

ECCO – the European CanCER Organisation

ECCO – the European CanCER Organisation: Through its 24 Member Societies – representing over 50,000 professionals – ECCO is the only multidisciplinary organisation that connects and responds to all stakeholders in oncology Europe-wide.

ECCO is a non-profit association that exists to uphold the right of all European cancer patients to the best possible treatment and care, promote interaction between all organisations involved in cancer research, education, treatment and care at the European level. It does this by creating awareness of patients' needs and wishes, encouraging progressive thinking in cancer policy, training and education and promoting European cancer research through the organisation of international multidisciplinary meetings.

ECCO Congresses and Conferences: ECCO advances European cancer research and its application through the organisation of international multidisciplinary meetings including the premier European cancer meetings: the joint ECCO–ESMO Multidisciplinary Congresses.

In addition to the joint ECCO–ESMO Congresses, ECCO organises meetings of excellence on behalf of some of its Member Organisations. To heighten quality, attendance and exposure, ECCO is committed to supporting these educational opportunities through the provision of additional organisational, communication and marketing efforts.

ECCO Public Affairs: ECCO is uniquely positioned to provide the voice of consensus of the European oncology professionals and engage with policymakers to ensure that cancer stays at the top of the EU health and research agenda.

Providing a rallying point for Europe's community of oncology professionals, ECCO's Public Affairs arm engages in oncopolitics: planned and sustained interaction with EU policymakers as well as third-party stakeholders to anticipate and proactively shape EU cancer health and research policy.

ECCO Education: ECCO Education organises and drives educational initiatives of cross discipline appeal to promote multidisciplinary and meet the scientific, educational and professional needs of oncology specialists.

ECCO is dedicated to advancing education through the implementation and development of Accreditation Council of Oncology in Europe (ACOE) accredited CME opportunities such as the ECCO *Case Study of the Month* series and the ECCO *e-seminars*. ECCO Education also provides a broad range of other resources including an e-programme library cataloguing exciting e-learning opportunities offered by ECCO's Member Organisations.

Publications: ECCO disseminates scientific advancement, knowledge and insight through its official publication the *European Journal of Cancer* (EJC).

ECCO also publishes EJC News, Correspondence and Pick of the Papers on its website and supports the open access oncology journal ecancermedicalscience.com – of which ECCO is founding partner.

ECCO Patient Information: Following the philosophy that every cancer patient deserves the best, ECCO supports and promotes the activities of patient advocates and organisations to better respond to patients' needs and wishes.

ECCO's Patient Information section offers a broad selection of innovative, reliable, and up-to-date information on cancer related issues collated to meet the needs of patient advocates and organisations including: *Spotlight on: in the news* features and commentary, *Advocates in action* reports and the *Presentations and Patients* section.

For further information visit: www.ecco-org.eu

European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO)

The European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) is a non-profit, leading European professional organization, which focuses on advancing the specialty of medical oncology and promoting a multidisciplinary approach to cancer treatment and care. At ESMO, our ultimate goal is to eradicate cancer and advance cancer care, assuring that patients receive the high-quality care they deserve. To achieve this goal, we constantly strive to address the issues that affect both our members and the oncology profession as a whole.

Membership

The myESMO community is a powerful alliance of committed oncology professionals. ESMO tailors its programs to meet its members' professional development needs. We provide platforms for our members to continue to build up their expertise and to remain up-to-date with the competence and skills required to be recognized as top-quality oncology practitioners. Through our ESMO awards, we recognize our members' achievements in the field of oncology. Our sense of community reaches beyond medical oncology and across all oncology specialties. While the majority of our 6,000 members are medical oncologists, ESMO membership spans over 100 countries and also includes radiation and surgical oncologists, as well as other oncology healthcare professionals actively involved in cancer treatment, research, and patient care.

Research

A core part of our mission is to both nurture and disseminate cancer research. ESMO is actively involved in creating a favorable environment for innovative and high-quality basic, translational and clinical cancer research.

- *Annals of Oncology:* ESMO's multidisciplinary scientific journal, *Annals of Oncology*, ranks among the top clinical oncology journals worldwide and publishes articles addressing medical oncology, surgery, radiotherapy, pediatric oncology, basic research and the comprehensive management of patients with malignant diseases.
- *ESMO Clinical Recommendations:* Annually updated requirements for a basic standard of cancer care, offering vital, evidence-based information for physicians, including incidence of the malignancy, diagnostic criteria, staging of disease and risk assessment, treatment plans and follow-up.
- *ESMO Fellowship Program:* Offers young oncologists the opportunity to gain research experience in outstanding European Institutes, obtain financial support and take advantage of networking opportunities. The program is designed to provide a clear perspective on future research potential and patient management.

Education

ESMO recognizes the importance of education as an essential tool to maintain excellence in patient care. Our experienced committee experts and multidisciplinary faculty ensure excellence in ESMO educational programs, which contextualize research results and cover the full spectrum of cancer treatment and care.

- *ESMO Congress:* The annual ESMO Congress, held every second year in joint partnership with the European CanCER Organisation (ECCO), is recognized as the European meeting place for oncologists to present the latest in basic, translational and clinical research findings as well as to learn and exchange ideas with their colleagues.

- *ESMO Conferences*: Together with other leading European oncology organizations, ESMO organizes conferences in its four core specialty areas of breast cancer, gastrointestinal cancer, genitourinary cancer and lung cancer.
- *Continuing Medical Education*: In addition to physical and virtual meetings, ESMO publishes handbooks, scientific meeting reports, medical oncology training guidelines, offers the ESMO Exam and provides interactive practice and self-assessment tools, as well as other educational materials online at: www.esmo.org
- *Patient Seminars*: Education at ESMO extends beyond oncology professionals. Through the ESMO Patient Seminars it also reaches out to cancer patients in order to facilitate an open dialogue and partnership with them as part of our mission to embrace the needs of those suffering from cancer.

Public Policy and Partnership

- *European Union*: ESMO is an authoritative voice in the fight against cancer and prepares position papers as well as offers consultative expertise to oncology organizations and European authorities on important issues related to cancer research, prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure.
- *Oncology partners*: ESMO addresses the universal needs in oncology by being a reliable partner to all stakeholders in the multidisciplinary oncology environment. We know that we cannot fight this battle alone therefore through our activities we unite key oncology stakeholders who share common objectives. Enhancing our relationships with European and national oncology societies, as well as cooperative research groups, consolidates and strengthens our European network and reinforces our united efforts.

To join ESMO today or obtain more information about our Society, please visit: www.esmo.org

ESMO is a Founding Member of ECCO – the European CanCER Organisation.

European Association for Cancer Research (EACR)

The European Association for Cancer Research, founded in 1968, is the largest member Association for cancer research in Europe. EACR is growing quickly with a membership of over 8000 laboratory, translational and clinical cancer researchers from 82 countries and seven National Societies.

EACR's aim is the advancement of cancer research – from basic research, to prevention, treatment and care. This includes support for meetings and workshops, increased opportunities for collaboration, improved communication, the enabling of developing countries to contribute to cancer research and the strengthening of education and training.

Activities include the organisation of conferences covering the most important recent advances; fellowship and bursary programmes and enhanced communication through EACR Newsletters, weekly e-news bulletins and the EACR website www.eacr.org.

Opportunities exist to receive recognition and win awards, including the prestigious EACR Young Cancer Researcher Award and the Carcinogenesis Young Investigator Award. EACR also celebrates success through the presentation of poster prizes and 'Researcher Awards' where outstanding abstracts are selected for oral presentation at important scientific meetings.

EACR Travel Fellowship Awards are regarded by the EACR membership as the Association's most valuable scheme. Travel fellowships support research on the basis of technical exchange, including participation in workshops and courses. Jointly sponsored by EACR and AICR, the fellowships are awarded three times each year. The Mike Price fellowship, jointly sponsored by EACR and ECCO, is the Association's most prestigious fellowship and is awarded annually.

Meeting Bursaries have been designed to assist younger members of the Association particularly post graduate students and members less than 35 years old to attend the EACR conferences. A small number of bursaries are also made available for meetings in the EACR Symposia series.

Student Membership of EACR is free for up to four years. Students attending the ECCO conference are encouraged to join the Association at the EACR stand at the conference or to submit an application on-line at www.eacr.org. Student members enjoy the full benefits of membership.

For further information contact:

Kathryn Wass and Andrew Binns
EACR Secretariat
School of Pharmacy
University of Nottingham
Nottingham NG7 2RD, United Kingdom
Tel: +44 115 9515114
E-mail: kathryn.wass@nottingham.ac.uk
andrew.binns@nottingham.ac.uk
www.eacr.org

European Oncology Nursing Society (EONS)

The European Oncology Nursing Society (EONS) was established in 1984 and is registered as a not-for-profit organisation. EONS membership comprises 33 Member societies, 22 national institutions involved in cancer care as well as more than 240 individual cancer nurses. Together this enables EONS to represent the voice of more than 22,000 nurses from 33 European countries.

EONS's goal is to develop and promote the practice and recognition of high-quality cancer nursing in Europe through education, research, and practice-based initiatives. Such a goal can only be achieved through effective two-way communication and the strength of EONS is based on the close cooperation between its Members and a broad range of multi-disciplinary and cross-sectoral organisations involved in cancer care. These collaborations enable our Members to optimise the nursing contribution of cancer patient care across Europe.

The Society also recognises its role as a specialist educator of cancer nurses and empowers its Members to attain due recognition as specialists in their own country through accredited national and European training programmes. EONS provides both basic as well as advanced specialist education programmes and further enhances the educational and employment opportunities of its Members through an accreditation programme that initiates clinical projects and provides support for nursing research.

EONS also publishes in its associated journal: the *European Journal of Oncology Nursing (EJON)*. This is a peer-reviewed journal that publishes scientific articles and serves as a vehicle for the analysis and dissemination of recent developments in the cancer nursing field. The Society also provides its Members with the *EONS Newsletter*, a quarterly publication which is available to all its Members free of charge. The EONS Newsletter is a source of information on clinical topics, project news, updates on educational programmes, as well as highlighting topical issues from recent conferences.

For more information about EONS or information on how to join, please contact the EONS Secretariat at: eons.secretariat@cancernurse.eu or visit us at:

www.cancernurse.eu

European Society of Surgical Oncology (ESSO)

The European Society of Surgical Oncology (ESSO) was founded in 1981 to advance the art, science and practice of surgery for the treatment of cancer.

ESSO aims to promote the highest standards of surgical care in the management of patients with solid tumours. By facilitating the dissemination of knowledge and expertise, ESSO strives to ensure that the highest possible standard of surgical treatment is available to cancer patients throughout Europe. Further, the society aims to optimise the clinical management of cancer patients through multidisciplinary collaboration.

ESSO is increasingly involved in the training of surgeons in cancer throughout Europe and promotes the development of guidelines to foster best practice in cancer surgery. It also seeks to advance education and support basic and clinical research in oncology.

Leading Education, Exchange and Debate

ESSO is highly committed to promoting education in cancer surgery. By providing the European Surgical Oncology community with a wide range of educational opportunities and initiatives, ESSO contributes to the advancement of knowledge and expertise in oncology surgery and the clinical management of cancer patients:

- ESSO's Biennial Congresses provide oncology surgeons with the most expansive and interconnective educational platform in Europe.
- ESSO's Training Fellowship Programme offers young surgeons the opportunity to visit a specialist centre, expand experience, and acquire new insight.
- ESSO organises multidisciplinary projects and courses in partnership with other leading organisations.
- ESSO offers Travel Fellowships to attend ESSO Congresses and the ECCO/AACR/ASCO Workshop on Methods in Clinical Cancer Research.
- ESSO furthers education through the European Board of Surgery examination and Core Curriculum in Surgical Oncology.
- ESSO provides surgical expertise and support for ECCO – the European CanCer Organisation's Congresses, of which ESSO is co-organiser.

EJSO – European Journal of Surgical Oncology is the Official Journal of the European Society of Surgical Oncology (ESSO) and the Association for Cancer Surgery (BASO).

EJSO aims to educate and inform about the many subspecialty disciplines of cancer surgery. The journal publishes original scientific articles, reviews, clinical trials, and other relevant subject matter.

To discover more about our community, activities, educational opportunities and membership benefits visit the ESSO stand in the ECCO society village located in the exhibition area or the ESSO website at www.esso-surgeononline.org. You can also contact the ESSO Secretariat at the following address:

Carine Lecoq, ESSO administrator

Avenue E. Mounier, 83

BE-1200 Brussels

Tel: +32 (0)2 537 31 06

E-mail: esso@esso-surgeononline.org

European Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology (ESTRO)

Since its foundation in 1980, ESTRO – the European Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology, supports the role of radiation oncology in the multimodality treatment of cancer to improve patients care.

With 5000 members, the society endorses the importance of European and international cooperation to support and advance education, research and networking across all areas of radiation oncology.

Thus ESTRO's principal objectives and activities are to:

- Promote the **international exchange of scientific information**, research and dissemination of outcomes on radiotherapy and oncology and related scientific fields.
- **Organise congresses and conferences** covering all aspects of radiation oncology and the multidisciplinary treatment of cancer. From major conferences with several thousand delegates to meetings for smaller, highly specialised groups, ESTRO can be relied upon to provide a state-of-the-art scientific programme.
- Provide **educational courses** and materials in radiation oncology to meet the needs for basic training and continuing professional development in radiotherapy and oncology. Whilst promoting multidisciplinary education in oncology, *ESTRO School* expands its activities in 2009 in launching a new e-learning facility that will provide electronic teaching resources for all oncology professionals.
- Establish relationships and **networks** and encourage **co-operation** with international, national and regional societies as well as professional bodies and industry partners in the field of radiation oncology.
- Develop standards for **quality assurance** in radiation oncology, radiation physics, radiation technology and radiobiology throughout Europe and encourage their implementation.

For more information please visit: www.estro.org

European Society for Paediatric Oncology (SIOP Europe)

Mission: SIOPE, the European Society for Paediatric Oncology, promotes optimal standards of care for children and young people with cancer. It is the only pan-European multidisciplinary society dedicated to childhood cancer. Established in 1998, SIOPE collaborates closely both with SIOP – the International Society of Paediatric Oncology, and ECCO – the European Cancer Organisation. Representing multinational clinical trials groups and national childhood organisations, SIOPE develops novel strategies for cancer awareness, cancer diagnosis, and cancer treatment focused on children. Aware that a highly dedicated multidisciplinary approach to treatment as well as investing in high-quality clinical research can greatly increase survival rates, SIOPE actively encourages greater coordination of clinical trials activity in Europe, as well as supporting education and exchanges between all professionals working in the field of paediatric oncology. SIOPE additionally maintains strong links with national patient organisations ensuring a strong patient perspective, as well as keenly promoting information dissemination of the latest developments in cancer research and EU policy.

Subscribership: In order to construct an active European network, SIOPE recently launched a subscribership. Benefits include:

- Regular e-updates on all the very latest within our field including consultations with bodies such as the European Commission and EMEA, funding information from the EU institutions and fellowship opportunities.
- Exclusive access to the SIOPE subscriber databases including contact information for other subscribers, European Clinical Trials Groups and National Childhood Cancer Organisations.
- Share best practices and experience and be actively involved in our interdisciplinary network.
- Full online access to EJC – the European Journal of Cancer (additional fee).
- Reduced rates to attend the joint ECCO–ESMO Congresses.
- Participate in our multidisciplinary training projects and seminars.

For further information please contact:

SIOPE

Avenue E. Mounier 83
B-1200 Brussels, Belgium

Tel: +32 2 775 02 01

Fax: +32 2 775 02 00

E-mail: office@siope.eu

www.siope.eu

European Association of Neuro-Oncology (EANO)

EANO is the pan-European organisation that represents all the clinical and scientific disciplines involved in the diagnosis and treatment of brain and central nervous system malignancies and of the effects of cancer, or its treatment, on the nervous system. EANO exists to stimulate interaction and collaboration between those with an interest in Neuro-oncology and provides educational activities through biennial EANO congresses and other conferences and via the EANO website. At a European level it works with ECCO to advocate best practice in Europe and the importance of research funding.

Today EANO has over 600 members from more than 30 countries, in Europe and across the world. EANO cooperates with national Neuro-oncology societies and allied groups to stimulate international cooperation in research and clinical training. EANO has organised 8 biennial EANO scientific congresses (Maastricht 1994, Würzburg 1996, Versailles 1998, Copenhagen 2000, Florence 2002, Vienna 2006 and Barcelona 2008) and the joint EANO/World Federation for Neuro-oncology conference, which was held in Edinburgh in May 2005.

A special educational program is planned for young researchers from Central and Eastern Europe with the goal of promoting a high standard Neuro-oncological qualification and favouring a more intense integration with these countries. In 2009 and 2010 EANO members can apply for fellowships. More information will be published soon on the EANO website.

If you have an interest in Neuro-oncology, we would be delighted to see you at the next EANO meeting, scheduled September 16–19, 2010, Maastricht, the Netherlands.

We are looking for active members – please register as a member via our website.

For further information contact:

E-mail: office@eano.eu

www.eano.eu

European Association of Urology (EAU)

Leading science into the future

The European Association of Urology (EAU) is a prominent organisation that makes its goal to provide consistent support to urology experts from all over the world and to represent its members in a competent and efficient manner. All professionals who are active in the field of urology, including urology nurses, are welcome to join the growing ranks of EAU members.

The EAU was established in 1972, prompted by developments in the emerging European community. It came to life through the efforts of several distinguished European urologists and the enthusiasm of Prof. G. Ravasini. The EAU's first congress was held in Padua, Italy two years later. At the same time the official journal of the EAU, *European Urology* (current IF 5.634), was established. Under the leadership of Prof. F. Debruyne, the European Association of Urology underwent a number of structural changes in the 1990s, enabling it to become the modern organisation that it is today. Prof. Per-Anders Abrahamsson is the current Secretary General of the EAU.

Currently the EAU is a leading urological association, which actively promotes intensification of research and practice in the numerous subspecialties of this field ranging from andrology and uro-oncology to uro-technology. Each year, the EAU organises various section meetings that offer the newest updates in the relevant subspecialty, at the same time providing a very sound platform for expert exchange of ideas.

The European Association of Urology understands the growing need for interdisciplinary collaboration. A number of EAU's on-going projects cover this important objective, such as the European Multidisciplinary Meeting on Urological Cancers (EMUC), an event organised in association with ESMO and ESTRO.

The EAU organises highly esteemed conferences and courses in the field of urology, with the Annual EAU Congress topping the list. This congress is one of the largest urology events in the world and attracts thousands of experts to its venues each year. Various regional meetings and courses enable the EAU to reach out to smaller groups of local professionals meeting their need for education and exchange of knowledge.

For further information, contact:

E-mail: EAU@uroweb.org

www.uroweb.org

European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC)

The European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC) is an international association under Belgian law created in 1962.

The aims of the EORTC are to develop, conduct, coordinate, and stimulate translational and clinical cancer research in Europe to improve the management of cancer and related problems by increasing both survival and patient quality of life. The ultimate goal of the EORTC is to establish state-of-the-art cancer treatment to improve survival rate, quality of life and quality of care for all patients with cancer.

The EORTC is primarily devoted to high-quality clinical research to establish optimal therapeutic strategies via large multi-center clinical studies in a multidisciplinary approach leading to state-of-the-art treatment.

In line with the increasingly important role of functional imaging in trials involving translational research and having endpoints linked to biological markers, the EORTC Board has decided to establish an Imaging Group to drive the development of treatment strategies tailored to the biological characteristics of a particular tumour.

EORTC Headquarters has instituted quality assurance in radiotherapy (QART), and these measures have resulted in measurably significant improvement in treatment delivery and patient outcome in radiotherapy. The EORTC has initiated a European tumor bank project to improve and harmonise the histological review and to promote translational research in EORTC trials.

The EORTC Headquarters' Early Project Optimisation Department (EPOD) lends support and methodological expertise to the EORTC groups for all new projects.

A Network of Core Institutions (NOCI) has been formed as part of the overall EORTC strategy. NOCI is based on core recruiting academic centres across Europe, specifically apt to develop projects with important translational research components.

EORTC Headquarters comprises about 160 staff members (15 nationalities) including medical doctors, statisticians, PhD's quality of life specialists, scientific and administrative staff, computer specialists, and research fellows.

All EORTC research projects and clinical studies are peer reviewed and have to be approved by the relevant EORTC Committees.

An Academic Research Fund has been created to allocate support for clinical trials of excellence submitted to the Board.

Over 6000 new patients are treated each year according to EORTC protocols.

For further information please visit: www.eortc.be

European Society of Gynaecological Oncology (ESGO)

The Voice of Gynaecological Oncology in Europe

ESGO is a forum for professionals dedicated to the care of women affected by gynaecological cancer and a principal authority concerned with Gynaecological Oncology in Europe.

Our objective is to promote communication with scientific and professional bodies in order to create a dynamic and democratic European platform of individual professionals including specialists, fellows and nurses for networking, sharing of knowledge and improving gynaecological cancer care in Europe.

ESGO achieves its aims through ESGO biennial meetings, ESGO's official journal, the International Journal of Gynaecological Cancer (IJGC), the organisation of educational events, workshops and backed meetings (endorsed or supported meetings). We are also involved in hospital accreditation and setting up accredited training programs, Travelling Fellowships and other activities.

In order to fulfil our objectives we need the involvement of all those who care about gynaecology to join us and support our effort.

NEW! Discover our 3 new features offered to ESGO members:

E-SERIES 2009 – Exclusive presentations given by internationally renowned speakers, brought directly to your home or office.

ESGO Forum – Online video library and access to a wide online community.

ENYGO – Junior activities at the Biennial Congress.

For further information contact:

ESGO Administrative Office

c/o Kenes International

1-3 rue Chantepoulet

P.O. Box 1726

CH-1211 Geneva 1, Switzerland

Tel: +41 22 906 91 50

Fax: +41 22 732 28 50

E-mail: info@esgo.org

www.esgo.org

European School of Oncology (ESO)

The European School of Oncology (ESO) was founded by Umberto Veronesi and Laudomia Del Drago in 1982, with the aim of contributing to the reduction of deaths from cancer due to late diagnosis and/or inadequate treatment. ESO's mission is reflected in its motto 'Learning to Care', which stresses the concept of studying and learning and also of caring for the patient in a global sense.

By improving the skills of all health professionals dealing with cancer patients, ESO shortens the length of time needed to transfer knowledge from research centres to daily practice, combining advanced technology with humanism in care.

'Learning to Care' is the motto of the School. The European School of Oncology has always given great importance to the learning process. Since its attention is focused on the clinical aspects of the cancer problem, care is the ultimate goal of its commitment to improve the oncological skills of health professionals. Care and not only treatment is of paramount importance to us because ESO believes in the holistic approach to the cancer patient.

ESO organises a wide range of courses, covering many different topics and relevant to all health professionals in oncology, regardless of experience. ESO's events are clinically-oriented and involve research conducted with human subjects with whom the speaker has interacted directly. ESO's courses are organ-oriented but the disease is approached from all possible sides, from epidemiology to surgery, from basic science to rehabilitation. The involvement of interdisciplinary methods and approaches is a key aspect. ESO believes that cancer is a biological problem but also a human, social and psychological issue. Medical doctors play a crucial role in the fight against cancer, but nurses, psychologists, social workers and technicians of the various disciplines do too. ESO values the enormous role that patients play in the treatment and cure of cancer and since its inception has been open to advocacy.

For further information contact:

European School of Oncology

Via del Bollo, 4

20123 Milan, Italy

Tel: +39 02 8546 451

Fax: +39 02 8546 4545

E-mail: eso@eso.net

www.eso.net

European Society of Oncology Pharmacy (ESOP)

Our capability needs a goal – patients need our competence

For all health care practitioners, whatever their profession, the patient is the focus of attention. The causes that induce a need for therapy have to be diagnosed individually and treated in line with generally recognised methods.

International studies and national surveys alike indicate that between 6–13% of hospital admissions relate to conditions whose causes can be attributed to the inappropriate prescription or administration of medication.

The active support of the pharmacist is needed.

The situation regarding oncology patient care differs from each country in Europe. The countries with the most contrary conditions are Belgium and Germany. In particular it is important to consider Oncology pharmacy from the hospital and the ambulatory perspectives. To be able to ultimately serve all patients in future under the same good conditions the following three main requirements must be fulfilled:

- Standardisation
- Specialisation
- Accreditation

The European Society of Oncology Pharmacy (ESOP) is a Full Member of ECCO – the European CanCer Organisation which through its member societies, represents the interests of over 50,000 professionals in oncology.

The key objectives of the European Society of Oncology Pharmacy (ESOP) are:

- To promote clinical practice, research and development in drug use and administration for the treatment of cancer patients.
- To make research results available to the public through publications, lectures and seminars
- To encourage the publication of developments in clinical practice through professional activities

The chance of surviving cancer is increasing all the time. The methods of treatment are changing from intermittent IV to continuous oral regimens. Pharmacists must be involved in the safe and effective use of orally administered targeted treatments for cancer which also has to be learned by pharmacists.

As early as possible Oncology Pharmacists need to understand their leading role in organising the best support for patients. They will then be rightfully considered as a supporting pillar in the hall of multi-professionalism.

We are honoured to present our work at this joint ECCO 15 – 34th ESMO Multidisciplinary Congress.

Klaus Meier, Germany (President ESOP)

For further information contact:

E-mail: memberships@esop.eu

www.esop.eu

European Society of Breast Cancer Specialists (EUSOMA)

The European Society of Breast Cancer Specialists (EUSOMA) is a multidisciplinary society committed to increase contacts among specialists in Breast Cancer, improve and harmonise the quality of patient care in Europe, encourage the multidisciplinary approach and the establishment of Breast Units, foster a voluntary certification process.

The main society activities are the publication of consensus statements on new controversial aspects in breast cancer care and the promotion of training and qualification of breast cancer specialists through training programmes for young MDs.

For further information contact:

EUSOMA

Via del Pratellino, 7

50131 Firenze, Italy

E-mail: secretariat@eusoma.org

www.eusoma.org

Breast International Group (BIG)

The Breast International Group (BIG) is an international non-profit umbrella organisation for academic breast cancer research groups from around the world. It was founded in 1996 by European opinion leaders in breast cancer and became a legal entity in 1999. It now constitutes a network of 44 collaborative research groups or trial data centres tied to about 3000 hospitals and research centres in Europe, Canada, Latin America, and the Asia-Pacific region.

BIG's mission is to facilitate breast cancer research internationally by stimulating cooperation between its members and other academic networks, and collaborating with, but working independently from, the pharmaceutical industry.

BIG combines resources and expertise to conduct high quality, often practice-changing trials, and to develop new research programmes. Together, BIG members establish research priorities and reduce the wasteful duplication of efforts. The data centres of BIG group members currently manage about 30 trials, involving over 76000 patients.

BIG collaborates with the US National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the network of NCI-sponsored breast cancer cooperative groups. Both BIG and the North American network/NCI share the same objectives: pooling resources to more quickly and effectively answer important questions that will lead to much faster results and better treatments for patients. Working together, they represent an impressive, global integrating force in breast cancer research.

BIG is the founder and coordinator of TRANSBIG, a European Commission supported research consortium for translational research running the innovative MINDACT trial.

To get to know the BIG network and its activities better, visit: www.breastinternationalgroup.org

European Association of Nuclear Medicine (EANM)

The European Association of Nuclear Medicine (EANM) constitutes the European umbrella organisation of nuclear medicine in Europe and represents the sector towards the European institutions.

Since 2001, the EANM has an Executive Secretariat in Vienna, which was expanded in 2003 by creating an Educational Facility with courses on: Clinical PET/CT, Technologists PET/CT, Neuroimaging, Radionuclide Therapy – Dosimetry, Myocardial Perfusion Imaging/ Gated SPECT, Paediatric Oncology and Nephro-Urology, PET in Radiation Oncology.

The EANM offers its members a wide variety of benefits such as the subscription of the official EANM scientific journal (the European Journal of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging-EJNMMI) and personal online access, reduced registration fees for all courses at the EANM Educational Facility, reduced registration fees at the Annual Congress, regular e-Newsletters featuring society news or important EU news with respect to the field of Nuclear Medicine and the eligibility for various EANM grants.

The next EANM congress will take place 2009 – October 10–14 in Barcelona, Spain. The congress will be featuring plenary sessions, CME sessions, symposia and debates and a large industrial exhibition.

If you are interested in more information on the EANM, please visit the homepage at: www.eanm.org, or Email the Executive Secretariat at: office@eanm.org.

European Group for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (EBMT)

The European Group for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (EBMT) was established in 1974 and is a non profit organisation that aims to promote all aspects associated with the transplantation of haematopoietic stem cells from all donor sources and donor types including basic and clinical research, education, standardisation, quality control, and accreditation for transplant procedures. The EBMT is made up of a Board, 11 Working Parties, a Nurses Group, 21 Integrated Registries (National and Working Party), 9 Committees, the Local Organising Committee of the Annual Meeting and EBMT members.

Membership

The EBMT offers 4 types of membership: full, associate, individual and corporate. EBMT members are mainly centres active in the transplantation of any kind of haematopoietic stem cells. Membership is also open to other organisations and individuals involved in the care of donors and recipients of haematopoietic stem cells or actively working within the fields of blood and marrow transplantation or haematology. The membership currently lists 3653 members from 527 centres in 57 countries. Pharmaceutical companies are invited to join as corporate patrons and collaborate closely with the EBMT to further the society's educational and research activities. For more information on membership contact: admin@ebmt.org

Central Registry

The EBMT Registry uses a central data management system to collect transplant data from its members. This megafile currently contains data from over 327,268 transplants. Data can be used for quality control and clinical studies and access to data is one of the benefits of EBMT membership. Since 1990 an annual survey has been carried out to collect data on the numbers of patients treated with a haematopoietic stem cell transplant (HSCT) according to indication, donor type and stem cell source.

The survey has become an instrumental tool for assessing the trends in HSCT across Europe and providing essential data for counselling and planning. The 2007 survey contains data on 29,169 transplants.

Working Parties & Committees

The EBMT coordinates its key scientific and educational activities through 11 Working Parties. The nature of the Working Parties is varied but the majority are disease-based: Acute Leukaemia, Aplastic Anaemia, Autoimmune Diseases, Chronic Leukaemias, Immunobiology, Inborn Errors, Infectious Diseases, Late Effects, Lymphoma, Paediatric Diseases and Solid Tumours.

A total of 37 scientific reports were published in peer reviewed journals in 2008 and over 100 retrospective studies and 8 prospective clinical trials are currently underway. The EBMT is in the process of establishing itself as a prospective clinical trials group acting as sponsor under the EU Directive. In addition, there are 8 committees focused on developing the society's activities in the following areas: Accreditation, Education, Outreach, Statistics, Nuclear Accident, Developmental, Quality Assessment of the HSCT Graft, and Cord Blood.

Annual Congress

The EBMT organises an annual congress for scientific exchange between physicians, nurses and data managers. The meeting takes place in a different European city at the end of March.

The EBMT Annual Congress attracts on average 4000 professionals from the field of BMT. The 2010 Meeting will be taking place in Vienna, Austria on 21st–24th March 2010. The 4th Patient and family Day will take place on 20th March 2010.

The EBMT also organises a number educational activities and training courses via its Working Parties and in collaboration with the European School of Haematology and the European Hematology Association (EHA). A full list of EBMT and related meetings is available at: www.ebmt.org.

For further information on the EBMT, please contact:

E-mail: info@ebmt.org

www.ebmt.org

Association of European Cancer Leagues (ECL)

The Association of European Cancer Leagues (ECL) is an alliance of national and regional cancer leagues. ECL is represented by leagues in countries spanning from the Faroe Islands to Turkey in order to join efforts to fight cancer. ECL provides a forum of exchange for information and best practices and connects the work and interests of cancer leagues in Europe.

ECL's vision is to be a visible and effective player in cancer control and cancer care, in particular in Europe. The central purpose of ECL is to identify and promote common strategies in cancer control toward achieving health equity in cancer prevention, treatment and services.

The major fields of activity for the member cancer leagues include cancer prevention, public information, professional education and assistance, as well as information services and rehabilitation for patients and their families and relatives, participation in, and support for, cancer research.

ECL Activities

ECL's main areas of activities are in line with current cancer issues in Europe and with the priorities and interests of member leagues. ECL is a main and important stakeholder at the EU level for cancer-related issues, such as tobacco control and pharmaceuticals. We also work with politicians on timely topics, such as in the organisation of a Melanoma Prevention and Early Diagnosis meeting at the European Parliament.

ECL organises specific activities in areas important for member leagues. Currently, ECL leagues are involved in workshops, technical meetings, and forums in the areas of **national cancer control plans, HPV vaccines, patient support, pharmaceutical issues, sun safety and melanoma, tobacco control, and fundraising**. ECL is also currently active in contributing to the **EU Partnership on Cancer**.

For further information contact:

E-mail: info@europeancancerleagues.org

www.europeancancerleagues.org

The European Breast Cancer Coalition (EUROPA DONNA)

EUROPA DONNA, the European Breast Cancer Coalition, is an independent, non-profit organisation whose members are affiliated groups from countries throughout Europe.

The Coalition works to raise awareness of breast cancer and to mobilise the support of European women in pressing for improved breast cancer education, appropriate screening, optimal treatment and care and increased funding for research. EUROPA DONNA represents the interests of European women regarding breast cancer to local and national authorities as well as to institutions of the European Union.

EUROPA DONNA has 42 member Countries.

TEN GOALS:

- (1) To promote the dissemination and exchange of factual, up-to-date information on breast cancer throughout Europe
- (2) To promote breast awareness
- (3) To emphasise the need for appropriate screening and early detection
- (4) To campaign for the provision of optimum treatment
- (5) To ensure provision of quality supportive care throughout and after treatment
- (6) To advocate appropriate training for health professionals
- (7) To acknowledge good practice and promote its development
- (8) To demand regular quality assessment of medical equipment
- (9) To ensure that all women understand fully any proposed treatment options, including entry into clinical trials and their right to a second opinion
- (10) To promote the advancement of breast cancer research

9TH EUROPA DONNA PAN-EUROPEAN CONFERENCE

EUROPEAN BREAST CANCER ADVOCACY: *COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATION*

Stockholm, Sweden, 24 and 25 October 2009

For further information contact:

EUROPA DONNA – The European Breast Cancer Coalition

Piazza Amendola 3, 20149 Milan, Italy

Tel: +39 02 3659 2280

Fax: +39 02 3659 2284

E-mail: info@europadonna.org

www.europadonna.org

The European Prostate Cancer Coalition (EUROPA UOMO)

The European Coalition against Prostate Cancer is a confederation of 22 representative national patient support groups in Europe. It is an **advocacy movement** of patients suffering from prostate diseases in general and prostate cancer in particular.

Our main goal is to increase awareness on prostate diseases, inform and counsel men on early diagnosis and support access to individualised optimal medical treatment. We claim expertise on patient care and help to reduce over and under treatment of prostate cancer.

We work in **close collaboration with the professional associations** to receive regularly updated, objective, balanced and evidence based education.

Our part of the responsibility is to distribute this knowledge to our members in their language and provide appropriate implications in the different countries as well as personalised care involving psychological, social and financial support.

Quality of life, equality and access to treatment including clinical trials as well as mutual respect are key to our actions.

We collaborate with all cancer patient organisations to come to a **single patient voice** in Europe.

For further information contact:

E-mail: centraloffice@europa-uomo.org

www.europa-uomo.org

European Society of Skin Cancer Prevention (EUROSKIN)

EUROSKIN is an independent non-profit making scientific society, whose principal aims are to reduce the incidence and mortality of skin cancer. It sets out to achieve this through the promotion and co-ordination of collaborative actions between European professionals active in the fields of primary and/or secondary prevention. These include, for example, dermatologists, epidemiologists, biologists, physicists and other professionals with an interest in these aims.

In carrying out its aims, EUROSKIN publishes articles and organises workshops and conferences. From these come scientific status reports and recommendations towards:

Primary prevention by:

- The promotion of scientific studies relevant to primary prevention.
- The development, promotion and evaluation of effective information.
- The promotion and development of solar UVR monitoring programmes.
- The promotion of harmonisation of information programmes throughout Europe.

Secondary prevention by:

- The development, promotion and evaluation of effective strategies for secondary prevention of skin cancer.
- Promoting population based skin cancer registration, harmonisation of classification and other activities, essential to the evaluation of secondary prevention.
- A harmonised approach to the application of guidelines.

EUROSKIN organises conferences and workshops dealing with the above topics. It is the aim of these conferences to bridge new knowledge in basic sciences with information and programs which can be used in primary and secondary prevention of skin cancer.

Recommendations, based on the discussions and outcomes of the conferences are *usually* published. EUROSKIN especially encourages young scientists, dermatologists, physicians, public health specialists as well as technicians, public relation experts and stake holders in politics to cooperate in primary and secondary prevention.

At the moment, members of EUROSKIN are cooperating in a Scientific Advisory Board for the world's biggest screening program, the German Skin Cancer Screening, which reaches about 44 million people (above the age of 35) in two years interval.

For further information, please visit: www.euroskin.eu

Flims Alumni Club (FAC)

The Flims Alumni Club (FAC) is a non-profit organisation established during ECCO 11 in Lisbon, 2001. It is supported by ECCO – the European CanCER Organisation, the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) and the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO).

It is open to all individuals who have participated in the Flims Workshop 'Methods in Clinical Cancer Research', MDs or PhDs involved in cancer care or cancer research who intend to apply to attend the Flims Workshop within two years.

The organisation focuses on networking to promote the participation of its members in clinical and translational research and to provide information on issues relevant to young cancer specialists, like career development. Since members from many countries are involved, most activities are carried out online, i.e. by e-mail groups and the organisation's web site. To find out more about Flims Alumni Club membership and the range of member benefits please visit ECCO's website: www.ecco-org.eu (select 'Young Professionals' > 'Flims Alumni Club').

FAC also takes part in joint sessions at the annual meetings of some of the major oncology organisations.

The current FAC President is Mustafa Erman (Turkey).

For further information please contact:

Flims Alumni Club

c/o ECCO – the European CanCER Organisation

Avenue E. Mounier 83, B-1200 Brussels, Belgium

www.flimsalumni.org

Myeloma Euronet

The European Network of Myeloma Patient Groups

Myeloma Euronet, a registered international non-profit organisation of multiple myeloma patient groups, is a European initiative dedicated to raising the awareness of multiple myeloma, an increasingly common form of bone marrow cancer. Myeloma Euronet

provides information on the diagnosis, treatment and care of persons living with multiple myeloma and supports its member organisations in the fulfilment of their respective missions.

Myeloma Euronet also advocates, independently and in collaboration with organisations with similar objectives, on behalf of those affected by multiple myeloma.

The goals of Myeloma Euronet are to:

- Advocate the cause of myeloma among EU health care policy makers and share best practice in shaping appropriate policies at the European level.
- Raise European awareness of multiple myeloma amongst relevant stakeholders and the public.
- Provide information on appropriate diagnosis, treatment, care and support for myeloma patients and their families.
- Build partnerships among members of Myeloma Euronet in order to share experience and expertise.
- Encourage the growth of new multiple myeloma patient groups throughout Europe, especially in cities and countries where they are not represented.

Myeloma Euronet currently has members in 20 European countries and is a member of the European Cancer Patient Coalition (ECPC), ECCO – the European CanCER Organisation, and the European Organisation for Rare Diseases (Eurordis).

More information about Myeloma Euronet can be found at the organisation's multi-lingual, award-winning Web site at:

www.myeloma-euronet.org

Organisation of European Cancer Institutes (OEI)

A European Economic Interest Grouping

Mission: to bring together the cancer research and care institutions of the EU in order to create a critical mass of expertise and competence with the view of building and maintaining a consensus on the best models of oncology, developing concrete affordable and realistic solutions to effectively combat cancer, and fostering the widest deployment of oncology models and solutions to improve the quality of life for the patients in the EU.

In order to achieve its mission OEI is committed to:

- Developing a consensual vision of excellence in oncology which is concrete, affordable, and realistic. In particular, to develop a coherent model of a 'comprehensive cancer centre' based on multidisciplinary integration, patient information and care, research and education through an ad-hoc accreditation instrument.
- Promoting the production of cancer guidelines and developing with the contribution of its members practical options of diagnosis and therapy.
- Furthering collaboration and management instruments that enable and facilitate interactions resulting in joint projects and activities among its institutional members.
- Fostering exchanges of oncology know-how and other resources among its institutional members.
- Bringing together senior competences that EU institutions and other public bodies can call upon regularly or on an ad-hoc basis, to address cancer research and care management problems.
- Voicing and presenting the views of its institutional members to both EU and national policy and decision-makers and to the wider public.
- Acting as a lobbying agency with the EU and other national institutions, authorities, or agencies on behalf of its institutional members.
- Contributing to the establishment of a European research and training area for oncology, focusing on translational research through the networking of European comprehensive cancer centres.

For more information about OEI visit: www.oeci-eeig.org

International Union Against Cancer (UICC)

The International Union Against Cancer (UICC) unites over 330 member organisations in more than 100 countries in the global fight against cancer. It is the leading international non-governmental organisation dedicated exclusively to the global control of cancer. UICC's mission is to connect, mobilise and support cancer organisations and individuals with knowledge and skills to be effective.

With an emphasis on cancer prevention, tobacco control, knowledge transfer and capacity building – key activities include the World Cancer Congress – next in China, the World Cancer Prevention Campaign in over 100 countries, the World Cancer Declaration as well as special initiatives in cervical cancer, childhood cancer, pain and cancer, FCTC implementation, the TNM and Prognostic Factors project and the International Journal of Cancer. UICC's fellowship programme catalyses training of researchers, clinicians and health professionals across the world. Online networks connect over 8000 professionals worldwide.

For further information visit: www.uicc.org

ACOE (The Accreditation Council of Oncology in Europe)

Mission & objectives: The primary function of the Accreditation Council of Oncology in Europe (ACOE) is the accreditation of European CME activities in oncology.

CME consists of educational activities, i.e. live event and distance learning material, which serve to maintain, develop or increase the knowledge, skills, professional performance and relationships that a clinical or experimental oncologist, cancer nurse or other health professional uses to provide services for patients, the public or the profession.

In relation to this function, ACOE reviews and evaluates CME activities in the field of oncology, more specifically ACOE assesses the quality and the educational value of the scientific programme of the activity.

ACOE accreditation label provides delegates with a guarantee of a high quality and unbiased educational activity.

ACOE provides standards in the form of *guidelines* for an organiser to observe.

In addition to its core mission, ACOE may also be involved in developing the general concept of CME in Europe. In this capacity, its role includes the following:

- To act as an advisor and facilitator in bringing relevant educational developments to the attention of ECCO – the European CanCer Organisation.
- To actively promote CME in general and the accreditation of CME in Europe by means of text, seminars, segments of conferences devoted to CME and any other appropriate method of publication.
- To set up and maintain contacts with non-oncology CME groups in Europe as well as CME experts in the USA and other Countries outside of Europe to facilitate free flow of ideas and information.
- To assist societies and interested groups in the planning of a comprehensive long term programme of CME activities which will reach as many health professionals in Europe as possible.

ACOE standards

ACOE appraises CME activities, i.e. live events and e-learning material, on the basis of a set of universally recognised standards and guidelines, which include:

- the purpose of the activity and its expected learning outcomes;
- the teaching methods;
- the evaluation procedure;
- the management governing the organisation of the activity and its unbiased character as regards promotional actions.

ACOE only accredits international CME activities, which comply with its guidelines, available from its website. ACOE accredited activities are awarded an agreed number of CME credit points (1 CME credit point per educational hour), with a maximum of 6 credits per day and 3 for a half day. ACOE accreditation label provides delegates with a guarantee of a high quality and unbiased educational activity.

European Accreditation

To facilitate the recognition of CME credits awarded to doctors attending events outside of their home country by the medical authorities within their home state, the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS) set up in January 2000 a clearing-house system for CME credits – the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME).

In the field of Continuing Medical Education (CME) and Continuing Professional Development (CPD) the EACCME will serve this purpose by ensuring accessibility to CME activities and securing European exchange of CME credits for medical specialists in Europe.

EACCME does not have the facilities to evaluate or accredit conferences itself and only consider events, which have already received accreditation from an accrediting body such as the ACOE. The EACCME system works by setting down standards, which an accrediting body must agree to apply in evaluating a conference. ACOE guidelines comply with the EACCME standards for accreditation.

To grant European CME credits to an event, the EACCME will ask the competent national authority where the event takes place to evaluate the quality of the event. Once this evaluation is performed and therefore the event approved by the competent national authority, the event is granted European CME credits that are valid in all European countries participating in the EACCME system.

Agreement between UEMS/EACCME and ACOE: In 2007, a Mutual Agreement was signed between the UEMS/EACCME and ACOE. Under the terms of this agreement, all applications in the field of Oncology will be evaluated by ACOE in terms of quality and independence of the CME events. In this evaluation process, ACOE will work according to EACCME rules and will liaise with the UEMS/EACCME office for submission of the accreditation requests to the relevant National Accreditation Authority in order to obtain their recognition of the European Accreditation.

Mutual Recognition of CME credits – Overview of the situation: ACOE is monitoring developments on CME accreditation in the 27 EU Member States including progress on the mutual recognition of CME credits. More information is available on ACOE's website (www.acoe.be/CME Credit recognition).

ESO and ACOE have jointly organised a CME workshop: *Towards a harmonised CME system in Europe*, that will take place during ECCO 15 – 34th ESMO, Tuesday 22 September 2009, 11:00–18:15h. This workshop is organised under the auspices of the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS) and its Advisory Council on CME (EACCME). The workshop will seek to provide a platform for representatives from national CME competent authorities, oncology health professionals and representatives from European accreditation boards to appraise the disparities in CME principles between European countries, learn from each other, exchange views and practices. Attendance at the workshop is upon invitation only.

For information about the Accreditation Council of Oncology in Europe (ACOE) or information on the accreditation system, please contact:

Nicola Pellegrino
Accreditation System Administrator
Accreditation Council of Oncology in Europe (ACOE)
c/o ECCO – the European CanCer Organisation
Avenue E. Mounier 83
B-1200 Brussels, Belgium
Tel: +32 (0)2 775 02 07
Fax: +32 (0)2 775 02 00
E-mail: accreditation@acoe.be
www.acoe.be