

First Congress of the Hellenic Society of Head and Neck Cancer and 5th Day of Oral Oncology



OCTOBER 2016

The First Congress on Head & Neck Cancer was presented by the Hellenic Society of Head and Neck Cancer (HeSHNCA) from September 30 to October 2, 2016, in Athens, Greece. The 5th Day of Oral Oncology of the Hellenic Society of Oral Oncology (HSOO) was held on October 1, in conjunction with the Congress. Both events were endorsed by MASCC and ISOO and both were well attended.

The meetings highlighted the importance of multidisciplinary collaboration for advances in early diagnosis and treatment strategies for head and neck cancer and focused on supportive care in oral oncology. Presentation topics included the role of human papillomavirus (HPV) in head and neck cancer, new treatment modalities, immunotherapy, and clinical trials in Europe. Educational sessions were offered for health professionals who care for cancer patients, such as dentists, oncologists, and ear, nose, and throat doctors, and these were very well attended. The



Board members and attendees at the First Congress on Head & Neck Cancer and the 5th Day of Oral Oncology, Athens, Greece. Amanda Psyrris, MD, President of the Hellenic Society of Head & Neck Cancer, is in the front row on the far right. Beside her is Ourania Nicolatou-Galitis, DDS, MSc, DrDent, founder of the Hellenic Society of Oral Oncology and President of the International Society of Oral Oncology (ISOO).

meetings also featured opportunities for discussion between physicians and representatives from cancer patient societies.

The Congress on Head and Neck Cancer was held under the auspices of the Medical School of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, the Athens Medical Association, and the ENT Association. The 5th Day of Oral Oncology was held under the auspices of the Athens Dental Association, the Mediterranean Multidisciplinary Oncology Forum and the Hellenic Societies of Medical Oncology, of Radiation Oncology, of Hematology, of Paediatric Hematology/Oncology, of Targeted Therapy and of Medical Mycology. There was broad agreement on the significant contributions of supportive care in oral oncology to the long journey of cancer patients.

The next Meeting of the Hellenic Society of Head and Neck Cancer and the 6th Day of Oral Oncology will take place in Athens, October 20-21, 2017, at the Caravel Divani Hotel.

Hellenic Society of Head and Neck Cancer: <http://www.headneckcancer.gr/>

Hellenic Society of Oral Oncology: www.oraloncology.gr

New Oral Care Patient Education Materials

Members of the International Society of Oral Oncology (ISOO) and MASCC's Oral Care Study Group have created four multilingual [Fact Sheets](#) and an [Oral Care Education Video Storyboard](#) that provide instructions for patients undergoing chemotherapy or head-and-neck radiation therapy. The fact sheets provide instructions on caring for the mouth during active chemotherapy, and on self-care before, during, and after head-and-neck radiation. The Fact Sheets were created by a network of physicians, nurses, dietitians, speech language pathologists, dentists, radiation therapists, and social workers committed to supportive care. They are based on systematic reviews, guidelines, and up-to-date, evidenced-based recommendations for managing the oral complications of cancer therapy, as well as the most current thinking about knowledge translation and delivery to patients.

The Fact Sheets are currently available in 18 languages. This large translation effort was carried out by ISOO members around the world, and all of the Fact Sheets have been validated by each translation team. The project demonstrates the success of collaborative efforts in translating research into clinical practice and patient care. The Fact Sheets can be personalized by each cancer center that uses them. ISOO hopes that using these Fact Sheets will result in global collaboration at the institutional level.

The first of four planned storyboards is also available. It provides information on self-care during active chemotherapy treatment in a video format, as an alternative to the patient information Fact Sheets. It can be viewed on computers, tablets, and smart phones, as well as overhead in waiting rooms. Three more video storyboards on self-care before, during, and after head-and-neck radiation will be released soon.



www.mascc.org/oral-care-education

www.mascc.org/oral-care-education-videos