



#beatingchildhoodcancer

EMBARGOED UNTIL: February 15, 2020

Every child should have the chance of life

Geneva, Switzerland - February 15, 2020 - Today (15 Feb) is International Childhood Cancer Day (ICCD).

This period is a time to reflect on our vision that “no child should die of cancer – cure for more and care for all”. Through all your efforts, we continue to make progress towards this vision, of more effective and kinder treatments, with greater access to diagnosis and care for children and young people with cancer around the world.

SIOPI members and colleagues are helping to support the World Health Organisation Global Initiative on Childhood Cancer (siop-online.org/who-global-initiative-for-childhood-cancer). The governments of several low and middle income countries have already committed to achieving the WHO target of at least 60% survival rate for all their children with cancer by 2030. This is a major step forward and further countries will commit to implementing the WHO Global Initiative on Childhood Cancer in the coming year. This means that many more children around the world can look forward to growing up to a fulfilling adulthood as a result.

On the occasion of the ICCD 2020, we celebrate the young people who have survived childhood cancer and all that they have achieved. Their stories are full of optimism and should encourage those striving to make a difference to childhood cancer care around the world. While there is still a long road to travel to ensure every child has access to early diagnosis and timely care delivered by a well-trained and resourced team, we can celebrate that the journey has begun at a global scale and we are all part of it.

Thank you again for the wonderful work you are all doing.

Yours,

Kathy Pritchard-Jones (SIOPI President) on behalf of the board

Please join SIOPI on ICCD 2020 as we highlight the action taken by all our members to strive for #beatingchildhoodcancer and that "Every child should have the chance of life!"

For further actions please visit our SIOPI ICCD 2020 Campaign Website

<https://siop-online.org/international-childhood-cancer-day/>

For more information, contact:

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About SIOPI

Established in 1969, the International Society of Paediatric Oncology (SIOPI), with over 1500 members, is the lead organization concerned with the issues of children and young people who have cancer. The society envisions that “no child should die of cancer.” To realize this vision, SIOPI’s mission is to: (1) ensure that each child and young adult with cancer has access to state-of-the-art treatment and care; (2) ensure that all involved in childhood cancer worldwide, have access to the latest progress through meetings, networking, and continuing professional development; (3) support those caring for children and young adults with cancer to provide the best curative and palliative therapies; and, (4) advocate for appropriate long-term follow-up for children and young adults after treatment for cancer. Dr. Eric Bouffet is the president of SIOPI. SIOPI is governed by a board of directors and has its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.

www.siop-online.org