



**College of Cancer Nurses, NZNO
Monthly news bulletin
Friday, 31 July 2020**

Section message

Consultation

NZNO regularly seeks members input on a range of documents up for consultation. The listing is regularly updated and full information [can be found here](#).

Worksafe proposed changes to the Workplace Exposure Standards (WES) of 18 substances and the Biological Exposure Indices (BEI) of four substances

NZNO welcomes your feedback on proposed changes to the Workplace Exposure Standards (WES) of 18 substances and the Biological Exposure Indices (BEI) of four substances.

Proposed guidelines for the Posthumous Use of Gametes, Reproductive Tissue and Stored Embryos

NZNO warmly invites your feedback on draft guidelines for the use of gametes and reproductive tissue from deceased people and already stored embryos from the now deceased. These guidelines are proposed to replace Guidelines for the Storage, Use, and Disposal of Sperm from a Deceased Man (released in 2000).

New Zealand news

Multimillion-dollar funding boost for Christchurch cancer accommodation projects

The Government has announced \$13.5 million for two projects to house cancer patients and their families in Christchurch. [Read more](#)

Even before COVID-19, over half of all DHBs not hitting Cancer treatment targets

11 out of the 20 DHBs did not meet the faster cancer treatment target in the first two quarters of 2019/2020 according to data released late June. [Read more](#)

Friend's chills during cancer treatment inspire clothing range for patients

A friend's struggle to keep warm during cancer treatment prompted Graeme Dick to make clothes to fix the problem. [Read more](#)

Aratika Trust - Empowering people to live well

In the continuing series that explores stories about Māori whanau who live with cancer, producer Justine Murray is with the ladies of Aratika Trust, a Rotorua based charitable trust that run wellness retreats, and meditation sessions for cancer survivors and their support people. Te Ahi Kaa finds out more trustee June Grant, Chair Susan Brown and General Manager, Claire Gower-James. [Read more](#)

Bowel cancer

The National Bowel Screening Programme is back in action - MidCentral DHB

The National Bowel Screening Programme is back in action after coming to a halt during the COVID-19 lockdown period.

Dr Nick Tindle, Clinical Lead for the MidCentral DHB National Bowel Screening Programme, said having bowel screening back up and running again will mean early intervention for the community. [Read more](#)

The article below is not freely available but may be sourced from databases available via the NZNO library or those of a DHB or educational institution

Surveillance for Dysplasia in patients with inflammatory bowel disease: an updated national survey of colonoscopic practice in New Zealand

Tamara Glyn Mullaney, Andrew McCombie, Christopher Wakeman, Timothy Eglinton, Richard Geary

NZMJ Vol 133 No 1517: 26 June 2020

There is an increasing rate of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) in New Zealand. Patients with IBD are known to have an increased risk of colorectal cancer.

Brain cancer

Brain Cancer: scientists identify gene responsible for deadly Glioblastoma

Scientists have identified an oncogene (a cancer-causing gene) responsible for glioblastoma, the deadliest brain tumour. The discovery offers a promising new treatment target for a cancer that is always fatal. [Read more](#)

Reprogramming of immune cells enhances effects of radiotherapy in preclinical models of brain cancer

A new study has dissected how radiotherapy alters the behaviour of immune cells known as macrophages found in Glioblastoma (GBM) tumours and shown how these cells might be reprogrammed with an existing drug to suppress the invariable recurrence of the aggressive brain cancer. [Read more](#)

Breast cancer

Interval breast cancers' aggressiveness may stem from unique biology, JAMA study finds

Breast cancer detected within one year after previous negative mammography studies appear to be more destructive in nature and it may not be attributed solely to the delayed diagnosis. [Read more](#)

Common chemotherapy drug may be less effective in overweight, obese breast cancer patients

Breast cancer patients who are overweight or obese might benefit less from treatment with docetaxel, a common chemotherapy drug, than lean patients. An international team of researchers based this conclusion on a retrospective analysis of data from a large clinical trial. Their study was published in the Journal of Clinical Oncology. [Read more](#)

Claire Taipari on living with cancer: "Own your Story"

In November of 2018 Claire Taipari's regular mammogram came back all clear, but just one week later she felt a lump on her breast and decided to get it checked. After tests, three cancerous tumours were detected, a fourth one was found when she underwent surgery. Claire is keen to share her story, while a mammogram is very good, sometimes it may not detect tumours for a number of reasons. Claire alongside her husband Greg, share their story. [Read more](#)

Study finds global trends in women's breast cancer show cause for concern

Breast cancer rates among women globally are on the rise, but new research is uncovering trends related to age and where you live that could help target prevention measures to improve the situation. [Read more](#)

Mastectomy tattoos: An emerging alternative for reclaiming self.

Reid-de Jong, V, Bruce, A.

Nursing Forum. 2020; 1– 8. <https://doi.org/10.1111/nuf.12486>

Recent discourses within breast cancer and gendered studies literature suggest some women are challenging postmastectomy bodies as abject bodies. Tattooing is an emerging body project in contemporary society that can offer women who live disembodied from their post-mastectomised body an alternative. We consider embodied health movements, a type of social movement, to explore how acquiring meaningful tattoo art over a mastectomised site can be seen as challenging hegemonic, gendered discourses of the female breast and patriarchal ideals of beauty, post mastectomy. As part of emancipatory practices, tattooed bodies have historically been used to challenge dominant discourses related to identity and is currently evolving into practices of self-expression, healing, and transformation. As an emerging phenomenon among women, it is important for nurses to understand the prevalence and role of tattoos more broadly, and the possible means for women to embody healing and transformation post mastectomy. [Read more](#)

Child patients

New drug regimen cures more children with aggressive B-Cell Lymphoma

The results from a recent study establish a new standard for treating children and young adults newly diagnosed with fast-growing forms of B-cell non-Hodgkin lymphoma, including Burkitt lymphoma. [Read more](#)

Colorectal cancers

Colorectal Cancer and the Gut Microbiome: What are the connections?

The gut microbiome has become one of the most researched topics in gastroenterology. However, it is not yet understood how changes to the gut microbiome affect certain malignancies, particularly [colorectal cancer](#) (CRC). [Read more](#)

End of life and palliative care

Nurses' decision-making about cancer patients' end-of-life skin care in Wales: an exploratory mixed-method vignette study protocol

Samuriwo R, Lovell-Smith C, Anstey S, et al

BMJ Open 2020;10:e034938. doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2019-034938

Introduction Patients with cancer are at high risk of developing pressure ulcers at the end of life as a result of their underlying condition or cancer treatment. There are many guidelines which set out best practice with regard to end-of-life skin care. However, the complexity of palliative cancer care often means that it is challenging for nurses to make the appropriate person-centred decisions about end-of-life skin care. This study seeks to explore the perceived importance that nurses place on different factors in their end-of-life skin care for patients with cancer. The utility, face validity and content validity of a prototype decision-making tool for end-of-life skin care will also be evaluated. [Read more](#)

Exercise

Exercise, supportive care are key to managing Cancer-related fatigue in patients with Cancer

One of the most long-lasting and frustrating sequelae of cancer is cancer-related fatigue (CRF). Although it is the symptom most often experienced by cancer patients from the time of diagnosis and throughout the lifetime of their disease, little is known about CRF except that it may persist for years after treatment is completed. [Read more](#)

Gynaecological cancers

Cervical cancer - smearing smears

A prominent women's health expert says women are needlessly getting cervical cancer. Professor Bev Lawton from Victoria University of Wellington's Faculty of Health says the cervical screening programme is failing women, and a less invasive test should have been introduced three years ago. Professor Lawton's team has received funding to trial DIY HPV screening in partnership with Hawke's Bay iwi Ngāti Pāhauwera. [Twice as many Māori women](#) register as having cervical cancer as non-Māori. Professor Lawton says the home HPV test, coupled with technology that delivers almost instant results, will make a big difference to wahine presenting for screening, especially in rural areas. [Read more](#)

Updated cervical cancer screening guideline calls for less and more simplified screening

An updated cervical cancer screening guideline from the American Cancer Society reflects the rapidly changing landscape of cervical cancer prevention in the United States, calling for less and more simplified screening. The guideline appears in the ACS's flagship journal, CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians. [Read more](#)

How does Ovarian Cancer form? A new study points to MicroRNA

Although [ovarian cancer](#) is the fifth-leading cause of death from cancer in women, scientists don't have a good handle on how it forms. Now a new study suggests that a [microRNA](#)—a molecule made by cells to turn genes on and off—may help kick-start a type of [ovarian cancer](#) called high-grade serous ovarian cancer. [Read more](#)

Head and neck cancer

'New keys found for unlocking head and neck cancer treatment'

Queensland scientists say the discovery of new cellular immunotherapy targets for a deadly type of head and neck cancer, caused by human papillomavirus (HPV), could lead to better survival rates. [Read more](#)

Study links unexpected hospital stays to negative outcomes in head and neck cancer patients

Patients who were unexpectedly hospitalized for dehydration, fever or other ailments while undergoing radiation treatment for head and neck cancers were at a higher risk for less favourable outcomes, a new study from Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Centre reports. [Read more](#)

Lung cancer (inc smoking)

Exclusive: 'It's negligent: Plea for more specialist nurses for patients with Australia's deadliest cancer, lung cancer

A call from a lung cancer nurse is something nobody ever wants to receive. But the alternative means facing Australia's deadliest cancer without dedicated support. Sadly, for thousands of Australian's, that's the reality. [Read more](#)

Highly invasive lung cancer cells have longer 'fingers'

Tiny finger-like projections called filopodia drive invasive behaviour in a rare subset of lung cancer cells. Analysis of molecular features distinguishing leader from follower cells focuses on filopodia and the MYO10 gene. [Read more](#)

Melanoma and skin cancers

New Kiwi virtual triage tech identifies skin cancer in high-risk patients - MoleMap

A new virtual triage service developed during lockdown has identified skin cancer in 12% of high-risk patients examined according to new figures. [Read more](#)

Nursing

Implementing a multidisciplinary approach for older adults with Cancer: geriatric oncology in practice.

Presley, C.J., Krok-Schoen, J.L., Wall, S.A. *et al.*

BMC Geriatr **20**, 231 (2020). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12877-020-01625-5>

Evidence-based practice in geriatric oncology is growing, and national initiatives have focused on expanding cancer care and research to improve health outcomes for older adults. However, there are still gaps between knowledge and practice for older adults with cancer. [Read more](#)

Specialized Cancer Care roles: from clinical practice to research and beyond.

Charalambous A.

Asia Pac J Oncol Nurs [serial online] 2020 [cited 2020 Jul 31];7:232-4. Available from: <http://www.apjon.org/text.asp?2020/7/3/232/276061>

Specialized roles undertaken by cancer nurses are not a new trend in clinical practice. It was as early as in the 70s that the need for such roles emerged and the need for additional education within the specific context of cancer begun to rise.^[1] There are a number of different definitions of what constitutes a specialized cancer nurse, primarily due to the variations on the roles assumed in different countries. A specialist cancer nurse is expected to be educated to a degree level (or higher), have a formal training in cancer and to care for cancer patients as a specialized population, and across different cancer types and the entire cancer care continuum.^[2] According to the WHO, a cancer nurse has successfully completed specialist post qualification education in cancer nursing which builds on initial generalist nursing education, enabling the nurse to work in a specialized role with individuals and families experiencing and/or affected by cancer.^[3] [Read more](#)

E-Clinical Trials: The future of clinical trials and how nurses can be involved.

Kapritsou M.

Asia Pac J Oncol Nurs [serial online] 2020 [cited 2020 Jul 31];7:235-6.

Clinical trials (CTs) are the cornerstone of the medical and nursing science evolution. They create or open the pathway for new treatments and medical devices that are safe and effective for patients and the general public. The use of CTs has led to the discovery of better treatments, which have fewer side effects and are more efficient for patients than the conventional method. Further, through the years, CTs have helped in preventing the spread of diseases and have been utilized by caregivers and support groups to improve patients' life.^[1] [Read more](#)

The Oncology Clinical Research Nurse Study Co-ordinator: past, present, and future.

Ness E.

Asia Pac J Oncol Nurs [serial online] 2020 [cited 2020 Jul 31];7:237-42.

Clinical research nursing is a specialty practice that has evolved over the past century. Clinical research nurses (CRNs) work directly (e.g., direct care provider and advance clinician) or indirectly (e.g., manager, educator, and study co-ordinator) to support clinic research. For more than 50 years, oncology nurses have contributed to the body of

evidence describing and validating the responsibilities and importance of the nurse in clinical research, especially the study co-ordinator role. This article will focus on the CRN study co-ordinator role in oncology clinical trials highlighting the historical evolution of the role, the contributions of dedicated members of the Oncology Nursing Society, and the future landscape of clinical research nursing through the International Association of CRNs.

[Read more](#)

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Generating Oncology patient trust in the nurse: An integrative review.

Rajcan, L., Lockhart, J. S., & Goodfellow, L. M. (2020).

Western Journal of Nursing Research. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0193945920930337>

An integrative review was conducted to evaluate the extent and quality of literature regarding adult oncology patients' trust in nurses. Nineteen studies met the inclusion criteria. Three themes were identified, which are as follows: nurse trust facilitating behaviours, nurse attributes, and the influence of patient-nurse trust on health and psychosocial well-being. Findings indicate that the extent of literature is limited in specific examples of nurse interventions that facilitate interpersonal patient-nurse trust. Future research should include more detailed nurse actions and attributes that build patient-nurse trust to fully understand the benefits of trust in oncology patients.

Palliative care

The article below is not freely available but may be sourced from databases available via the NZNO library or those of a DHB or educational institution

Developing clinical leadership in New Zealand hospice staff nurses

Scott W Simmons, Stephen Jacobs, and Ann McKillop

International Journal of Palliative Nursing, Vol. 26, No. 5: 200-205.

Staff nurse clinical leadership is a relatively new concept that includes the elements of collaboration, coordination, patient advocacy, and often quite autonomous decision-making required of palliative care nurses. Staff nurses need structural and psychological empowerment to develop as clinical leaders.

Aims:

The aim of this study was to establish baseline data regarding the self-perceived structural and psychological empowerment experienced by New Zealand hospice staff nurses and their ability to practise as clinical leaders.

Pancreatic cancer

Cocktail of chemotherapy drugs may be safe, effective for patients with metastatic pancreatic cancer

Pancreatic cancer carries a poor prognosis, and it often goes undetected until advanced stages. A new BJS (British Journal of Surgery) study indicates that a certain cocktail of chemotherapy drugs may be a safe and effective treatment option for patients with a metastatic form of the disease. [Read more](#)

Prostate cancer

Researchers find link between healthy diet and lower risk of prostate cancer

The Canadian Cancer Society estimates that more than 23,000 Canadians will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2020. Among other risk factors, more and more studies point to diet as a major factor in the development of prostate cancer, as it is for cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and obesity. [Read more](#)

Psychology

A systematic review of psychosocial interventions to improve quality of life of people with cancer and their family caregivers.

Gabriel, I, Creedy, D, Coyne, E

Nursing Open. 2020; 00: 1– 14. <https://doi.org/10.1002/nop2.543>

Aims

To review the characteristics and effectiveness of psychosocial interventions on quality of life of adult people with cancer and their family caregivers. [Read more](#)

General articles

New web-based tool could contribute to the development of better cancer treatments

The results are now published in Nature Medicine and at the same time the tool - the Molecular Tumor Board Portal - will be launched on www.mtbp.org. Janne Lehtiö, professor at the Karolinska Institutet Department of Oncology-Pathology led this work, along with researcher David Tamborero. [Read more](#)

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Patients' cultural and spiritual explanatory models in health encounters: a focus on the efficacy of cancer prevention strategies in women from South Sudan.

Peterson Paula (2020)

Australian Journal of Primary Health 26, 227-233.

This qualitative study examined non-clinical factors that affect health, namely the cultural and spiritual beliefs of the patient. The study focuses on women from South Sudan. Although the overt religious adherence of these women is familiar to mainstream Australia (i.e. Christian), they are culturally diverse from the mainstream. The experiences of five women were documented. These women, all regarded as community leaders, were also asked about their assessment of the views of the wider community of women from South Sudan. This study informs targeted health promotion messages for a significant community in Australia. It is anticipated that the findings of this research, although not generalisable to the whole South Sudanese community or to all those with a refugee background, will provide important information to guide the development of culturally appropriate health care into the future. The findings point to the need for enhanced clinical education around communication, especially in relation to understanding the patients' explanatory models of health. The findings have implications for patient education strategies. Finally, the findings reinforce the importance of engaging the community in the development of those strategies and ensuring their input into further research

Newsletters

Skin Cancer Research Review, Issue 3

This issue begins with research describing patterns of recurrence and long-term outcomes of surgically managed NMSC among immunosuppressed cardiac and liver transplant recipients. [Read more](#)

Resources

Partners in Care co-design case study 'Walking with you' – Preparing for Cancer treatment Northern Cancer Network -- Counties Manukau Health

The project aimed to:

- better understand the experiences of Māori with lung cancer and Pacific women with endometrial cancer between their initial cancer diagnosis and first treatment

- apply a co-design approach with patients, family and whānau and health professionals about how to better prepare patients for their first cancer treatment. [Read more](#)

Improving use of clinical phone appointments for oncology patients Canterbury District Health Board (DHB)

Context

The opportunity costs of clinic attendance for patients receiving cancer treatment are very high and include time out of work and transport. Alongside this, the demand for clinic capacity to see such patients is outstripping current supply. Telephone appointments have developed as an ad hoc way of increasing capacity while reducing inconvenience to patients having to attend clinic in person.

Aim

Our aim is to understand the experience, benefits and risks of planned clinical phone appointments for oncology patients. Using patient and oncology staff feedback in a co-design process, the project seeks to understand current experience, identify any improvement ideas, and co-design and test solutions. [Read more](#)

The above bulletin has been compiled by Linda Stopforth, SNIPS, on behalf of College of Cancer nurses, NZNO.

It is provided on the last Friday of each month and contains an overview of news items, articles and research papers of interest to the Section members.

All links are current at the time of being compiled and distributed.

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