Today marks the launch of our first newsletter! This newsletter is just another way we can network and communicate important activities of our members. The purpose of this newsletter is to share information about upcoming events and programs as well as nursing activities of individual members and project groups. As nurses working in pediatric oncology, we have an opportunity to learn from each other. Please help us continue Making Global Connections and consider writing a short article about practice issues and education. Photos are welcomed too! Thank you & Happy New Year

Linda Abramovitz (Editor)

Highlights of Activities in 2017

Over the last year, members of the PODC Nursing Working Group have been very busy attending conferences and coordinating pediatric oncology programs throughout the world.

At the beginning of April, SIOP Africa was held in Marrakesh, Morocco with an exciting nursing program. During the same week on the other side of the Atlantic, the APHON (Association of Pediatric/Oncology Nursing) Chemotherapy/Biologics 3-day training program was held at the same time as SLAOP (Sociedad Latinoamericana de Oncologia Pediatric) in Buenos Aires, Argentina. SIOP Asia was held at the end of May in Bangkok, Thailand and included a scientific program, a nursing program with a joint session with the CCI (Parent Group).

In October, the SIOP Congress was held in Washington, DC. There were over 30 oral nursing presentations plus 9 poster abstracts selected for discussion. A very successful Education Day (joint program between Nursing and Support Care) focused on supportive care issues of Nausea/Vomiting, Pediatric Early Warning Signs (PEW), Fatigue, Adherence, and Pain. PODC sessions throughout the conference included presentations by nurses and physicians. Pre-Congress, the Nursing PODC Workshop on Leadership and Advocacy: Promoting and Disseminating the Baseline Nursing Standards was held with 26 nurses and stakeholders attending. More to come in the April about this topic.
Greetings from the PODC Nursing Working Group Co-Chairs

2017 Recipients
PODC Nurse Recognition Awards

Rehana Punjwana (Pakistan) and Lisa Morrissey (USA)

The mission of the PODC Nursing working group is to promote excellence in pediatric oncology nursing worldwide through education, collaboration and professionalism. The working group is comprised of nurses from low, mid and high-income countries who strive to decrease the survival gap through improvements in nursing care. Nurses play a crucial role in decreasing mortality and morbidity and improving survival for children with cancer. The vision of this group is to build collaborative relationships between nurses from countries with varied resources, working together to identify strategies that improve patient care and support patients and families along the cancer journey.

The PODC Nursing Working Group has over 130 members representing countries of all income levels. We encourage networking between members to conquer challenges with mutual effort by providing a forum where nurses can share their challenges and seek guidance from global colleagues.

Sara Day, PhD, RN, FAAN (USA)
Glenn Mbah, MPH, BSN, RN (Cameroon)
Mohammed Saghir, MD (UAE)

We appreciate all your hard work and dedication.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

January 3   Joint Meeting with Supportive Care: Compassion Fatigue
January 18  "Ethics Rounds" with Dr. Jonathan Marron
**Feb 15  0800 CST** Building an Extravasation Reduction Quality Program- Lisa Morrissey
March 15   Joint Meeting with PODC Supportive Care
April 19   Pediatric Oncology Baseline Nursing Standards: Updates
May 17   Topic TBD
June 21   Joint Meeting with PODC Supportive Care
July 19    Topic TBD
August 16  Topic TBD
September 20 Joint Meeting with PODC Supportive Care
October:   Topic TBD
**November 15** SIOP meeting in Kyoto, Japan
December 20 No meeting for December holidays

2018 PODC Educational Calendar

PODC Nursing & SIOP Membership

The current membership of PODC Nursing Working Group is 130 nurses from over 30 countries and still growing strong. You do not need to be a member of SIOP to be a part of the PODC Nursing Working Group. To raise the visibility of nursing within the organization, please consider joining SIOP or if you are already a member make sure you renew your SIOP membership and support a L&MIC nurse.

[http://siop-online.org/membership/](http://siop-online.org/membership/)

PODC Nursing Working Group supports Collaboration, Networking and Mentorship.

If you need help writing an abstract and/or submitting a My Child Matters Grant, please refer to the mentor list on the Cure4Kids Website.
Please continue to read about how you can get involved in 2018!
The Sanofi Espoir Foundation in partnership with SIOP has for the third year launched a call for projects for nurses in pediatric oncology in low- and middle-resource countries. The aim is to reward and stimulate nurses’ initiatives for projects that help fight against childhood cancer in three areas – education, professional practice, and research. The application must be sent to the following address before March 1, 2018 by filling out the call for projects: Act with the Foundation. www.fondation-sanofi-espoir.com

Twenty awards of 5,000 euro have been made to nurses in 14 countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America. The results of the first 2 years are very encouraging with respect to care of children with cancer. A special effort was made to support health personnel, resulting in nearly 450 people trained in better practices for treating children (diagnostic aid, reducing pain and infections, and improving hygiene conditions). Some projects directly targeted children and their families, for example to prevent dropouts during treatment, as in Uganda where art and music sessions were organized to reassure and retain patients.

The Paediatric Oncology International Training and Education Network (POINTE) was launched on October 18, 2016. Pediatric hematology and oncology training programs and educational materials are available; however, the information is often difficult to find and not easily accessible. The founder’s goal for the website is to have existing educational materials and training opportunities accessible to resource limited settings it is an open access site requiring no passwords or members-only restrictions. The site is currently hosting downloadable PowerPoint presentations and modules for nurses training. If you wish to share prepared educational material please send it to Rehana Punjwani rehana_punjwani@yahoo.com and Liz Sniderman liz.sniderman@gmail.com

SIOP Nursing Scholarships were awarded to nurses from 6 L&MIC nurses based on abstract merit. Shenila Anwar Ali (Pakistan), Noelia Diaz-Cano (Nicaragua), Asha Mahajan (India), Mary Nwankwo (Nigeria), Nemat Gill Roheel (Pakistan) and Belinda Tieku-Ward (Ghana) were this year’s awardees.

Nurses from L&MIC apply for this scholarship at the time of abstract submission. If you have any questions, please contact Rehana Punjwani or Lisa Morrissey.

It is never too early to think about submitting an abstract!
Hard to believe that we are already thinking of planning for the next SIOP Meeting.
SIOP Kyoto


Cure4Kids

Cure4Kids is a professional medical education Web site developed by the Cure4Kids team in the St. Jude Department of Pediatric Medicine at the St. Jude Research Hospital. Cure4Kids has hundreds of online seminars and conferences, Oncopedia, and group collaboration workspaces. Cure4Kids is free of charge.

Register at [www.cure4kids.org/register](http://www.cure4kids.org/register)

If you have any questions regarding registration, please contact Rehana or Lisa

Childhood Cancer International (CCI)

If you have not seen The Childhood Cancer International (CCI) Newsletter, please take a look. The newsletter highlights so many wonderful activities of the parents and includes important information for pediatric oncology nurses.


Please visit the CCI website – [childhoodcancerinternational.org](http://childhoodcancerinternational.org)

- Support CCI and International Childhood Cancer Day on Feb 15th
- Working together towards advancing cures, transforming care & instilling hope

Contact Information

PODC Nursing

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