

Welcome to the June edition of the Cancer Learning email newsletter which I hope finds you somewhere warm! Apologies for the one day delay due to a system error yesterday. It has been a busy month at Cancer Learning with the launch of our national dissemination campaign, with the aim to make all health professionals, medical students and trainees with an interest in cancer care aware of the resources, activities and information that is available to you on the Cancer Learning website, and to request that you [submit](#) any resources or activities that you have developed or know of so that we can include them to share with other health professionals. All resources included on the website are [evaluated](#) for their accuracy, relevance and currency so that you can be confident in the quality of the resource.

A downloadable **A3 colour poster** and **A4 Quick Guide to Cancer Learning** have been developed and emailed or posted to over 600 professional bodies, oncology units, clinical schools, universities, GP Divisions and consumer organisations. They will soon be available on the website for you to download, email or print - display them in your staff room or distribute them electronically to others who may benefit from using the Cancer Learning site. Keep an eye out for the link in the July update or request further information from info@cancerlearning.gov.au.

June News



[Health on the Net \(HON\) Code Certification](#)

We are delighted that [Cancer Learning](#) has received HON Code Certification - this is an independent website accreditation that was created to assist web users to locate quality online health information and objective, accurate, relevant medical data. HONcode is the oldest and the most used ethical and trustworthy code for medical and health related information available on Internet. Look for the logo above to find other certified health information online.

New [Search](#) feature

Try out our new search feature! Powered by our recently implemented resource database, the Cancer Learning site search is now faster, more accurate (choose between searching the site and resources only!) and when a search result is clicked, it will now take you to the relevant page AND open the resource summary for you to view.

[COSA](#) Interest Groups

In addition to their 22 professional membership groups, the peak national body representing Australian health professionals working in cancer control, Clinical Oncological Society of Australia (COSA) also convenes interdisciplinary [Interest Groups](#) that provide COSA members with the opportunity to participate in areas the wish to see progress and contribute to ongoing project activities. Click on a link for further information about joining a group:

- [Adolescent and Young Adult Cancer \(AYA\)](#)
- [Biobanking](#) (previously Tissue Banking)
- [Cancer Care Coordination](#)
- [Complementary and Integrative Therapies](#) (previously CAMS)
- [Developing Nations](#)
- [Geriatrics Oncology](#)
- [Neuroendocrine Tumours \(NETs\)](#)

New in the [Events Calendar](#)...

For more information about these and other coming events, see [Key Events in the News](#) section of [Cancer Learning](#).

▶ **Online Forum – DCIS: Is it cancer doctor?**

Note broadcast times: NSW, ACT, VIC, TAS - 8.00pm; SA - 7.30pm; QLD - 7.00pm; NT - 6.30pm; WA - 6pm

A LIVE simultaneous web cast and satellite broadcast on Tuesday 27th July 2010 funded by the **NBOCC**, this program looks at information to assist in clarifying a new diagnosis of ductal carcinoma in situ. It includes how DCIS is diagnosed, the implications and impact for the woman diagnosed and the treatment options and follow-up care.

▶ **Medical Oncology Group of Australia (MOGA)** and the **Private Cancer Physicians of Australia (PCPA)** invite you to attend the Association's *Annual Scientific Meeting-Personalised Medical Oncology*, to be held at the Four Seasons Hotel, Sydney, 12-13 August 2010. The Meeting will explore the molecular biology of cancer; the targeting of new therapeutic options to maximise patient outcomes; the issue of survivorship as a key aspect of oncology practice; the fine balance between evidenced based medicine and, medicine for the individual; the power of advocacy in improving access to treatments for our population; information technology solutions and, the future of health reform in Australia.

▶ **Medical Oncology Group of Australia (MOGA)** invites medical practitioners and professionals working in oncology and related areas, to attend *Best of ASCO@ 2010 Australia*, to experience the latest in cutting-edge oncology research and science from the world's premier oncology event on, Saturday 14 August 2010 at the Four Seasons Hotel, Sydney. This one day program presents the latest advances in oncology research from the 2010 Annual Meeting of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO).

▶ **Australia & Asia Pacific Clinical Oncology Research Development Workshop** on 12-17 September 2010 on the Sunshine Coast provides comprehensive training in clinical trials design and access to a world-class expert faculty for participants from any cancer related specialty from Australia, Asia Pacific and beyond.

▶ **Melbourne School of Health Sciences**, in conjunction with **Cancer Social Work Victoria** and endorsed by **Oncology Social Work Australia**, is offering the postgraduate subject, *Psychosocial Practice in Oncology*, as an intensive over four days – 26th, 27th, 28th, 30th August 2010 in Melbourne. The focus of this subject is on the theoretical paradigms, and the political, economic and social determinants of psychosocial practice associated with oncology.

▶ Save the date! The **Clinical Oncological Society of Australia (COSA)** invites you to attend the *37th COSA Annual Scientific Meeting: Beyond Cancer*, to be held at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, 9-11 November 2010. Key dates: Abstract submission deadline: 2 August 2010; Early Bird Reduced Registration Rate Deadline: 6 September 2010.

New on [Cancer Learning](#) in June

[Fundamentals of Oncology learning activities](#)

Online Breast Cancer Modules

NBOCC, in collaboration with the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM) is providing new educational opportunities for general practitioners, nurses and other health

professionals working in rural areas to access information about the latest advances in evidence-based breast cancer treatment and care. The modules use online technology to deliver lectures by experts across the spectrum of breast cancer care using web and audio technology and each module is approved with ACRRM for 1 Core PDP Point and with the Royal Australian College of General Practice (RACGP) QA&CPD for 2 category 2 points. An online discussion forum for each module is available for users to ask questions about the session and receive answers.

Online modules include:

- *Breast cancer diagnosis - what now?*
- *Breast cancer treatment - managing the impact*
- *Breast cancer treatment is over - what's next?*

Macmillan Learn Zone Health and Social Care Professionals modules

Macmillan Cancer Support Learn Zone is open to healthcare professionals and members of the public and provides free and easy access to a wide variety of online resources, e-learning programs, professional development tools and information about cancer care. Access cancer specific e-programs and resources and explore professional development tools, including an extensive leadership and management toolbox – you can also get in touch with online learning advisers.

Indigenous resources

Aboriginal Cancer Journeys: Our stories of kinship, hope and survival

Aboriginal Cancer Journeys: Our stories of kinship, hope and survival is a book of stories from Aboriginal people affected by cancer recently launched by Cancer Council NSW and Aboriginal Health & Medical Research Council of NSW. It includes personal insights and words of wisdom so Aboriginal people can get an insight into other people's experience of cancer. Eight fact sheets with easy-to-read information about cancer, its treatment and side effects are also available.

Primary Care

Is Myeloma on Your Radar?

The Leukaemia Foundation has developed a tool to assist GP's in the diagnosis of myeloma. Myeloma is the most rapidly increasing blood cancer in Australia. The diagnosis of myeloma can be challenging as it is reasonably rare with approximately 1500 people diagnosed each year in Australia. A GP may only encounter a few patients in their career and this may lead to limited awareness of the condition.

Is Lymphoma on Your Radar?

Diagnosing lymphoma is often challenging as patients may present with a varied range of clinical features. To assist GPs, this decision support tool was prepared by the Leukaemia Foundation's Medical and Scientific Advisory Committee.

Australian Practice Nurses Association Professional Development Information

The professional development section of the Australian Practice Nurses Association website provides information regarding CPD requirements for practice nurses, information regarding available courses and links to online learning opportunities, including National Bowel Cancer Screening Program education and non-clinical skills such as understanding the MBS Items, IT and business skills. Some fees may apply for courses and to non-members completing online courses. Coming soon is the APNA CPD portal which will allow members to securely record, store and print their CPD points and information. [Membership](#) is available to both individual and groups of practice nurses.

Competency Standards for Nurses in General Practice

Funded by Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, this competency toolkit provide a useful framework that reflects nursing practice in the general practice setting for both

registered and enrolled nurses and reflect the new ANMC competency standards for registered nurses.

[Supportive Care learning activities](#)

Banksia Palliative Care's Learning Centre Palliative Care Workshops & Courses

Based in Victoria, Banksia Palliative Care's Learning Centre offers a broad range of palliative care educational opportunities. Workshops and sessions for all staff are available including pain and symptom management, complementary therapies, loss and grief, communication skills, the palliative approach, advance care planning and ethical issues. They also offer an extensive Palliative Care Resource Nurse Course, credited by Melbourne University for Registered Nurses Division One, and National Training Units of Competency in Delivery of Care Services Using a Palliative Approach, and Planning for and Providing Care Services Using a Palliative Approach.

A Core Curriculum in Psychosocial Aspects of Cancer Care: Multilingual Online Training Program in Psycho-Oncology

In partnership with the European School of Oncology, the International Psycho-Oncology Society presents one-hour lectures (accompanied by PowerPoint slides and audio presentations) developed by experts in the psycho-oncology field on a variety of core supportive care topics.

[Supportive Care resources](#)

Living Well After Cancer Program

Provide information and support to your patients who have completed treatment by encouraging them to attend the *Living Well After Cancer Program*, a free 2 1/2 -hour program community education program, held throughout NSW, run by The Cancer Council NSW with trained cancer survivors that includes practical information and open discussion for people who are cancer survivors, their carers, family, friends and work colleagues.

Eating Hints: Before, During and After Cancer

As a supplement to professional nutritional and dietary advice, The National Cancer Institute provides information for primary care practitioners, other health professionals, carers and patients regarding the nutritional needs of cancer patients and various eating problems.

[Evidence and latest treatments resources](#)

A Guide to Understanding Informed Consent

The National Cancer Institute provides information for physicians, clinical trials nurses and consumers in order to assist them to make an informed decision about whether to participate in a suitable clinical trial, ensuring all potential risks and benefits are understood as well as the rights and responsibilities of the patient and trial staff.

[Evidence and latest treatments learning activities](#)

National Marrow Donor Program Health Professional Medical Education

A range of online modules that allow you to stay abreast of the latest advances in hematopoietic cell transplantation, find state-of-the-art medical education programs and materials on transplantation and get information regarding an unrelated donor or cord blood transplant. On the site, you can also view the *Advances in Transplantation* publication, subscribe to newsletters and updates, view online, audio and CPD programs and order medical education resources.

[Coordination of Care resources](#)

Cancer Prediction Tools

Researchers at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center have pioneered the use of computerized devices to help patients and their physicians decide among the major treatment choices for several cancers. Online prediction tools for cancers include bladder, breast, colorectal, endometrial, gastric carcinoma, gastrointestinal stromal tumor, melanoma, pancreas, prostate, renal cell carcinoma and sarcoma, as well as a lung cancer risk assessment tool.

Feel free to take a look around the website and let us know [what you think](#) – we welcome your suggestions and feedback about what you would like to be able to access on the website that will assist you to further develop your skills, competencies and knowledge about cancer care.

Til next month, happy learning!

The Cancer Learning Team

Please feel free to forward this newsletter to anyone you think would benefit from it.

You can [register](#) for monthly email update newsletters [here](#).

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ana.munro@sydney.edu.au or info@cancerlearning.gov.au