



NEWS

In Partnership with ISOO • International Society of Oral Oncology

August 2017

Welcome to the August Issue of the MASCC Society News

In this issue of the Society News, President Ian Olver discusses key areas of focus and new initiatives for MASCC resulting from a nine-month strategic planning process. We bring you a report of the International Conference on Cancer Nursing (ICCN) held recently in Anaheim, California, and news about other upcoming meetings. We also have an update on the membership of MASCC's standing committees and a research highlight on age-related patterns in cancer pain and quality of life. Also, we extend a warm welcome to all the new members who joined us in June! 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



MASCC President, Ian Olver

A Message from MASCC President Ian Olver

Just prior to this year's Annual Meeting in Washington, we had a MASCC Strategic Planning Meeting to set directions for the next three years. In an iterative process involving 36 key MASCC members and staff over a period of nine months, several task forces considered the key areas of membership, added value, Study Groups, strategic alliances, financial health, and MASCC's vision and purpose.

The Annual Meeting remains a key opportunity for engaging with MASCC members, and we are committed to ensuring cutting-edge content. We also plan to introduce more digital resources to make the content available to all members, especially those who are unable to attend in person. In the coming months, we will evaluate how best to manage both the scientific planning and logistics of our Annual Meeting. We will also explore how we can better support members from developing nations, so that they can join us at the meeting.

We have sought to engage with other societies with similar interests and we seek to increase our presence at their conferences. We will also continue to engage with regional supportive care groups. But our best ambassadors are our MASCC members. Accordingly, we will provide members with resources, such as a PowerPoint presentation about MASCC, to use whenever addressing other groups that share our interest in supportive care. [Melissa Chin](#) can provide these slides to interested members.

Another focus of the strategic planning process has been that of how to increase the value of MASCC to its members. We know that electronic access to *Supportive Care in Cancer* has been greatly appreciated, and we plan to maximize resources available to members. Mentoring of younger members and leadership in supportive care remain prime ways of increasing MASCC's value and utilizing the wealth of experience that MASCC represents.

We have always regarded the Study Groups as our engine room, and we want to support these groups better. We plan to develop a document that fully describes Study Groups, articulates their purpose, and clarifies our expectations for their performance. MASCC would like to help facilitate virtual meetings, which could take place between Annual Meetings. We also want to identify the Study Groups' unmet needs and support them in developing and delivering their projects. At the same time, we will continue to be responsive to the need for new groups and nurture them.

MASCC must look outward and form strategic alliances with other societies, as well as strengthening its partnerships with the corporate world. Two new initiatives to be explored are the establishment of a MASCC Foundation for fundraising and the offering of MASCC accreditation for supportive care units or institutions. These and similar initiatives will require long-term financial planning.

This is a brief summary of the components of our vision for MASCC and we encourage your participation as we continue to discuss and pursue future directions.

~ Ian Olver

Get to Know Our MASCC Committees

While the current term for membership in MASCC's standing committees is 2016 to 2018, there have been several recent changes and additions. Below is an up-to-date list of current MASCC committees and their members.

Annual Meeting Committee — Chair, Rachel Gibson

Kathryn Nehme (Project Officer)

Awards Committee — Chair, David Warr

Alex Chan, Rebecca Clark-Snow, Mellar Davis, Karin Olson, Andrea Stringer, Don Gubitosa (staff), Melissa Chin (staff)

Executive Committee — Chair, Ian Olver

Alex Chan, Rachel Gibson, Rajesh Lalla, David Warr, Don Gubitosa (staff), Melissa Chin (staff)

Finance Committee — Chair, Alex Chan

Sultan Kav, David Warr, Melissa Chin (staff)

Governance Committee — Chair, Douglas Peterson

Joanne Bowen, Deborah McGuire, Christina H.B. Ruhlmann, Melissa Chin (staff)

Guidelines Committee — Chair, Fred Ashbury

Matti Aapro, Elaine Boland, Alex Molassiotis, Douglas Peterson, Bernardo Rapoport, Don Gubitosa (staff)

Membership Committee — Chair, Debra Barton

Sultan Kav, Karin Olson, Judith Raber-Durlacher, Carla Ripamonti, Cynthia Rittenberg, Yoshihiko Soga, Kate White, Snežana Bošnjak (ambassador), Don Gubitosa (staff)

Nominating Committee — Chair, Carla Ripamonti

Melissa Chin (staff)

Publications Committee — Chair, Anna Boltong

Matti Aapro, Fred Ashbury, Eduardo Bruera, Larry Einhorn, Christine Miaskowski, Alex Molassiotis, Melissa Chin (staff), Toni Clark (staff), Beth Hollen (staff), Don Gubitosa (staff)

Report from the International Conference on Cancer Nursing (ICCN)

The International Conference on Cancer Nursing (ICCN) was held July 9-12, 2017 in Anaheim, California. The meeting featured an ICCN-MASCC Joint Session at which MASCC member Oxana Palesh, PhD, MPH, delivered a presentation titled "Management of Cancer-Related Side Effects During and Post Treatment: Focus on Insomnia, Cancer-Related Fatigue, and Cognitive Impairment." Oxana is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University, Stanford, California, US, and is also Director of Research at Stanford Cancer Survivorship Research Program. She focuses on understanding the etiology and psychophysiology of treatment side effects in cancer patients and survivors with the goal of developing and testing novel therapeutic approaches to improve clinical outcomes and reduce symptoms, premature aging, and mortality. Oxana is a member of MASCC's Fatigue, Psychosocial, and Rehabilitation, Survivorship, and Quality of Life Study Groups.

In an ICCN-EONS Joint Session, MASCC member Manuela Eicher, PhD, delivered a presentation titled "Psychosocial Interventions in Cancer Nursing: Implementing Evidence into Practice." Manuela is an Associate Professor at the Institute of Higher Education and Research in Health Care at Université de Lausanne and University Hospital Lausanne and is also a research consultant in the Department of Oncology at University Hospital Lausanne. Her research and teaching focuses on supportive care in cancer, including the monitoring and self-management of symptoms, self-management support, and the development and implementation of new models of nursing care.

MASCC Member Linda Krebs chaired the conference. Other MASCC members who participated in the program were Laura Beamer, Ray Chan, Yongyi Chen, Margaret Fitch, Marie Flannery, Judith Paice, Corina van den Hurk, Kate White, Patsy Yates, and Annie Young.

MASCC had an exhibit booth at the meeting and Executive Director Melissa Chin was on hand to greet attendees.



Oxana Palesh



Manuela Eicher

ASCO Palliative and Supportive Care in Oncology Symposium

Free Registrations Available! First-Come Basis

The ASCO Palliative and Supportive Care in Oncology Symposium will be held on October 27-28, 2017. As a co-sponsor of the Symposium, MASCC is provided with three complimentary registrations. If you are interested in receiving one of these free registrations, please [email Melissa Chin](mailto:Melissa.Chin) by Tuesday, August 8th. These will be distributed on a first-come basis.

This year's symposium will provide educational and networking opportunities for all healthcare professionals on cancer symptom management and the integration of palliative and supportive care across various cancer-care settings. Session topics include innovative models of palliative and supportive care integration, supportive and palliative care challenges in older adults, symptom management, palliative and supportive care in the immunology era, tough issues in opioid management, sexual health and palliative care, and the roles and risks of palliative radiation therapy and palliative surgery. The meeting will also feature oral abstract presentations and poster sessions, a Trainee and Early-Career Luncheon, and faculty-led Poster Walks, and a "Death Café," a forum for open, informal discussion about the end of life. Several MASCC members will be participating in the program, including Eduardo Bruera, Andrea L. Cheville, Allan Hovan, Thomas W. LeBlanc, Charles L. Loprinzi, Sandra Mitchell, Rudolph M. Navari, Ira R. Parker, Eric Roeland, and Thomas J. Smith.

Discounted rates for MASCC members! For information and registration: <http://pallonc.org>



Age-Related Patterns in Cancer Pain: Psychosocial Impact and Quality of Life

MASCC member Lynn R. Gauthier is the first author on a recent paper in *Pain Medicine** focusing on age-related patterns in cancer pain. Lucia Gagliese was the senior author and coauthors included MASCC members David Warr, Gary Rodin, and Camilla Zimmermann.

Age-related patterns in cancer pain have not been well addressed and are poorly understood. The research team investigated the relationships between age and cancer pain intensity, pain qualities, and physical and psychosocial adaptation. They also investigated the role of physical and mental quality of life in resilience and vulnerability to pain and adaptation to pain. In this cross-sectional study, 244 patients with advanced cancer and pain completed measures of pain, quality of life, physical function, and psychosocial wellbeing. Older age was associated with a lower likelihood of receiving an opioid prescription, greater likelihood of having comorbidities, and worse functional status. The authors note that, when they did not account for these factors, age was not associated with pain or most adaptation indices. When they did control for these factors, as well as physical quality of life, older age was associated with lower non-neuropathic and neuropathic pain and several indices of psychosocial adaptation, including lower psychological distress and pain-related anxiety, and higher spirituality. Also, older age was associated with lower non-neuropathic pain among those with high, but not low, mental health quality of life, suggesting that impaired mental health quality of life could be an important indicator of vulnerability to multidimensional pain outcomes.

This study addresses knowledge gaps about some of the factors underlying age-related patterns in cancer pain. It is the first study to demonstrate the importance of different quality of life domains (physical vs. mental) in understanding age-related vulnerability to cancer pain.



Lynn Gauthier

*Gauthier, LR, Dworkin, RH, Warr, D, Pillai Riddell, R, Macpherson, AK, Rodin, G, Zimmermann, C, Lawrence Librach S, Moore, M, Shepherd FA, Gagliese L. Age-Related Patterns in Cancer Pain and Its Psychosocial Impact: Investigating the Role of Variability in Physical and Mental Health Quality of Life. *Pain Med.* 2017 Mar 3. [Epub ahead of print]

Lynn R. Gauthier, PhD, is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Family Medicine and Emergency Medicine at Laval University in Quebec City, Quebec, Canada. The research, conducted at the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, was part of Lynn's PhD work at York University in Toronto, Ontario, under the direction of Lucia Gagliese, PhD, Associate Professor, School of Kinesiology and Health Science, York University. The study was supported by awards from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the Canada Foundation for Innovation to Lucia Gagliese. Lynn received her PhD and Postdoctoral Fellowship funding from the Canadian Cancer Society and the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation, Ontario Region. She is a member of MASCC Study Groups on Geriatrics, Palliative Care, and Rehabilitation, Survivorship, and Quality of Life.



Call for Abstracts! NCCN 23rd Annual Conference General Poster Session

The National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) is now accepting abstracts for consideration to be presented during the 2018 NCCN 23rd Annual Conference: “Improving the Quality, Effectiveness, and Efficiency of Cancer Care,” Orlando, Florida, on Thursday, March 22 and Friday, March 23, 2018.

The 22nd NCCN Annual Conference was held March 23-25, 2017 in Orlando, Florida, and included more than 20 educational sessions featuring the latest advances in oncology care. Recordings from this conference are available as a continuing education course on the [NCCN Continuing Education Portal](#). These activities are designed to meet the educational needs of medical, surgical, and radiation oncologists, nurses, physician assistants, pharmacists, pathologists, and other healthcare professionals who care for patients with cancer. The course is approved for AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Nursing and pharmacy (ACPE) credits are also provided.

UPCOMING CONFERENCE REMINDERS

September 8 -12, 2017
ESMO - European Society for Medical Oncology, 2017 Congress
 Integrating Science into Oncology for a Better Patient Outcome
 Madrid, Spain
<http://www.esmo.org/Conferences/ESMO-2017-Congress>

September 13 - 14, 2017
Cancer Nursing Congress
 International Conference on Oncology Nursing & Cancer Care
 Singapore
<http://cancer.nursingconference.com/>

October 20 - 21, 2017
Hellenic Society of Head and Neck Cancer & the 6th Day of Oral Oncology
 Athens, Greece
<http://www.headneckcancer.gr/>

October 27, 2017
First Annual Treatment-Related Adverse Events Symposium: Focus on Management
 417 East 68th St, New York, NY
www.mskcc.org/AdverseEvents

October 27 - 28, 2017
Palliative and Supportive Care in Oncology Symposium
 San Diego, California
<http://pallonc.org>

November 3, 2017
First Annual Scientific Day of the Quebec Research Network in Palliative and End of Life Care
 The Michel-Sarrazin Research Team in Psychosocial Oncology and Palliative Care
 Laval University, Quebec City, Quebec, Canada
http://www.recherchesoinspalliatifs.ca/anglais/?journee_scientifique=a

November 9 - 11, 2017
SIOG 2017 Annual Conference
 Warsaw, Poland
<http://siog.org/content/siog-2017-annual-conference-0>

December 1 - 2, 2017
Second Regional Educational Meeting on Supportive Care in Cancer Patients for Eastern Europe and the Balkan Region
 Belgrade, Serbia
suppcarebgd2017@fogg.rs

MASCC welcomes the new members who joined us in June!

- Julian Agudelo, Colombia
- Amit Arya, Canada
- Matthew Asare, United States
- Sue Bartlett, Australia
- Jamie Clausen, Australia
- Calvin Cole, United States
- Cristina Dumitrescu, Belgium
- Shalini Dalai, United States
- Catherine Fidelis, Nigeria
- Pamela Ginex, United States
- Yoshiki Horie, Japan
- Claudia Inhaia, Brazil
- Lura Kauffman, United States
- Francisco Linares, Colombia
- Qiyuan Liu, United States
- Nicole Magdziarz, United States
- Catrina Mowbray, United States
- Luciana Regueira, Brazil
- Kate Rochlin, United States
- Seyoung Seo, Republic of Korea
- Marisa Stevens, Australia
- Virginia Stimamiglio Switzerland
- Emma Verastegui, Mexico
- Declan Walsh, United States
- Elizabeth Wulff-Burchfield, United States

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

MASCC/ISOO
 ANNUAL MEETING ON SUPPORTIVE CARE IN CANCER

28-30 JUNE • VIENNA, AUSTRIA

Save the Date!



2018
 SUPPORTIVE CARE
 MAKES EXCELLENT
 CANCER CARE POSSIBLE