Welcome to the February edition of the MASCC Society News

Message from Editors Anna Ugalde and Anna Boltong

In this edition of Society News we bring you a story about “Movember”, which started in 2003 as an idea among a few friends who agreed to grow mustaches during the month of November. The idea was sparked by their collective desire to draw attention to prostate cancer and the need for research funding. Since then, Movember has become the world’s largest non-government funder of prostate cancer research. We are delighted to let you know that Professor Hans-Jürg Senn has been granted honorary lifetime MASCC membership, for his extraordinary contributions to both MASCC and our journal, Supportive Care in Cancer. Further, we’re pleased to report that MASCC has had a promotional presence at another conference and is also now accessible on social media, and, as always, you can “meet” a new member and read about some recent peer-reviewed publications from MASCC members. As always, contributions are welcome and we encourage you to contact us with achievements from MASCC members.

From your editors, Anna & Anna

Honorary Lifetime Membership Awarded to MASCC Member Hans-Jürg Senn

Honorary Lifetime Membership status in MASCC has been awarded to Professor Hans-Jürg Senn, based on his commitment, vision and extraordinary service to MASCC and our journal. Along with Jean Klastersky and Steven Schimpff, Prof Senn founded MASCC 22 years ago. He also founded the Supportive Care in Cancer journal with Springer and served as the first Editor-in-Chief for 17 years. His leadership and unfailing support over the years has been fundamental to advancing this group as the largest and most successful supportive care society. Moreover, his contributions as a clinician researcher have improved the lives of cancer patients everywhere. We congratulate Professor Senn on this well deserved recognition. For those of you interested in reading more about Professor Senn’s contribution to MASCC and Supportive Care in Cancer, he was interviewed as the first editor of the journal in last December’s Society News.

Professor Hans-Jürg Senn

MASCC/ISOO International Symposium
Supportive Care In Cancer
June 26-28, 2014 • Miami, Florida

Abstract Deadline: February 14, 2014

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MOVEMBER

Funding A Survivorship Action Partnership to fight prostate cancer. MOVEMBER.COM

This month we chat to Movember’s Executive Director of Programs, Paul Villanti, to describe the group and tell us how Movember has grown over the past 10 years to become the world’s largest non-governmental funding source for prostate cancer research. Also, Paul describes how Movember has recently launched an initiative for supportive care.

What is Movember?
Movember started off in 2003 as a fun, nostalgic idea between a few friends in Melbourne to bring back the Mo by growing moustaches during the month of November. The following year they raised $54,000 which was donated to the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia (PCFA). Since then, Movember has invested in over 577 programs across 21 countries aimed at improving the lives of men in each of the countries through research, awareness and education concerning men’s health issues. Globally more than half a billion dollars has been raised with more than 4 million Mo Bros and Mo Sistas registered since 2003, creating billions of conversations about men’s health all thanks to growing Mo’s.

Tell us about A Survivorship Action Partnership (ASAP)
Through an open Expression of Interest process Movember’s ASAP has brought together Urologists, Radiation Oncologists, Medical Oncologists, GPs, allied health, mental health and chronic disease experts, to collaborate in developing scalable, sustainable new models of care and interventions that can significantly improve health outcomes. ASAP collaborative networks have now been established in Australia, Canada and the United Kingdom. Design of ASAP interventions is well underway, and will be finalised and implemented in early 2014 across 2 sites (one regional and one rural) in Australia. The ASAP USA collaborative network is expected to launch in early 2014.

What are Movember’s other initiatives?
 Movember supports a number of prostate cancer nurse or navigator programs in Australia, the United Kingdom, United States and South Africa where we seek to demonstrate and catalyse the introduction of prostate cancer nurses or navigators to improve the care of men and their families.

Together with our partner the Prostate Cancer Fundation of Australia, Movember funded the placement of 13 Prostate Cancer Specialist Nurses across regional, rural and metropolitan hospitals in Australia. The service is free for patients and carers. We were delighted that the Australian Federal Government has announced that it will invest over $7 million to expand the program across Australia.

Movember continues to strive to improve the lives of men diagnosed with prostate cancer throughout their journey with these important initiatives, to achieve our global vision of having an everlasting impact on the face of men’s health.

For more information please visit: movember.com

Over four million mo’s and growing!
Meet a new MASCC Member - David MacKintosh

I am a specialist physician in palliative medicine working on the Central Coast in New South Wales, Australia, which is located about one hour north of Sydney. Our service is a mixture of in-patient and community-based patients. We receive and respond to approximately 1000 referrals a year, about 80% of which have a cancer diagnosis. I usually attend palliative care conferences, but in 2013 I attended MASCC out of curiosity. The mixture of disciplines and diversity of topics turned out to be very stimulating, particularly the special interest groups - so I joined!

MASCC at the International Society of Geriatric Oncology in Copenhagen

MASCC had a promotional presence to profile our Society at the International Society of Geriatric Oncology (SIOG) 13th Conference in Copenhagen, Denmark, held over 24 – 26 October 2013. The meeting attracted 300 delegates and MASCC was represented by Christopher Steer and Jørn Herrstedt, who each gave lectures on the prevention of nausea and vomiting. During this event both Christopher and Jorn took the opportunity to promote MASCC’s upcoming symposium in Miami 2014! Delegates attending SIOG were invited to visit the MASCC both and to join MASCC. Some MASCC resources were also disseminated during the meeting, including our journal and the MASCC Oral Agent Teaching Tool brochure.

Publications from MASCC members

Below, as we have in our prior issues, we identify a number of peer-reviewed publications by MASCC members. Some of these may interest you to support your own research and practice.


7: Currow DC, Abernethy AP, Ko DN. The active identification and management of chronic refractory breathlessness is a human right. Thorax. 2013 Nov 8.


Publications from MASCC members (continued)


