Welcome to the May Issue of the MASCC Society News

Message from the Editor, Toni Clark

This month, we bring you news of the recent FDA approval of single-dose fosaprepitant for CINV, as well as news of the new MASCC/ESMO Antiemetic Guidelines. We feature the work of MASCC member Deborah K. Walker, recently honored by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing for her innovative teaching project. We note several upcoming conferences and pre-conference events, and give you a sneak-peek at some highlights of the 2016 MASCC/ISOO Annual Meeting. A warm welcome to 31 new members who joined us in February!

As always, you can find the current and older issues of the MASCC Society News online at www.mascc.org/newsletters or in the back pages of our journal, Supportive Care in Cancer.

US FDA Approves Single-Dose Fosaprepitant for CINV

In February, 2016, the US Food and Drug Administration approved a single-use injection of fosaprepitant dimeglumine (Emend®) to prevent delayed nausea and vomiting in adults receiving an initial or repeat course of moderately emetogenic chemotherapy. The drug was already approved for highly emetogenic chemotherapy. The approval was based in part on a phase III trial comparing a single IV infusion (150 mg) of fosaprepitant dimeglumine in combination with ondansetron and dexamethasone with a control regimen of ondansetron and dexamethasone alone.

MASCC members Karin Jordan (of Martin Luther University, in Halle, Germany) and Bernardo Rapoport (The Medical Oncology Centre of Rosebank, Johannesburg, South Africa) were part of the research team that conducted this study, which is the first to assess the efficacy and safety of a single IV dose of fosaprepitant in a well-defined noncyclophosphamide MEC population. The fosaprepitant regimen was well tolerated and resulted in a complete response (no vomiting and no rescue medication) in nearly 79% in the delayed phase and 77% in the overall phase — both significantly greater rates than achieved with the control regimen. In the acute phase, both regimens resulted in a high rate of complete response.

The results of the study, presented at the 2015 MASCC/ISOO Annual Meeting, as well as the 2015 meeting of the American Society of Clinical Oncology, were published in Annals of Oncology in January.*


ASCO Meeting: Collective Wisdom

The 2016 Annual Meeting of the American Society for Clinical Oncology will be held 3-7 June in Chicago, Illinois, USA. The theme of this year’s meeting is “Collective Wisdom: The Future of Patient-Centered Care and Research.” The meeting, which is expected to bring together 30,000 oncology professionals from around the world, will feature state-of-the-art treatment modalities, new therapies, and ongoing controversies in the field. With a focus on the future, the meeting topics will span disciplines, disease sites, and treatment approaches. For information or to register, go to http://am.asco.org.
New MASCC/ESMO Antiemetic Guidelines and Slide Set

The MASCC/ESMO Antiemetic Guidelines have been updated as of February, 2016. The guidelines are based on the Copenhagen Consensus Conference on Antiemetic Therapy, June 2015, and have been endorsed by both MASCC and ESMO. This set of evidence-based guidelines represents several important changes and first-time inclusions. This is the first time that recommendations about management of nausea and vomiting in advanced cancer have been included — as opposed to only nausea and vomiting induced by chemotherapy or radiotherapy — and in this respect, the new MASCC/ESMO guidelines differ from those of NCCN and ASCO. The new guidelines contain recommendations for two new NK1 receptor antagonists, rolapitant and netupitant, the latter given in combination with palonosetron (NEPA), and also discuss the use of olanzapine. The combination of an anthracycline with cyclophosphamide, previously considered of medium emetogenic risk (30-90% risk of vomiting) is now considered a high-risk combination (>90% risk of vomiting). However, this remains a special case, since recommendations for the delayed phase differ from those of other chemotherapies of highly emetogenic risk. In addition, carboplatin is now considered a special case with an indication for triple preventative therapy in the acute phase.

This Consensus Conference, a successful collaboration between MASCC and ESMO, was the first time that patient advocates were included in the consensus panel.

A new slide set summarizing the consensus process and recommendations has been produced and is freely available, provided no changes are made and that the MASCC and ESMO logos, as well as date of the information, are retained. You can access the slide set at the MASCC website: [http://www.mascc.org/antiemetic-guidelines](http://www.mascc.org/antiemetic-guidelines).

For questions, please contact Matti Aapro, Chair, MASCC Antiemetic Study Group (maapro@genolier.net), or Alex Molassiotis Past Chair, MASCC Antiemetic Study Group (alex.molassiotis@polyu.edu.hk).

---

EONS 10: Balancing Health Care Needs in a Changing Context

EONS 10, the 10th Biennial Congress of the European Oncology Nursing Society, will be held in Dublin, Ireland, 17-18 October, 2016. This year’s theme is “Balancing Health Care Needs in a Changing Context.” The meeting will focus on balancing physical and psychosocial care needs of patients, as well as their family members — an increasing challenge for cancer nurses. Speakers will address demographic changes in Europe and the continual advances in diagnosis and treatment.

The congress will offer scientific, educational, and networking opportunities to over 400 delegates from more than 30 European countries, including cancer nurses, clinical nurse specialists, advanced nurse practitioners, researchers, psychologists, and other professionals. The scientific program will cover a wide range of topics in cancer nursing, such as symptom assessment and management, psychosocial issues, long-term needs of cancer survivors, palliative care, and cancer care in the community.

Mei Krishnasamy, RN, MSc, PhD, will deliver this year’s keynote address. Krishnasamy is Professor of Cancer Nursing-Translational Research, in the Department of Nursing at the University of Melbourne, Australia. Previously, she held the position of Executive Director of Cancer Nursing and Allied Health at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in Melbourne. She has a particular interest in the relationship between patient experience, health outcomes, and value-based health care.

EONS 10 will be held in conjunction with the 18th International Psycho-Oncology Society (IPOS) Congress, providing opportunity to network with nurse leaders and colleagues from around the world. Special rates will be available to those who attend both meetings. The meeting is hosted by the Irish Cancer Society and the Irish Association for Nurses in Oncology.

Deborah Walker Honored by AACN for Educating Nursing Students on Cancer Patients’ Psychosocial Needs

MASCC member Deborah K. Walker, DNP, was awarded a 2015 Award in Excellence and Innovation in Teaching from the American Association of Colleges of Nursing for a project-based learning activity designed to increase nursing students’ awareness of cancer patients’ psychosocial needs — a project that helps bridge the gap between theory and practice. Deborah was subsequently awarded funding to lead a project team in the development of a Cancer Resource application. The application is now being used in Alabama (US) and Deborah hopes to expand its use in many other communities.

The project, which has involved oncology professionals, as well as nursing and information technology students, derived from Deborah’s experience in oncology nursing at the bedside and as a nurse practitioner, her recognition of global health issues gained as a Fulbright Senior Specialist, and her expertise in teaching oncology and palliative nursing. The Cancer Resource app helps providers, patients, and caregivers to locate local and national cancer resources. It makes possible more timely and consistent referrals and includes resources for psychosocial assessment needs and referrals. For more information about the teaching project and development of the app, see Walker DK, Hardeman A, Owen L, Frank JS: Information at the Point of Care: An Informational Application for Cancer Resources. CIN: Computers, Informatics, Nursing 33(9):390-5.

Deborah is an Associate Professor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing in the Acute, Chronic and Continuing Care Department. She has a wide range of clinical experience in hematology and oncology, chronic illness, and health promotion. Deborah, who has worked in both inpatient and ambulatory settings caring for cancer patients with a variety of diagnoses, also maintains a faculty practice at The Kirklin Clinic in the Hematology/Oncology Program. There she manages patients with breast cancer and lymphoma in clinical trials, patients undergoing active treatment, and cancer survivors in long-term follow-up. Deborah has published widely in such journals as the Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing, Computers, Informatics, Nursing, the American Journal of Nursing, and the Journal of Pediatric Nursing and has contributed to several medical and nursing textbooks. She is the immediate Past President of the local Oncology Nursing Society Chapter of Central Alabama, has served on the Oncology Nursing Society Board of Directors as Director at Large from 2012-2015, and is currently a trustee and President-Elect of the Oncology Nursing Society Foundation.

Cancer Resources App

- Local and national resources for cancer patients and caregivers.
- Summary of resources with contact information and maps.
- Option to email selected resources to yourself or others.

Available from the App Store, Google Play, and cancerresources-al.org. For more information, contact Deborah Walker at dkwalker@uab.edu.

A Sneak-Peek at the 2016 MASCC/ISOO Annual Meeting

The MASCC/ISOO Annual Meeting takes place in Adelaide, Australia, 23-25 June, 2016. Meeting Chairs Dorothy Keefe and Ian Olver, along with the Scientific Committee, have put together an exciting program of presentations, workshops, discussions, and debates. The meeting, which is MASCC’s 25th and ISOO’s 30th, will showcase the progress made in the past three decades toward managing the symptoms and side effects of cancer and its treatment. This is a great opportunity to celebrate the impact of supportive care on patient experience, treatment outcomes, and survival. To this end, this year’s meeting will feature a special patient symposium. Here are some other highlights to look forward to.

Plenary Sessions

**MASCC’s 25th Anniversary: Present and Future** – A look at MASCC from its founding and early years to the present from the perspectives of MASCC’s New President and Past Presidents. Stephen Sonis will then provide a view of the next 25 years of supportive care. With Ian Olver, Jean Klastersky, Richard Gralla, Matti Aapro, Paul Hesketh, Jorn Herrstedt, Dorothy Keefe, David Warr, and Stephen Sonis.

**Management of Gastrointestinal Toxicity** – A look at chemotherapy- and radiotherapy-induced GI toxicity, as well as oral toxicity. With Dorothy Keefe, Richard Logan, Jervoise Andreyev, and Eric Yeah.

**Survivorship** – Cancer survivorship, from risk to risk reduction. Health issues for older survivors. Social determinants of health in cancer and chronic disease and implications for disadvantaged populations. With David Warr, Bogda Koczvara, Kevin Oeffinger, Martine Extermann, and Fran Baum.
A Sneak-Peek at the 2016 MASCC/ISOO Annual Meeting, continued

Workshops

- Mucositis Research
- Sleep, Drowsiness, & Fatigue in Cancer Patients
- Supportive Care & Immunotherapy
- Cancer-Related Cognitive Impairment
- Nutritional Care in Advanced Cancer
- End of Life: Global Challenges, Local Solutions

Parallel Sessions

Parallel sessions will feature the latest advances in managing symptoms and side effects of cancer and its treatment (pain, fatigue, nausea and vomiting, dyspnea, infection, immune reactions, dysbiosis, cardiac toxicity, delirium, hair loss), as well as numerous other issues in supportive cancer care, such as bone health, nutrition, geriatric assessment, complementary therapies, and communication. Speakers will also consider disparities in supportive care around the world and the ways that supportive care improves both quality of life and survival.

ISOO CE Course and Business Meeting

Chair: Ourania Nicolatou-Galitis

ISO-EBMT Collaboration:

Oral Oncology and Haematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation
Arno Mank, Richard Logan, Barry Quinn, Elvira Correa

From Silos to Symptom Clusters: 30 Years of the ISOO
Raj Nair, Douglas Peterson, Barbara Murphy, John Wu

Oral Care Study Group Guidelines Update and Patient Care Guidelines Launch
Richard Logan, Allan Hovan, Raj Nair, Deborah Saunders

Recognizing the importance of supportive care has made significant advances in cancer treatment possible. Don’t miss this opportunity to hear from expert clinicians and researchers in supportive care and to contribute your own insights on an international level!

Supportive Care Makes Excellent Cancer Care Possible

MASCC Pre-Conference Institutional Visit
Cancer Council Victoria - Melbourne, Victoria • “Nutrition and Cancer Initiatives”

Cancer Council Victoria (CCV) will hold a MASCC pre-conference visit on 20 June from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM (AEST). The event includes a welcome by MASCC member Anna Boltong (CCV Head of Cancer Information and Support Service), a morning of featured speakers, a tour, and refreshments. Featured speakers include public health and supportive care clinicians, researchers, and policy advocates who will address the subject of nutrition and cancer initiatives. Topics include strategies to combat cancer-related malnutrition and to promote healthy lifestyles among both adults and children. Please RSVP by 31 May, 2016. For program information or to register, contact cis@cancervic.org.au.

Cancer Council Victoria, an independent and nonprofit organization established in 1937, conducts innovative work in cancer research, prevention, and support and plays a leading role in reducing the impact of all types of cancer. The Council is located at 615 St Kilda Road, Melbourne, Victoria 3004. For more information about CCV: http://www.cancervic.org.au.

MASCC Pre-Conference Forum:
2016 Australasian Palliative Link International Forum • North Adelaide, SA

Australasian Palliative Link International (APLI) will hold its annual forum on Wednesday, 22 June, 2016, from 8:30 AM to 3:15 PM (AEST). Among the speakers is Andrew Davies (Clinical Director Palliative Care, Royal Surrey County Hospital, UK), who will discuss global issues in palliative care. With a focus on palliative care in India, the forum will include such topics as the Indian Cooperative Oncology Network, nursing perspectives, palliative care in humanitarian aid settings, volunteering, mentoring, and collaboration between Australia and India.

APLI, founded in 1996 by Odette Spruyt and chaired by Anil Tandon, FRACP, is a group of Australian and New Zealand doctors and nurses who work to develop and foster links between palliative care providers and organizations in Australia, New Zealand, and the Asia-Pacific region. They aim to raise awareness of palliative care service needs and to provide a forum for information exchange.

The APLI Forum will take place at the Royal Australasian College of Physicians, Suite 7, Level 2, 257 Melbourne Street, North Adelaide, SA 5006. APLI warmly welcomes both members and nonmembers to this forum. The cost is $25 per person and includes an Indian buffet lunch. To register, contact Davinia Seah by 13 June, 2016: info@apli.net.au.
World Ovarian Cancer Day – Sunday May 8th
Every ovarian cancer organization involved with World Ovarian Cancer Day has its own website. Find out how to get involved in your country by connecting with your local ovarian cancer organization.

World No Tobacco Day – Tuesday, May 31st
This year, the World Health Organization and the Secretariat of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control call on all countries to adopt plain (standardized) packaging of tobacco products. Plain packaging reduces the attractiveness of tobacco products, limits misleading labeling, and increases the effectiveness of health warnings. Australia has already pioneered tobacco control measures. New Zealand has announced its intention to introduce similar legislation. France, India, South Africa, the United Kingdom, and the European Union are also considering tougher packaging laws for tobacco products.

Celebrate Cancer Survivors Day - Sunday, June 5th
Cancer Survivors Day is celebrated around the world each year on the first Sunday in June to honor cancer survivors, celebrate milestones, and show that life after a cancer diagnosis can be productive and rewarding. Visit www.ncsd.org/register to register your event and access resources to help plan and promote it.

May Observances
Brain Tumor Awareness Month
Skin Cancer Detection and Prevention Month
National Cancer Research Month (US)

New MASCC Members
MASCC welcomes the following new members who joined us in February:

- Lynn Adams, United States
- Jin Seok Ahn, Korea
- Keisuke Aiba, Japan
- Allen Allenidekania, Indonesia
- Biswamit Bhattacharya, India
- Janet Coller, Australia
- Simona Gatej, Australia
- Paolo Giordani, Italy
- Mary-Ann Harrison, Canada
- Pam Horsley, Australia
- Mary Job, Australia
- Muhammad Saghir Khan, United Arab Emirates
- Samantha Korver, Australia
- Susan Lilley, Australia
- Paula Macleod, Australia
- Sandra Michiels, Belgium
- Louise Nicholson, Australia
- Inga O’Brien, New Zealand
- Hideaki Ogata, Japan
- Thanarpan Peerawong, Thailand
- Razvan Popescu, Switzerland
- Theresa Pot, Australia
- Christian Strand, Sweden
- Ann Carin Svanberg, Sweden
- Samya Taright-Mahi, Algeria
- Michiko Tsuneizumi, Japan
- Raymond Tung, Australia
- Sujatha Venkatramkumar, India
- Helen Westman, Australia
- Karen Wickersham, United States
- Ana Zilic, Serbia

Have any news items to share?
Please send contributions for the MASCC News to MASCCnews@mascc.org or to Toni Clark, Editor at tclark@mascc.org
For more information please contact: Åge Schultz, MASCC Executive Director: aschultz@mascc.org