Latin America Update, October 2020

The Latin American Society of Pediatric Oncology (SLAOP) collaborated with the SIOP-St Jude Global COVID observatory by reporting their patients to the Global Registry being the world region with highest number of reported cases. Online sessions were held regularly to support treating physicians in patient management in the region and a continent-wide survey of the impact of COVID pandemic was done and published showing a major impact in health care delivery in our continent. A continuing study is being done to assess the subsequent impact.

The annual SLAOP meeting will be held virtually on November 16-21 with a nursing training course, an infectious disease workshop, sessions for pediatric oncologists, psychosocial and pediatric surgeons and thanks to different support sources, it will be free of charge for the participants of the continent.

The Latin American Pediatric Oncology Group (GALOP) had its virtual meeting in September with the presentation of the current results of the different original prospective studies in Ewing Sarcoma, Retinoblastoma, a phase II immunotherapy study for neuroblastoma with an innovative antibody, Germ Cell Tumors, Hodgkin’s lymphoma and Medulloblastoma. The GALOP strategy for renal tumors, rare and liver tumors was presented. Survival results in line with major cooperative groups were reported and the group is expanding to include new members.

A law to enforce the care of children with cancer and their families was passed in Peru where the GICC program is showing great progress.