



College of Cancer Nurses, NZNO monthly news bulletin Friday, 27 March 2020

Section message

A message from International Conference on Cancer Nursing

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for your patience and understanding during these turbulent times. We are all thinking of you, and sending our support, as this worldwide pandemic touches our loved ones, hospitals, health care systems, and communities.

Following the ISNCC Board of Directors' recent announcement to postpone the **International Conference on Cancer Nursing 2020**, it is with great excitement that we announce new dates for the meeting:

Please mark your calendars for 28 - 31 March 2021 and join us at the historic Imperial College in London, UK!

Take advantage of this monumental opportunity to meet with international cancer nursing colleagues from around the world, in one place, at one time. Now, more than ever, convening as nursing professionals will show your resiliency and ability to overcome a global crisis and to share your passions with like-minded peers.

If you have any questions or concerns, please read our [ICCN 2020 FAQs](#) and feel free to reach out to the [ICCN 2021 Conference Secretariat](#).

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](#).

NZ News (general)

Cancer Society here to help as treatments and services change and adapt

The Government has confirmed the continued provision of cancer services is essential. This means that patients who need treatment will get treatment. [Read more](#)

The key to tackling shocking Māori cancer mortality rates

A friendly face, a good listener, and support from someone who knows the system and the culture could be the key to stemming shocking cancer mortality rates for Māori. [Read more](#)

Breast cancer

Experiencing breast cancer in the context of mental illness in New Zealand, Debbie Peterson & Ruth Cunningham (2020) *Kōtuitui: New Zealand Journal of Social Sciences* Online, DOI: [10.1080/1177083X.2020.1728346](https://doi.org/10.1080/1177083X.2020.1728346)

This study aimed to explore the experiences of women with mental illness and also experienced breast cancer diagnosis and treatment. In particular, to identify barriers and facilitators to cancer treatment. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with ten breast cancer survivors who had had contact with secondary mental health services before their cancer diagnosis.

Thematic analysis was used to identify key themes. Participants described positive experiences of cancer treatment, expressing surprise at both how well they coped with diagnosis and treatment and how well they were treated by services.

Many contrasted this with their less positive experience of mental illness and mental health services. The women interviewed were active participants in their cancer treatment and did not report feeling stigmatised because of their mental health experiences. A lack of connection between cancer and mental health services was described, but this was not regarded as necessarily a bad thing.

This study begins to counter the stereotypes of the difficult patient, or the person unable to understand and cooperate in their own care, which are prevalent in the literature. Further work is needed to understand the reasons for disparities in cancer outcomes. [Read more](#)

Neoadjuvant chemo and breast cancer treatment

Women with breast cancer who received neoadjuvant chemotherapy had a similar mean duration between diagnosis and treatment initiation, but a significantly longer time before radiotherapy or endocrine therapy initiation compared to those who were given adjuvant chemotherapy according to a study in [Cancer Medicine](#).

Slightly lower rates of unplanned hospital re-admission were found in the neoadjuvant group, and both groups had low rates of 90-day and 30-day mortality. [Read more.](#)

Bowel cancer

Study finds dramatic increase in the incidence of bowel cancer among adults under 50

According to new research from the University of Bristol, UWE Bristol and University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust (UH Bristol) there has been a dramatic increase in the incidence of bowel cancer in adults under the age of 50. [Read more.](#)

Care models and patient satisfaction

Patient goals of care should be assessed frequently

In a study in Supportive Care in Cancer, researchers examined the influence of agreement between patients and their oncologists on meeting patients' goals of care in the last month of life. Researchers concluded that patients' goals of care should be assessed frequently, and 76.7% of patient-oncologist pairs did not have strong agreement on goals of care. [Read more](#)

Exercise

Exercise works for prostate cancer sufferers starting treatment

A James Cook University researcher says scientists have found that exercise can be beneficial to patients as they begin treatment for prostate cancer. [Read more](#)

HPV and vaccine

HPV infections can be eliminated if both boys and girls are vaccinated

The human papillomavirus (HPV) amongst other diseases causes cancer of the cervix and oropharynx. A new study now shows that the most oncogenic HPV types can be eliminated, but only if both girls and boys are vaccinated. [Read more](#)

Lung cancer (inc smoking)

Lung cancer mortality could be reduced by including smoking cessation with screening

Including smoking cessation with existing lung cancer screening efforts would reduce [lung cancer mortality](#) by 14% and increase life-years gained by 81% compared with screening alone, according to a study from Rafael Meza from the University of Michigan and colleagues and published in the Journal of Thoracic Oncology, a publication of the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer. [Read more](#)

Unmet needs and opportunities for improving care for patients with advanced lung cancer on targeted therapies: a qualitative study

Al Achkar M, Marchand L, Thompson M, *et al*
BMJ Open 2020;**10**:e032639. doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2019-032639

Objective Lung cancer is increasingly recognised as a heterogeneous disease. Recent advances with targeted therapies for lung cancer with oncogenic mutations have greatly improved the prognosis for this subset of patients, yet little is known about their experiences. This study aimed to identify the needs and explore the healthcare experiences of these advanced patients with oncogenic mutation driven lung cancer. [Read more](#)

Pain management

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

Managing pain in oncology

Rohit Jain

Journal of Prescribing Practice, Vol. 2, No. 3: 147-153.

Pain is one of the most common symptoms in cancer and almost all patients experience pain at various stages of the disease. Despite the high prevalence of these symptoms and various international guidelines that are in place for management, there is still a gap between the pain management approaches and achieving satisfactory pain relief. A holistic approach is required for effective management, which not only includes the pain-relieving medications but should also contain various complementary procedures to treat cancer pain and improve patients' quality of life.

Palliative care

Providing palliative medication at the end of life

Australia is fortunate to have one of the highest standards of palliative care and health care in the world. Despite this, there is increasing anecdotal evidence in Australia and overseas that some people do not have their pain and symptoms adequately controlled as they approach death, suggesting that some may be under-treated or experience pain at the end of life. [Read more](#)

Youth / adolescent patients

Study: Five-year survival rate for adolescents and young adults with cancer has improved

The five-year survival rate for adolescents and young adults with cancer has significantly improved from 1975 to 2005 in the United States overall, but this was not the case for all cancers, according to a report in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute. [Read more](#)

Wellbeing (physical and spiritual)

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

Associated factors of hope in cancer patients during treatment: a systematic literature review. Nierop- Van baalen, C., Grypdonck, M., Van Hecke, A. and Verhaeghe, S. (2020), J Adv Nurs. Accepted Author Manuscript. doi:[10.1111/jan.14344](https://doi.org/10.1111/jan.14344)

Aim

To identify the associated factors of hope during treatment in cancer patients.

Background

Hope is very important to cancer patients at all stages of the disease process. Hope is seen as an important coping mechanism. Most research about hope in cancer patients considered the end of life or in palliative care. Several and different factors are associated with hope. It is not yet sufficiently clear which factors are associated with hope during the treatment.

International news

How to manage cancer care during COVID-19 pandemic

Experts share lessons learned from early experiences treating people with cancer during COVID-19 outbreak. [Read more](#)

General articles

How 14 nurses refresh at the end of a hard day

Question: How do you de-stress and revitalize yourself at the end of a hard day?

Trish Celano, RN. Senior Vice President, Associate Chief Clinical Officer and Chief Nursing Executive at AdventHealth (Altamonte Springs, Fla.): I used to always take calls on my drive home from work. I found that when I got home, I was terrible at making the transition back into family life. My husband and kids would often say, 'Hey, you're not at work anymore.'

[Read more](#)

Publications and reports

Colorectal Oncology, Research Review, Issue 24

A recent phase III trial published in The New England Journal of Medicine shows that a combination of encorafenib, cetuximab, and binimetinib results in significantly longer overall survival, and a higher response rate than standard therapy in patients with metastatic colorectal cancer with the *BRAF* V600E mutation. [Read more](#)

Breast Cancer Research Review, Issue 28

CDK4/6 inhibitor therapy with concomitant endocrine therapy was confirmed as the standard of care for women with hormone receptor-positive, HER2-negative metastatic breast cancer in two articles reviewed in this issue. [Read more](#)

Lung Cancer Research Review, Issue 12

This month we feature three studies investigating the economics of lung cancer screening in Australia, the US and Denmark [Read more](#)

Skin Cancer Research Review, Issue 2

Research from the US suggests that increased dietary intake of vitamin A decreases the risk of incident cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma. [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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Linda Stopforth, BA, Dip Bus; NZLSC, RLIANZA

PO Box 315 WELLINGTON 6140

PH: 04-383-6931 or 021-107-2455

email: stop4th@xtra.co.nz



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