Dear Friends,

Greetings from the Supportive Care Working Group.

In this Summer newsletter, we would like to update you on the preparations of 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, October 14, 2020) we will have joint sessions with the Nurses Committee. Some of the topics to be covered include "Nutritional assessment and counselling of long term survivors, Oncofertility, Sexual health, Sleep disturbances in children with cancer. You may follow the website for sessions on supportive care in the SIOP 2019 meeting. There will be keynote lectures on "Palliative Care" and on "Symptoms experienced by children and adolescents during cancer treatment". On the educational day, there will be a session 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 following publications on supportive care and fungal infections are important for our members : "[Supportive care during pediatric hematopoietic stem cell transplantation: beyond infectious diseases. A report from workshops on supportive care of the Pediatric Diseases Working Party (PDWP) of the European Society for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (EBMT)](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32029909/?from_term=lehrnbecher+t&from_sort=date&from_pos=2) by Nava T, et al. Bone Marrow Transplant 2020" and "[Revision and Update of the Consensus Definitions of Invasive Fungal Disease From the European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer and the Mycoses Study Group Education and Research Consortium](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31802125/?from_term=lehrnbecher+t&from_sort=date&from_pos=4) by Donnelly JP, et al. Clin Infect Dis 2019".

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. iPOG has recently published: Dupuis LL, Robinson, PD, van de Wetering, MD, et al. Lexicon for guidance terminology in pediatric hematology/oncology: A White Paper. *Pediatr Blood Cancer*.  2020; 67:e28170.  <https://doi.org/10.1002/pbc.28170>. The iPOG Network hopes to hold a virtual meeting on Day-1 (Oct 14, 2020) of the 2020 SIOP meeting. The fertility guidelines developed by the PanCareLIFE consortium  in collaboration with the International Late Effects of Childhood Cancer Guideline Harmonization Group, have been submitted for publication and the revisions requested were done. 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 now the current co-chair of the SIOP-PODC committee. Rejin Kebudi, MD, (co-chair of the SC WG) is in anongoing collaboration with the Middle East 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 titled "Palliative Care: The Role and Importance of Research in Promoting Palliative Care Practices: Reports from Developing Countries, *Nova Publishers*, 2019" has been published.

During the SIOP 2020 virtual meeting, a virtual business meeting is planned on day -1 (October 14, 2020), it will be further announced.

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he current outbreak of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) that was first reported from Wuhan,

China, on 31 December 2019, has been declared as a "pandemic" on March 11, 2020 by the

WHO. As of July 9, 2020 a total of 11 874 226 cases of COVID-19, and 545 481 deaths have been reported globally. People with cancer and cancer survivors, particularly those with compromised immune systems, are likely worried about the potential impact of coronavirus on their health. SIOP in collaboration with other groups have published two important papers to guide pediatric oncologists globally: *Bouffet E et al. Early advice on managing children with cancer during the COVID-19 pandemic and a call for sharing experiences. Pediatr Blood Cancer. 2020;2:e28327. and Sullivan M, et al. The COVID‐19 pandemic: a rapid global response for children with cancer from SIOP, COG, SIOP‐E, SIOP‐PODC, IPSO, PROS, CCI, and St Jude Global. Pediatric Blood & Cancer. 2020;67(7):e28409.* Pediatric oncologists globally, should be aware of the sign and symptoms of COVID19 and the supportive care and treatment. Many groups have been publishing their preliminary experience.

SIOP has a wealth of resources and reference that may help us during the COVID-19 pandemia, please review at https://siop-online.org/. Also, the deadline for Late-breaking Abstract Submission is **August 26, 2020**.

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**