

SIOP NURSING NETWORK Newsletter



July, 2026
Volume 2, Issue 4



MESSAGE FROM NURSING NETWORK CHAIR & VICE CHAIR



See You at SIOP 2026 in San Antonio!

One of the highlights of the year will undoubtedly be the SIOP 2026 Annual Congress, taking place this September 15-18 in San Antonio, Texas, USA. We look forward to welcoming pediatric oncology nurses from around the world to connect, learn, and share experiences that will continue to advance our profession and improve care for children and adolescents with cancer.

This year's nursing program promises to be another outstanding opportunity for learning and collaboration. Highlights include the nursing keynote, "The Economic Value of the Health Workforce" by internationally renowned health economist, Olga Yakusheva, PhD, as well as interactive roundtable discussions on some of the most relevant topics in pediatric oncology nursing, including leadership, mentorship, quality improvement, survivorship, and implementation of nursing standards.

We are also excited to celebrate the outstanding work of our nursing community. This year, we received nursing abstracts, showcasing innovative research, quality improvement initiatives, and clinical practice from around the globe. In addition, with support from SIOP and My Child Matters, 17 nurses from limited-resource countries will receive travel support to attend the Congress, helping ensure that diverse voices and experiences are represented. Whether you are presenting your work, participating in discussions, or attending for the first time, we encourage you to join us in San Antonio. The SIOP Congress is more than a scientific meeting; it is an opportunity to build lasting collaborations, exchange ideas, and strengthen our global pediatric oncology nursing community.

We look forward to seeing you in San Antonio!

Warm regards,

Courtney Sullivan & Lorena Segovia Weber, Chair and Vice Chair, SIOP Nursing Network

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SIOP Oceania Nursing Update

By Jayne Harrison, Intercontinental Lead – Nursing, SIOP Oceania

- In May 2026, the SIOP Oceania Nursing Working Group reached a significant milestone with the delivery of Papua New Guinea's first structured Paediatric Chemotherapy Competency Program. Twenty-seven nurses from Port Moresby General Hospital and provincial centres completed intensive training in chemotherapy safety, supportive care, communication and clinical decision-making. This achievement builds on more than 12 months of ongoing education, mentorship and long-term partnerships aimed at strengthening paediatric oncology nursing capacity across Papua New Guinea.

Key Achievements

- The SIOP Oceania Paediatric Palliative Care team also expanded education across multiple provinces, reaching almost 200 healthcare workers from 11 provinces over the past two years. Evaluation demonstrated sustained knowledge from previous education programs together with a 58% increase in participant confidence. Nurses are now leading quality improvement initiatives within their own facilities, translating education into safer clinical practice.
- Another significant achievement has been the development of culturally appropriate childhood cancer awareness resources in English and Tok Pisin to promote earlier diagnosis and referral. These resources have been endorsed by the PNG Child Health Advisory Committee and the Ministry of Health. Alongside the continued growth of the Papua New Guinea Oncology Nursing Association (PaNGONA) and strengthening of the childhood cancer registry, these initiatives are supporting local leadership and sustainable improvements in childhood cancer care.
- Research continues to underpin this work, with one manuscript published, a second under peer review, and a recent Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases (GACD)–NHMRC grant application submitted to support the next phase of implementation and evaluation. Importantly, this work is only possible through philanthropic and competitive grant funding. Support from My Child Matters/Foundation S and Minderoo has enabled SIOP Oceania to move beyond education alone towards sustainable, locally led improvements that are strengthening childhood cancer care across Papua New Guinea and the wider Oceania region.

WORKSHOP IN ACTION



Highlights from the SIOPEurope,
Glasgow, UK 4 – 7 May 2026
By Bianca van Rossum Stolwijk
Princess Maxima Center Pediatric Oncology Nurse Educator



Let me take you through the highlights of an interesting edition of SIOPE in beautiful Glasgow UK! My team from Princess Maxima Center consists of five pediatric oncology nurses and one nurse specialist.

Topics that stand out

Transition In a large session the importance of good transition from pediatric care to adult care in oncology was explained. The age of the patient to make the step to adult care differs from 18 to 21. We all agreed on to be aware of the big change for patient and parents/caretakers. You have to start early with preparations, giving information. There is the example of a pediatric oncologist in Austria, who is part of the meeting between the patient, parents and the oncologist in adult care. It takes a lot of adjustment for parents/caretakers, because the patient is seen as an adult and spoken to. Parents might need to stay in the waitingroom.

AYA's (adults and young adolescents) is an important group in pediatric oncology as we are all aware. One of the speakers in this topic was a girl 16 years old, who had end of oncology treatment a year ago. She spoke about different topics. Her main message was: please, ask AYA's about their feelings. Even if they seem to find it difficult to express feelings and worries. She repeated several times: every boy or girl must be invited to talk about their feelings. Because at this age you go through so many (e)motions. And you think, I can do this alone. But you can't.

- There was a short session about working with the CADD pump. Which in Europe is actually pretty common.

Pain management is a great challenge to us all. In this session it was emphasized that it is important to work by the latest protocols, evidence based. To take the steps in the flowcharts together. To give the patient the best pain control at that moment, with those signs of pain or complication. In multidisciplinary team

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IV medication Pedmarqsi to Minimize the negative effect on hearing as a side effect of Cisplatin in Pediatric Oncology

By Bianca van Rossum Stolwijk

Princess Maxima Center Pediatric Oncology Nurse Educator



The Princess Máxima Center for Pediatric Oncology has played a significant role in the development, research, and clinical implementation of a treatment called Pedmarqsi, which prevents hearing loss caused by the pediatric chemotherapy drug cisplatin.

This IV medication, Pedmarqsi, is administered to minimize the negative effect on hearing—a side effect of cisplatin. It is given six hours after cisplatin in this protocol.

As Europe's largest pediatric oncology center, this institution continues to conduct evidence-based research.

Highlights from the SIOP Africa

13 – 17 April 2026

By Mariam Ndagire, the SIOP Africa 2026 Nursing Program Chair



Topics that stand out

The 2026 SIOP Africa Conference provided an excellent platform for pediatric oncology nurses across Africa to share knowledge, strengthen collaborations, and advance nursing practice. A key highlight was the Pre-Conference Symposium on Baseline Standards for Pediatric Oncology Nursing, which aimed to introduce these standards to African nurses and support their adoption to strengthen and standardize nursing care for children and adolescents with cancer across the continent. The nursing program also featured free paper sessions organized around four themes: Education and Capacity Building, Quality Improvement, Clinical Care and Evidence-Based Practice, and Psychosocial Care. The conference concluded with a Research Seminar that showcased innovative nursing-led and multidisciplinary research aimed at improving outcomes for children and adolescents with cancer in Africa.



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Congratulates Rachel Hollis OBE FRCN !!

Rachel Hollis has been recognised in the King's Birthday Honours list and awarded an OBE for services to nursing

"I am so pleased and proud to have been awarded an OBE in the King's Birthday Honours List for services to nursing. I am privileged to have been a member of this brilliant global nursing profession for over 40 years. Every day and in countless ways I see nurses making the difference – to their patients and communities, to health and care services, to society, and humanity. It is an honour to stand with you. Thank you to the many nursing friends and colleagues I have worked with, and learned from, and who continue to inspire me."



Congrats to Lisa Morrissey, newest nursing member of the SIOP Women Leaders Almanac !!



LISA MORRISSEY

USA

**"Let no one
come to you
without
leaving better"**
Mother
Theresa

Read about the challenges, influences
and lessons learnt throughout the
careers of women in
paediatric oncology in the
2026 SIOP Women Leaders Almanac

www.siop-online.org/women-leaders

#WomenLeadersInMedicine #IWD

UPCOMING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES





MEETING



Showcasing the SIOP Spanish Language Quality Improvement (QI) Nurse Mentors' Programme Project

From the SIOP Nursing CARE Working Group



Mónica L. Quijano-Liévano
Universidad del Valle,
Colombia



Verónica De la Maza
University of Chile

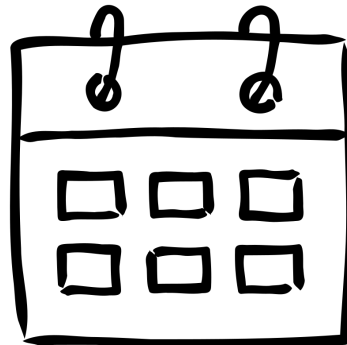
The SIOP Spanish Language Quality Improvement (QI) Nurse Mentors' Programme launched in June 2025 to prepare Spanish-speaking nurse leaders in QI. Three teams include members from Spain, Chile and Colombia. The Spain team presented their project in May.

This CARE Education Webinar will showcase the teams in Chile and Colombia. Join to learn more about these projects!

 August 5, 2026

 15:00 CEST

 Open to
SIOP members



Registration: <https://members.siop-online.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=2046498>

UPCOMING CONFERENCES



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF PAEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, USA | SEPTEMBER 15-18, 2026

**58TH CONGRESS
OF THE
INTERNATIONAL
SOCIETY OF
PAEDIATRIC
ONCOLOGY
SAN ANTONIO
TEXAS, USA
SEPTEMBER 15-18
2026**



Upcoming SIOP Congresses Registration LinkS:

SIOP 2026 San Antonio: <https://siop-online.org/event/siop-2026/>

SIOP North America and SLAOP (SIOP Latin America): <https://siop-congress.org/registration/>

Join & Renew SIOP Membership: <https://siop-online.org/renew-your-membership/>