCap® Scalp Cooling System and by Paxman, maker of the Paxman Scalp Cooling System.
MASCC/ISOO Annual Meeting 2018

Distinguished Service Award Nominations - **Deadline: April 1, 2018**

April 1 is the deadline for nominations for MASCC’s Distinguished Service Award! See the award policy, selection process, and nomination form at [MASCC Policies and Forms](#).

The MASCC Distinguished Service Award (DSA) recognizes meritorious achievement, exemplary leadership, and outstanding contributions to MASCC and its mission. Any MASCC member can nominate a candidate for this award. Nominees must be current members of MASCC in good standing and must have made a significant contribution to research, education, and/or clinical supportive care in cancer. The DSA is presented each year at the MASCC/ISOO Annual Meeting. The most recent recipients include David Warr (2017), Matti Aapro (2016), Jørn Herrstedt (2015), Dorothy Keefe (2014), Declan Walsh (2013), and Paul Hesketh (2012).

Abstract Submission - **Deadline: February 9th, 2018**

Share Your Research! See the [Annual Meeting website](#) for abstract topics and to submit your abstract.

MASCC/ISOO 2018 — Help Spread the Word!

Our 2018 Meeting Toolkit, [http://www.mascc.org/meeting-toolkit](http://www.mascc.org/meeting-toolkit) has your slide sets, banners and adverts for 2018.

Be a MASCC Ambassador!

Say a few words about MASCC and our Annual Meeting at your next speaking engagement. Contact Melissa Chin at mchin@mascc.org for a few MASCC slides to add to your presentation. And join us in Vienna for an exciting program featuring supportive care research advances and clinical applications.

Recruit a Colleague in 2018!

Make 2018 the year you introduce a colleague to MASCC! Membership benefits include a free online subscription to our monthly journal, *Supportive Care in Cancer*, access to the Member Directory and an array of practice resources on our website, discounts on supportive care books and meeting registration fees, regular news and updates through the Society News, and numerous opportunities to work with MASCC Study Groups, to exchange ideas and expertise, and promote supportive care in cancer. Membership is open to medical and surgical oncologists, radiologists, nurses, dental professionals, pharmacists, social workers, dietitians, psychologists, students, industry representatives, and anyone interested in the prevention and management of the adverse effects of cancer and its treatment. Several membership options are available with reduced rates for students, trainees, retirees, and applicants from low-resource countries.

World Cancer Day – February 4th

World Cancer Day is a global observance that helps raise people’s awareness of cancer and how to prevent, detect, and treat it. This event is held each year on February 4th — a day designated as a time when people, businesses, governments, and nonprofit organizations work together to help the general public learn more about the different types of cancer, how to watch for it, treatments, and preventative measures. The World Health Organization (WHO) works with organizations such as the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) on this day to promote ways to ease the global burden of cancer.

The theme of the 2016-2018 campaign is “We can. I can.” and it includes among its key messages, an emphasis on support — both for people living with cancer and their caregivers. “Maintaining social support networks and talking about cancer can be important strategies for coping with the social and emotional impact of cancer, both in the short and long term.” The campaign stresses the importance of asking for support when it’s needed, whether from partners, family, friends, colleagues, or healthcare professionals, and the importance of supporting others, both cancer patients and their caregivers. This emphasis is based on the recognition that caregivers — most often partners, family members, or friends — often have little preparation or support for this role. “Many carers put their own needs and feelings aside to focus on the person with cancer, and as a consequence may experience emotional distress and social isolation. Recognizing the challenges of looking after someone with cancer and seeking support can have wide-ranging benefits for coping and quality of life.”

Visit [worldcancerday.org](http://worldcancerday.org) for more information, a Campaign Toolkit, and ideas on how to mark this occasion in your own community or workplace.
Future MASCC/ISOO Meetings

VIENNA 2018
June 28-30

SAN FRANCISCO 2019
June 21-23

SEVILLE 2020
TBD

CONFERENCE REMINDERS
March 15-16, 2018
The APM ASP Supportive & Palliative Care Conference
Association for Palliative Medicine of Great Britain and Ireland
Bournemouth, UK
http://apmonline.org/events/

March 16-17, 2018
16th Annual Course on Anaemia, Neutropenia, Thrombosis, and Cancer
Vienna, Austria
http://www.anaemiacourse.com

March 22-24, 2018
NCCN 23rd Annual Conference
Improving the Quality, Effectiveness, and Efficiency of Cancer Care
Orlando, Florida, USA
https://www.nccn.org/professionals/meetings/annual_conference.aspx

May 17-20, 2018
ONS 43rd Annual Congress
Washington, DC, USA
http://congress.ons.org/

Have any news items to share? Please send contributions to Toni at tclark@mascc.org.

MASCC welcomes the new members who joined us in November!

Ozlem Ata, Turkey
Ozan Bahcivan, Turkey
Monica Desiree Dragomir, Romania
Kristen Fessele, United States
Ariane Macedo, Brazil
Chika Minowa, Japan
Miguel Lucas Samec, Argentina

Armin Shahrokni, United States
Christian Singer, Austria
Polliana Souza, Brazil
Anne Stewart, United States
Natacha Szt, Switzerland
Cagdas Yavas, Turkey
Guler Yavas, Turkey

Click here to proceed to the MASCC/ISOO 2018 Annual Meeting Official Website