Dear Friends,

Greetings from the Supportive Care Working Group.

The COVID pandemic has had a major impact on many aspects of our professional and social lives, a major impact on childhood cancer services, a major impact on scientific meetings. Many scientific meetings have been held on-line as "virtual" meetings. The SIOP 2020 SIOP Congress will also be a "virtual" meeting, allowing all to access the new developments, state of the art and interact, thanks to the great effort of the SIOP board and Scientific Committee.

In this Fall newsletter, we will like to update you on the program on Supportive care issues for the SIOP 2020 virtual meeting (Oct 14-17, 2020) , and the activities in collaboration with groups involved in supportive care.

As in previous years, we will be collaborating with other committees and working groups. On the educational day, (day -1, wednesday October 14, 2020) the Supportive Care Working Group will have three joint sessions with the Nurses Committee. The first session (8.15-9.45) will be chaired by Marilyn Hockenberry (USA) and Rejin Kebudi (Turkey) and will start with a welcome message from Lisa Morrissey (USA) and followed by talks on " **A sleep Hygiene and Relaxation Intervention for children with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia"** by Sue Zupanec (Canada) and **" Sleep disturbances in children with cancer"** by Rejin Kebudi and Ayfer Aydin (Turkey). The second joint session of the day (1.45-3.15 pm) will be chaired by [Muhammad Saghir Khan (Pakistan](https://cslide.ctimeetingtech.com/siop20/attendee/person/6440)) and [Frieda Clinton (Ireland](https://cslide.ctimeetingtech.com/siop20/attendee/person/2387)) and will be on fertility problems in children and adolescents with cancer.[Marianne D. Van de Wetering, (Netherlands](https://cslide.ctimeetingtech.com/siop20/attendee/person/2312)), [Renée L. Mulder, (Netherlands](https://cslide.ctimeetingtech.com/siop20/attendee/person/365)), [Claudia Lampic, and](https://cslide.ctimeetingtech.com/siop20/attendee/person/6508) [Lena Wettergren, (Sweden](https://cslide.ctimeetingtech.com/siop20/attendee/person/6509))will present "**Recommendations for male fertility preservation for childhood, adolescent and young adult cancer patients", "Recommendations for female fertility preservation for childhood, adolescent and young adult cancer patients" , "Fertility-related distress and sexual dysfunction in childhood cancer survivors – a population-based study",** respectively.

The third joint session (3.45-5.15 pm) will be chaired by Lisa Morrissey (USA) and Lee Dupuis (Canada) and will be on nutrition. There will be three talks:  **"Nutritional assessment and counselling of long term survivors"** by[Paul C. Rogers, (Canada](https://cslide.ctimeetingtech.com/siop20/attendee/person/3815)), **"Eating and feeding problems in children with cancer: Prevalence, related factors and consequences"** by[Aeltsje Brinksma (Netherlands](https://cslide.ctimeetingtech.com/siop20/attendee/person/1257)) and " **Diet supplements, and treatment-related toxicities in childhood cancer"** by[Elena J. Ladas (USA)](https://cslide.ctimeetingtech.com/siop20/attendee/person/3210).

You may follow the website for sessions on supportive care in the SIOP 2020 meeting. There will be keynote lectures on "COVID-19 and ethical issues" and a symposium on "COVID-19" and on "Palliative Care". There are free paper sessions and e-posters on supportive care. On the educational day, there will be a session in Hall 2 (1.45-3.15) organized by the "PFSE Task Force and CCI" on "Patient and Family Treatment Engagement, Parent Advocacy with focus on WHO Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer, and Refugee Children with Cancer ".

# Members of the SIOP Supportive Care WG are collaborating with SIOP-PODC Supportive Care WG and other international Supportive Care Groups. Collaboration with MASCC (Multinational Association of Supportive Care in Cancer) is continuing. Marianne van de Wetering, past-chair of SIOP Supportive Care WG, is actively involved in the MASCC- Pediatric Supportive Care working group since 2011. Thomas Lehrnbecher, the other past-chair of SIOP Supportive Care WG, is in an ongoing collaboration with the Pediatric Working Party of the EBMT (European for Blood and Marrow Transplantation). The International Pediatric Oncology Guideline (IPOG) network (www.sickkids.ca/Research/iPOG), has been active in setting up an international network on the supportive care clinical practice guideline development. Lee Dupuis, Lillian Sung, Marianne van de Wetering, Wim Tissing and many members of the SIOP-Supportive Care Working Group are involved in guideline development. The fertility guidelines developed by the PanCareLIFE consortium  in collaboration with the International Late Effects of Childhood Cancer Guideline Harmonization Group, have been accepted for publication in Lancet Oncology, Wim Tissing (co-chair of the SC WG) and M. van de Wetering (past chair SIOP SC WG) and many members of the SC WG were involved in the preparation of the fertility guidelines. The SIOP-PODC WG continues with the monthly webinars on educational topics on Supportive Care, members interested can log in and follow the webinars. Muhammed Saghir Khan, MD (UAE), past co- chair of the SIOP-PODC WG, is the current co-chair of SIOP-PODC, was involved in the organization of the virtual meeting "Emirates Pediaric Hematology-Oncology Conference" (September, 25-26,2020) which included many supportive care topics. Rejin Kebudi, MD, (co-chair of the SC WG) is in an ongoing collaboration with the Middleeast Cancer Consortium, directed by Prof Michael Silbermann, where surveys/studies on cancer pain management, integrative approaches are held; books on palliative care and research methods in palliative care are published. The new book is titled "Palliative Care for Chronic Cancer Patients in the Community: Global Approaches and Future Applications (Springer, 2020)".

We have held a business meeting on day -1 of the annual meeting in previous years. This year we will have a virtual business meeting after the SIOP 2020 virtual meeting, the date will be further announced.

The rapid guidance publications of SIOP on COVID-19 have been useful. The collaboration of SIOP with StJude also provides us with many useful information. SIOP has a wealth of resources and reference that may help us during the COVID-19 pandemia, please review at https://siop-online.org/.

We hope you and your families and patients keep safe and healthy and we hope to meet you in the SIOP 2020 virtual annual meeting in Oct 14-17, 2020. We hope that we can have a face-to-face meeting in 2021 and enjoy the interaction and friendship.

**Rejin Kebudi, MD, Prof., co-Chair**

**on behalf of the SIOP Supportive Care Working Group**