

The Canadian Association of Pharmacy in Oncology

Association Canadienne de Pharmacie en Oncologie



A word from the President

Greetings to all CAPhO members.

Spring is finally here, ASCO is just around the corner, and the world of oncology pharmacy continues to evolve. We are all faced with new challenges in our workplace - learning to do more with less.

I would like to take a few moments to give you an update on what is happening with your association.

We have a couple of educational projects on the table at this time. HOPE, an on-line e-learning module on CINV, is available on the CAPhO website. We are also hoping to have a second module on the molecular biology of cancer ready for this autumn.

We are also looking at two other projects: one that revisits safe handling of cytotoxic agents and another that looks at biostatistics in cancer. At this time, it is not clear exactly how these projects will unfold but we will let you know once they become more fully developed. Finally, NOPS 2007 will take place in Halifax in October.

On another note, a more administrative project is also underway that we will be submitting to the membership in the upcoming months. CAPhO needs to have its bylaws updated, and we have been working on this with the intention of submitting an updated draft to the membership for consultation during the summer so that they can be passed at our AGM in the autumn.

The Executive Committee of CAPhO will be having its bi-annual retreat in Toronto in early May. We will be discussing the future of CAPhO and trying to move ahead projects on

which we are currently working. If there is any topic or issue you would like to have us discuss, please feel free to contact me and I will be happy to bring it forward.

We have two new members on the Executive committee. Ing Collins is the new NCIC Pharmacists Network Steering Committee liaison to the CAPhO Executive Committee. Ing is a research pharmacist at the Juravinski Cancer Center in Hamilton, Ontario. Marc Geinaert is the new treasurer for CAPhO, and is an oncology pharmacist working at CancerCare Manitoba in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Welcome aboard!

I would also like to thank two members who have been on the Executive Committee for many years, but who have now moved on to pursue other endeavours. Susan Walisser was the NCIC liaison over the last couple of years. She has always been there to stimulate conversation during our meetings, and has often given us original insights and ideas on topics under discussion. John Wiernikowski has also completed his mandate as treasurer for the CAPhO Executive. John always carried out his work within CAPhO with class and distinction and has been very valuable to the association. I would like to personally thank both Susan and John for their great work for CAPhO and would like to wish both of them much success with their future ventures.

Finally, I hope to be seeing all of you in Halifax this autumn for NOPS!

Gabriel Gazzé, CAPhO President
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NCIC News

Submitted by Ing Collins, NCIC Rep.

I would like to thank all members who submitted applications towards the five CAPHO grants being offered for attending the National Cancer Institute of Canada's (NCIC) Spring Meeting in Toronto, April 26-29, 2007.

In their letters of application members expressed that attendance at the NCIC Spring Meeting would be an important part of their learning for conducting clinical trials. They recognized the valuable information that the pharmacists network already provides to the pharmacists at large. It would also be an excellent opportunity for networking with other clinical trial pharmacists and other NCIC participants from across the country.

Unfortunately, grants could not be given to all who applied. Consistent with the philosophy of NCIC, priorities were given to members who had direct involvement in clinical trials and were already participants in NCIC trials.

Congratulations go to the following recipients of the CAPHO grants to NCIC Spring Meeting:

Carol Davis, clinical trial pharmacist
BC Cancer Agency-Vancouver Island Centre

Layton Carefoot, clinical trial pharmacist
BC Cancer Agency-Centre for the South Interior

Wendy Won, clinical trial pharmacist
BCCA-Vancouver Centre

Mary Jane Doornik, clinical trial technician
Juravinski Cancer Centre, Hamilton, ON

Lorna Pederson, clinical trial pharmacist
Allan Blair Cancer Centre, Regina, Sask.

In upcoming CAPHO newsletters, members can look forward to the recipients' summary of what they learned and how they will use that information to effect positive change in their pharmacy services for clinical trials.

The Joint Committee for the Cancer Workforce (JCCW)

Submitted by Lynne Nakashima

Canadian Association of Provincial Cancer Agencies (CAPCA) and Canadian Partnership Against Cancer (CPAC)
Human Resources Joint Committee for the Cancer Workforce
Feb. 19-20, 2007

The Canadian Partnership Against Cancer (CPAC) was announced Nov. 24, 2006 with the purpose of implementing the Canadian Strategy for Cancer Control. It is a not-for-profit corporation at arms-length from the federal government. While it is in early development stages of determining the board and operating structure, CPAC is supporting this working group.

This new committee, supported by both CAPCA and CPAC, is called the Joint Committee for the Cancer Workforce (JCCW). Its mandate is to coordinate the development of a national cancer workforce strategy to support the operational planning needs for cancer control in Canada.

The mandate of the JCCW is to develop, implement and evaluate a Pan-Canadian integrated health human resources strategy to meet the needs of Canadians living with or at risk of cancer. This strategy is predicated upon quality services being delivered to Canadians in a timely fashion by the most appropriate systems and teams of caregivers across the cancer continuum (from prevention to palliation).

Workshop Outcomes

The workshop portion of the session was spent reviewing, defining and planning the implementation of the 4 key results areas:

1. Define and explain the Canadian health HR landscape in terms of (current and future) needs-based cancer services

2. Describe the components of the supply (inflow, stock and outflow) system for the cancer workforce
3. Construct HR delivery models to enhance all jurisdictions capacity to achieve the appropriate mix of health providers across the cancer control continuum in Canada
4. Establish and operate an effective HR planning information system (HR-PIS)

Recommendations on the Role of CAPHO

1. Continue to send a representative to the JCCW meetings.
2. Support the work of JCCW as it relates to Pharmacy HR issues
3. Provide linkages to key Pharmacy Managers to support the work JCCW

For the summary report, please check the member section of our website, www.capho.org and click on National Committees.

NOPS 2007

“Oncology Pharmacy in your Community”
October 26-28, 2007, Marriott Harbourfront Hotel, Halifax, Nova Scotia

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

The National Oncology Pharmacy Symposium (NOPS) for 2007 will be held October 26 - 28 at the Marriott Harbourfront Hotel in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The theme for 2007 is “Oncology Pharmacy in your Community.”

If you are interested in learning, discussing, sharing, and networking in with other pharmacists practicing in oncology, this is the symposium to attend. It will cover topics in the areas of symptom management, new drug updates, pharmacy based research, board certification and academic training, and so much more.

CAPHO invites you to begin preparing your posters now for submission starting June 25, 2007. The deadline for poster submission is

September 14, 2007 at 16:00 PST. Presenters will be contacted by email the week of September 17, 2007.

For more information including accommodation, transportation, and sponsorship opportunities, check the CAPHO website (www.capho.org) under NOPS.

Membership Renewals

Just a reminder that if you haven't done so yet, 2007 membership renewals are due. They can be paid either online through the CAPHO website, or by sending a cheque or money order for \$40 made out to CAPHO to the following address:

CAPHO
c/o Marc Geirnaert
Department of Pharmacy
CancerCare Manitoba
Room#ON3114 675
McDermot Avenue
Winnipeg MB
R3E 0V9

Be sure to include all pertinent contact information if mailing in your membership renewal. Some members mailing in their renewals have found it easiest to type in their information on the form on the website, then print it off and send it in with their renewal.