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 (EURO*SKIN*)

EURO*SKIN* 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, EURO*SKIN* 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.

EURO*SKIN* 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. EURO*SKIN* 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 EURO*SKIN* 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 (OECI)

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 OECI 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 OECI 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