Models of education in supportive care
Conflict of Interest Disclosure
Antonuzzo Andrea, MD

Has no real or apparent conflicts of interest to report.
My Agenda

- Background
- NICSO and education in Italy
- Education in EU
- Education in developing countries
Definition:

- **Education** is the process of facilitating learning, or the acquisition of knowledge, skills, values, beliefs, and habits.

- Educational methods include storytelling, discussion, teaching, training, and directed research.
Background

Education frequently takes place under the guidance of educators, however learners may also educate themselves. 

“I have never met a man so ignorant that I couldn’t learn something from him.”

— Galileo Galilei
Background – supportive care

How to perform education in supportive care?

Rigorous scientific method

In Italy NICSO is the “key”

(Italian Network for Supportive Care on Oncology)
LETTER TO THE EDITOR

NICSO: Network Italiano Cure di Supporto in Oncologia – Italian Network for Supportive Care in Oncology

Fausto Roila & Carla Ida Ripamonti & Andrea Antonuzzo & Paolo Bossi

Received: 12 September 2014 /Accepted: 1 October 2014 /Published online: 16 October 2014

# Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg 2014

In the oncological setting, there is an increased need of a comprehensive personalized assessment of the patients as well as the oncological therapy related symptoms, toxicities, and/or complications from diagnosis to treatment and follow-up.

Patient’s needs are still growing also in terms of psychosocial, spiritual concerns, and well-being during all the trajectory of cancer disease. Moreover, there is an increase in the number of cancer survivors (triple over the last years) carrying several needs linked to the late effects of cancer and its treatments [1].

Cancer treatments themselves are becoming longer, thanks to the increased survival and opportunities given by targeted therapies and can provoke chronic-related symptoms. With an increasing use of oral anticancer agents, the issue of assessing and improving adherence to therapies is crucial for the efficacy of the treatments [2, 3].

Also in this regard, the need of supportive care therapies to be performed in conjunction with oncologic prescriptions is becoming evident [4–6].

We can therefore assess that the "scenario of treatment" is changing. So far, in 2014, the Italian Network of Supportive Care in Oncology (NICSO – Network Italiano Cure di Supporto in Oncologia, http://www.nicso.it) was born with the mission to promote knowledge, widespread education, and perform collaborative research with the final aim of improving supportive care in cancer patients. The Multinational Association of Supportive Care in Cancer (MASCC) certified the recognition of NICSO during the last annual meeting in Miami 2014. The Network does not have political or confessional characteristics and it is non-profit. The Network is already performing and developing epidemiological studies, biomedical research as well as educational programs to help professional medical and nursing personnel, psychologists, social workers, volunteers, chaplains, patients, and their associations. Among the aims of NICSO, there is also the assistance and support of the growth and scientific culture of young people by support to meetings and awards, also through other collaborating institutions and development of communication skills, particularly for medical-scientific congress organization, video releases, informative books, and brochures related to patients or health professionals. NICSO promotes participation in medical-scientific congresses and publication of articles or independent reviews. At the beginning of 2014, a dedicated website was created as a tool for all members to interact. Actually, NICSO professionals involved are medical oncologist, radiotherapist, nurses, and psychologist-psychotherapeutics. After the first NICSO meeting held in Rome on May 12th, three prospective trials implemented by the network are under ethical committees evaluations. These three observational studies address currently clinical daily practice problems such as fatigue, mucositis, and hypertension due to targeted therapies. Five working groups were composed among the participating members according to the following topics in the field of supportive care: 1. new toxicities due to targeted therapies, 2. adverse events...
Aims

Our Network is already performing and developing epidemiological studies, biomedical research as well as educational programs to release to all professional medical and nursing personnel, psychologists, social workers, volunteers, chaplains, patients, and their associations.
Aims

Among the aims of NICSO, there is also the assistance and support of the growth and scientific culture of young people by support to meetings and awards, also through other collaborating institutions and development of communication skills:

- medical scientific conferences organization
- informative books, and brochures related to patients or health professionals
- video releases
Aims

NICSO promotes participation in:

- medical scientific **conferences** (like MASCC)
- publication of **articles or independent reviews**
- inscription for each new member to NICSO and MASCC
Models of education in supportive care

Italy
NICSO promoted meetings across Italy in 2016 and 2017.
Models of education

- Meetings not only for discussing topics of supportive care (e.g. nausea and vomiting, fatigue, IO tox, neutropenia, etc…)

- Preparation of NICSO’s research study dashboard directly involving participants (oncologists, nurses, psychologists)

- Evaluation of proposals suggested by participants

- Discussion about the better way to implement adherence to supportive care items
Books....

IL DOLORE IATROGENO IN ONCOLOGIA
Carla Ida Ripamonti
Paolo Bossi
Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori, Milano

MANUALE DI CURE DI SUPPORTO IN ONCOLOGIA
COORDINAMENTO: A. FABI
SOCIETÀ EDITRICE UNIVERSO

LA DIGNITÀ IN ONCOLOGIA COME MISURARLA - COME TRATTARLA
Barbasso L, Ripamonti CI, M. A. M. G.
Con la prefazione di Don Federico Giurelli
Prevalence, characteristics, and treatment of fatigue in oncological cancer patients in Italy: a cross-sectional study of the Italian Network for Supportive Care in Cancer (NICS0)

Fausto Rolia1, Guglielmo Fumi1, Benedetta Ruggeri2, Andrea Antonuzzo3, Carla Ripamonti4, Sonia Fatigoni1, Luigi Cavanna5, Stefania Gori6, Alessandra Fabi7, Nicola Marzano8, Claudio Graiff9, Vitaliana De Sanctis10, Aurora Mirabile11, Samantha Serpentini12, Chiara Bocci13, Maria Simona Pino14, Giuseppina Cilenti15, Claudio Verusio16, Enzo Ballatori17. on behalf of NICS0 (Network Italiano per le Cure di Supporto in Oncologia)

Use of procalcitonin in clinical oncology: a literature review

Andrea Sbrana1, Martina Torchio2, Giuditta Comolli3, Andrea Antonuzzo1, Marco Danova2. on behalf of the Italian Network for Supportive Care in Oncology (NICS0)

1Polo Oncologico, Azienda Ospedaliere-Universitaria Pisana, Pisa, Italy; 2Medicina Interna e Oncologia, Ospedale Civile di Vigezzo, ASST Pavia, Italy; 3Laboratori di Ricerca Biotecnologie e S.C. Microbiologia e Virologia, Fondazione IRCSS Policlinico San Matteo, Pavia, Italy
The key role of multisciplinarity

• *Wide angle in Supportive Care*
  
  – Multiprofessional and interdisciplinary national meeting every year in Bologna
  
  – Sessions with different healthcare professionals
  
  – All about news in supportive care of the previous year
Multisciplinarity and shared education: first step

Involvement of Italian Medical Oncology community

Bologna
8–9 maggio, 2017

The Multinational Association of Supportive Care in Cancer • Annual Meeting 2019 • www.mascc.org/meeting
Multisciplinarity and shared education: second step

Involvement of European association for Supportive Care
Cooperation with other Italian scientific society

*Scientific Society of Emergency Medicine*

SALA STROMBOLI – 20 Nov

La collaborazione tra i MMG e la rete dei PS-DEA
Silvestro Scotti

09.00 – 09.20 SIMEU collabora con MMG
Gaetano Piccinocchi

09.20 – 09.40 *Il paziente oncologico in PS*
Gianmauro Numico
Education for General Practitioner

• Young Medical Doctor involved in post-graduate training

• Lessons together with local opinion leader in supportive care in oncology

• Annual meeting with regional association of General Practitioners
Models of education in supportive care

EU
Education in EU

• NICSO warrants research through these working groups and tries to create further collaborations with other European supportive care associations like the French and German associations.

• Proposal of phase IV research study after literature review paper publication

• Idea and proposal to share some contents of the three different national websites (“same language”)
Education with MASCC affiliated national groups

- Implementation of national groups and associations within the umbrella of an international association of supportive care in cancer like MASCC *could increase* the spread of this topic in cancer treatment and *could raise the number of clinical trials* performed in this field.
Models of education in supportive care

Developing countries
Developing countries

To promote:

• Webinar (an interactive seminar conducted over the World Wide Web)

• Free of charge online training opportunities

• Promotion of merit awards for young investigators and possibility to fellow international hospitals with excellence in supportive care

• To empower participation to research studies with other countries (with the help of MASCC)
Developing countries

To promote:

- Undergraduate supportive care curriculum
- Supportive care rotations for oncologists/fellows
- Conferences on supportive care for oncology professionals
- Formal testing of supportive care skills in examinations
Models of education in supportive care

On the Moon, Mars...

I apologize, no answers...(at the moment...)

The Multinational Association of Supportive Care in Cancer • Annual Meeting 2019 • www.mascc.org/meeting
Conclusions

- Activities and researches are an attempt to widespread the usefulness of supportive care across different oncological settings during this era of global crisis creating the basis for models of care “not money maker but money saver”.

Conclusions

Remember always that:

More education

More knowledge

Better outcome!!!
Conclusions

Remember always that:

“El aprendizaje nunca agota la mente.”

“Learning never exhausts the mind.”

“l’apprentissage n’épuise Jamais l’esprit.

“Lernen erschöpft den Geist nie.”

“Imparare non stanca mai la mente.”

Leonardo da Vinci, 1452-1519
Thank you for your attention!