

## European Association of Neuro-Oncology (EANO)



EANO is the pan-European organisation representing clinical and scientific disciplines involved in the diagnosis and treatment of brain and central nervous system tumours and of the effects of cancer or its treatment, on the nervous system. Interest in neuro-oncology is increasing due to improvements in treatment and new drugs and molecular targets. General neurologic cancer complications are also becoming more important, as is specialist palliative care.

EANO stimulates interaction and collaboration as a multidisciplinary society with increasing and varied educational programmes: EANO offers grants for EANO Congress attendance and visits to departments and clinical fellowships. The EANO congresses also have educational programmes, and in the past years a biennial EORTC–EANO education meeting takes place in Eastern Europe. The professionally developed EANO website offers current news on neuro-oncology and monthly case discussions for CME are offered.

EANO has more than 800 members, not only in Europe but also in Asia, the United States and Russia. Membership involves several opportunities, including free access to *Neuro-Oncology*.

EANO is directed by a Board, which is elected by members in biennial voting. The board members come from different specialities involved in neuro-oncology. The Scientific Committee is involved in the congress programmes, and gives advice in scientific matters.

The EANO congresses take place biennially in European countries. Scientific and education programmes as well as invited, ‘state of the art’ lectures are the core programme. There are also sessions for nurses and related health groups and meetings with members from the new European states and North Africa.

### History

EANO was established as a multidisciplinary society devoted to Neuro-oncology by formal constitution in Brussels in 1994 and the first EANO Congress was held in Maastricht in that year. 180 Participants attended and the Association was constituted by formal election. EANO cooperates with national Neuro-oncology societies and allied groups to stimulate international cooperation in research and clinical training.

EANO has organised 9 biennial EANO scientific congresses (Maastricht 1994, Würzburg 1996, Versailles 1998, Copenhagen 2000, Florence 2002, Vienna 2006, Barcelona 2008 and Maastricht 2010) as well as the joint EANO/World Federation for Neuro-oncology conference, which was held in Edinburgh in May 2005. The next EANO congress will be held in Marseille, France. Please visit our website for more information.

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## European Association of Urology (EAU)



The European Association of Urology (EAU) represents more than 16,000 urology professionals across Europe and worldwide. Its mission is to raise the level of urological care in Europe. The EAU Annual Congress is one of the largest urological congresses in the world. Education and postgraduate training are essential tasks of the EAU and aim at promoting quality urological education across Europe and worldwide. Providing effective communication links to promote and disseminate scientific results and information amongst European urologists through, for example, *European Urology* and *European Urology Today* remains vital.

The EAU provides special websites, such as Uroweb ([www.uroweb.org](http://www.uroweb.org)) and Urosource ([www.urosource.com](http://www.urosource.com)), which allow for direct communication with all urology professionals worldwide.

## European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC)



The EORTC is a unique organisation – a vibrant example of the fact that science and research know no national boundaries. It was established in 1962 as a non-profit research organisation operating as an international association under Belgian law.

The EORTC was an initiative and an organisation that was ahead of its time – a pioneer in promoting multidisciplinary cancer research and international collaboration. The fundamental aim – to set up a clinical research organisation in Europe that would promote and coordinate high-quality clinical trials and provide a base of scientific expertise and administrative support for a network of scientists and clinical investigators – remains the same today.

The EORTC currently links a network of more than 2,500 pre-clinical scientists and oncologists in more than 300 hospitals in over 30 countries. It encompasses all aspects of cancer research, from translational research and new drug development to large phase III clinical trials and meta-analyses. Some 30 protocols are permanently open to recruitment, and every year about 6,500 new patients are treated in EORTC trials. As an international organisation, the EORTC is uniquely placed to organise multinational, multicentre studies.

The ultimate goal of the EORTC is to improve the standard of cancer treatment by developing new agents and innovative approaches and to test more effective treatment strategies using commercially available drugs, or surgery and radiotherapy. Imaging, biobanking, and translational research initiatives provide the means for new approaches to clinical trials designs aimed at discovering and validating molecular determinants predictive of activity or toxicity and make the EORTC one of Europe's leading players in transforming experimental discoveries into new treatments.

All the activities of the network are coordinated and supported by the EORTC Headquarters based in Brussels with 180 staff members.

The EORTC's independence is ensured through a number of peer-review committees that safeguard the quality of the organisation's work by monitoring the relevance and scientific value of its research.

Funders include the EORTC Charitable Trust (with the support of national cancer leagues), the 'Fonds Cancer', private donations and corporate sponsorship, the Belgian National Lottery, and, for specific research projects, the European Commission. EORTC headquarters has received continuous support for more than 35 years from the US National Cancer Institute (NCI).

The EORTC website is: [www.eortc.eu](http://www.eortc.eu).

## European Society of Gynaecological Oncology (ESGO)



The European Society of Gynaecological Oncology (ESGO), Europe's leading non-profit gynaecology oncology society, strives to improve gynaecological cancer care by providing training standards, educational opportunities and breakthroughs in the prevention, treatment and study of gynaecological oncology.

The society with more than 1,200 members from over 30 European countries and worldwide, was founded in 1983 and has become an open European platform for individual professionals dedicated to the care of women with gynaecological cancer.

ESGO's biennial conference regularly attracts over 2,000 participants, and enables them to network, discuss, debate, and disseminate new medical and scientific studies relating to the treatment and care of gynaecological cancer. ESGO17 congress was held on September 11–14, 2011 in Milan with approximately 2,400 participants.

ESGO's peer reviewed official publication, the *International Journal of Gynecological Cancer* (IJGC), is published bimonthly and covers a range of topics related to gynaecological cancer such as experimental studies, chemotherapy, radiotherapy, diagnostic techniques, pathology, epidemiology and surgery.

In addition to its conferences, ESGO organises a number of educational events, workshops and backed meetings throughout the year, and provides travel grants and fellowships to its members. Membership gives members the opportunity of networking and a variety of membership benefits such as reduced subscription costs to the journal, considerable reduction of registration fees to ESGO's congresses, access to the video library, educational DVDs, webcasted lectures from congresses and e-posters, as well as access to webcasted individual lectures on featured topics, educational text books, etc.

The European Network of Gynaecological Oncological Trial Groups (ENGOT) has been developed as a research body of ESGO with the aim of coordinating and promoting clinical trials. The European Network of Young Gynae Oncologists (ENYGO), for juniors and trainees is another networking platform under the ESGO umbrella giving the opportunity to develop a cooperation of trainees within the subspecialty.

ESGO also provides certification of European training centres in excellence in gynaecological oncology and accredits individual accredited training of Gynae oncologists. ESGO's gynaecological oncology training and accreditation programmes have become recognised standards in a number of European countries.

ESGO – The European Voice of Gynaecological Oncology!

**[www.esgo.org](http://www.esgo.org)**

## European School of Oncology (ESO)



The European School of Oncology (ESO) was founded by Umberto Veronesi and Laudomia Del Drago in 1982, with the aim of contributing to the reduction of deaths from cancer due to late diagnosis and/or inadequate treatment. Leading oncologists from around the world have played a key role in the foundation of the School. Now, after 30 years of existence, ESO is the oldest and most structured organisation exclusively dedicated to increasing the knowledge of health professionals in all fields of cancer medicine under the auspices of an international scientific committee and advisory board.

ESO's mission is reflected in its motto 'Learning to Care', which stresses the concept of studying and learning and also of caring for the patient in a global sense. By improving the skills of all health professionals dealing with cancer patients, ESO shortens the length of time needed to transfer knowledge from research centres to daily practice, combining advanced technology with a humane approach in care.

The European School of Oncology has always given great importance to the learning process. Since its attention is focused on clinical aspects of the cancer problem, care is the ultimate goal of its commitment to improve the oncology skills of health professionals. Care and treatment is of paramount importance to us because ESO believes in an holistic approach to the cancer patient.

ESO's commitment is a response to the demand from western and/or developed countries where there is a constant increase in the request for education and oncology updates.

ESO has faced the process of globalising the fight against cancer with diversity and speed – and in an active and resourceful way by: dedicating resources and energy, expanding its work in new cultural areas, new geographical areas and new professional figures, developing and upgrading editorial activities in print and electronic format, organising a wide range of educational events, as well as expanding e-learning programmes.

The School's partners, staff, other ESO offices and supporters all over the world, including more than 50 people in ESO offices, over 1,000 lecturers and experts and more than 20,000 alumni, have been crucial to the success of ESO.

For further information on the School and to become ClubESO member please visit the ESO website at **[www.eso.net](http://www.eso.net)**.

## European Society of Oncology Pharmacy (ESOP)



The European Society of Oncology Pharmacy, founded in 2000 in Prague, is the largest organisation of oncology pharmacists in the world with 1,320 members from 29 countries.

### **Aim and Objectives**

ESOP supports optimal treatment for cancer patients with objectives to develop and promote clinical and oncology pharmacy practice through:

1. Education and training;
2. Safe handling and administration of drugs;
3. Quality management;
4. Research and development;
5. Pharmaceutical care.

### **The Oncology Team – Co-operation**

The pharmacy as coordinator of Centre of Cytotoxic Therapy implements quality management of oncology pharmacy services and takes responsibility in patient care and personnel protection regarding all areas of cytotoxic therapy. The pharmacy collects and processes all medical and toxicological data relevant to cytotoxics, as well as supportive measures. Focusing on cytotoxic treatment alone is not enough. We also need to focus on appropriate diet, adequate analgesic medication and correct anti-emetic scheme, and we cannot ignore the social and psychological needs of the patient.

Financial resources have become limited, and it is necessary to intensify our services to increase cost effectiveness, to ensure adequate treatment and to prevent quality loss.

### **Ljubljana Declaration 2006**

‘The close co-operation between oncology physicians and oncology pharmacists is vital for optimal patient care. The multiprofessional approach will deliver best practice to patients within a clinical governance framework. Professional, close and timely collaboration will ensure economic use of resources and improve patient safety.’

### **Our Goals: Quality Standards, Continuous Education and Certification**

The fourth edition of *Quality Standards for the Oncology Pharmacy Service* (QuapoS) – translated into 20 languages – presents changes with respect to the position of our service. They are used for standardisation of national principles and to speak with one voice in Europe. The beneficiary of these efforts will always be the patient.

### **Specific Activities**

The ESOP Master Class in oncology pharmacy practice is an event providing continuing education in oncology for hospital pharmacists, whose duties require expertise on cytotoxic drug preparation, handling and administration (including risk management). It is also for clinical pharmacists, so they can give patients the best possible care and support. The *European Journal of Oncology Pharmacy* (EJOP) has been launched to satisfy these needs.

**[www.esop.eu](http://www.esop.eu)**

## European Society of Breast Cancer Specialists (EUSOMA)



EUSOMA, the European Society of Breast Cancer Specialists, gathers together specialists involved in breast cancer care. EUSOMA promotes the highest standards in patient care and the development of evidence-based guidance on best practice.

The primary mission of EUSOMA is to harmonise, at the highest achievable level, the quality of breast cancer diagnosis and treatment across Europe. EUSOMA promotes the multidisciplinary team approach to breast cancer care and the provision of specialist breast units that provide care and support throughout the patient journey, from early diagnosis, screening and genetic risk assessment, through surgical and oncological treatment and patient support services, to the management of advanced disease and palliative care.

To achieve these ambitious aims EUSOMA commissions and publishes recommendations and clinical guidelines on all aspects in breast cancer care and promotes formal peer review based certification of breast units.

EUSOMA works in partnership with other organisations to promote research and develop training projects for aspiring breast specialists.

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