

Are you organising an annual meeting or conference which you would like to tell our readers about? Or would you like to write a report on a meeting or conference of particular interest? If so, contact Patricia McDonnell at Oncology News on T/F: +44 (0)288 289 7023, E: patricia@oncologynews.biz

1st Hellenic Multidisciplinary Conference on Head and Neck Cancer

Date: 21-22 October 2016. **Venue:** Athens, Greece. **Report by:** Dr George Garas BSc (Hons) MBBS (Dist) MRCS (Eng) DOHNS, Otorhinolaryngology and Head & Neck Surgery Specialty Registrar & Honorary Clinical Lecturer, St Mary's Hospital, Imperial College London, UK.

Organised by the Hellenic Society of Head and Neck Oncology (HeSHNO) – a member of the International Federation of Head and Neck Oncologic Societies (IFHNOS) – the 1st Hellenic Multidisciplinary Conference on Head and Neck Cancer was the first Head and Neck Oncology conference to take place in Greece. Both the faculty and delegates spanned the entire spectrum of specialties dealing with the diagnosis and management of head and neck neoplastic diseases including Otorhinolaryngology and Head & Neck Surgery, Medical Oncology, Clinical Oncology, Pathology, Radiology, Oral Medicine, Plastic Surgery, Dentistry, and Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, as well as allied healthcare specialties including dietetics, speech and language therapy, and psychology.

Keynote speakers included international authorities from the United Kingdom, Europe, and the United States from all relevant disciplines. These included Professors Ethan Argiris (USA), President of HeSHNO, Christos Georgalas (Greece), Secretary General of HeSHNO, Joanna Nixon (UK), Jan Vermorken (Belgium), Andreas Lazaris (Greece), Esma Saada (France), Andreas Dietz (Germany), and Jean Bourhis (Switzerland).

The conference was preceded by an outstanding postgraduate course comprising of a series of exceptional lectures covering special topics relating to head and neck oncology such as TransOral Robotic Surgery (TORS) (Dr George Garas, UK), molecular biology of cancer (Professor Stergios Moschos, USA), and novel radiotherapy approaches (Dr Konstantina Tsamatsioti, Greece).

Professor Ethan Argiris formally opened the conference as Chair of the Organising Committee. A very stimulating round table discussion followed on locally recurrent disease. This included presentations on a variety of specialist topics such as salvage surgery, re-irradiation, and systemic



(L-R) Dr George Garas (Imperial College London, UK) with Professor Ethan Argiris (Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA, USA).

therapy followed by an interactive panel discussion where the audience were encouraged to actively participate.

The invited lecture that generated the greatest interest was that by Professor Christos Georgalas on endoscopic surgery for paranasal sinus and skull base tumours. Challenging real-life cases were presented including their clinical presentation and cross-sectional imaging followed by impressive intraoperative endoscopic videos and post-operative short- and long-term results. This was complemented by a fascinating lecture delivered by Professor Andreas Lazaris who covered in depth the pathology of head and neck cancer, a challenging topic that was beautifully presented through a multitude of fascinating photomicrographs and slides combined with clinical pictures and case histories.

The scientific programme covered all aspects of head and neck oncology and included presentations on liquid biopsies for squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck, HPV biology, epidemiology, prognosis, anti-angiogenesis and other novel targeted agents, immunotherapy,

salvage surgery, larynx-sparing surgery, combined modality therapy for nasopharyngeal cancer, as well as allied healthcare topics including nutritional deficits, patient support, and speech and swallowing therapy. All lectures were evidence-based emphasising the importance of the multi-disciplinary team in the entire journey of the head and neck cancer patient.

There were two state-of-the-art keynote lectures, both superb. The first was by Professor Andreas Dietz where the final results of the randomised phase II DeLOS-II trial on the role of induction chemotherapy followed by radiotherapy vs. cetuximab plus induction chemotherapy and radiotherapy for functional larynx preservation in resectable laryngeal and hypopharyngeal cancer were presented. The second was by Professor Jean Bourhis where the latest topics in radiation oncology were reviewed including hyperfractionated or accelerated radiotherapy, gamma knife radiosurgery, re-irradiation, and proton beam therapy amongst others.

The HeSHNO conference, through its multidisciplinary faculty consisting of experts from both sides of the Atlantic ensured that all important aspects of head and neck oncology were thoroughly covered. The emphasis on evidence-based personalised medicine, the role of the multidisciplinary team with the head and neck cancer patient at its centre, and new developments in the field of head and neck oncology ensured that the conference was of immense educational value full of interesting presentations, round table discussions, and debates.

We very much look forward to the 2017 conference which will also be held in Athens.
<http://www.heshno.com/scientific-program>



WIN Symposium 2017

Date: 26-27 June 2107. **Venue:** Paris, France.

Preview

WIN 2017 Symposium will be held in Paris, France from June 26-27, 2017. The CME accredited WIN2017 is an exceptional scientific event dedicated to "Expediting Global Innovation in Precision Cancer Medicine" addressed to all cancer care professionals.

The WIN Consortium (WIN) is proud to announce that its symposium "Expediting Global Innovation in Precision Cancer Medicine" has been endorsed by the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO®) for its exceptional scientific program. "ASCO® is a registered trademark of the American Society of Clinical Oncology®. Used with permission. This is not an ASCO sponsored event."

John Mendelsohn, Chair of WIN Consortium and Past President of The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center will present in his Welcome Address an overview of WIN disruptive programs aiming to significantly improve lung cancer patients' outcomes.

José Baselga, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center will discuss in Keynote Opening Lecture "Genomic-driven Clinical Studies in Breast Cancer".

The Closing Keynote lecture and remarks will be presented by Leroy Hood

from Institute for Systems Biology.

The scientific program brings together the greatest academic and industry experts and will develop the following themes:

- Innovation in clinical trial design – Razelle Kurzrock (UCSD), Laura Esserman (UCSF), Donald A. Berry and J Jack Lee (UT-MD Anderson)
- New avenues for target discovery - Geneviève Almouzni (Institut Curie) and Giorgio Massimini (Merck Serono)
- Immunological approach to personalized medicine – Antoni Ribas (UCLA), Guido Kroemer (Gustave Roussy), Hans-Georg Rammensee (University of Tübingen) and Steven Anderson (Covance)
- Next great steps in cancer therapy – Olli Kallioniemi (Karolinska Institutet & FIMM), Henry Rodriguez (NCI) and Peter Lichter (DFKZ)
- Predict: what and how? – Martine J. Piccart-Gebhart (Jules Bordet), Jean-François Martini (Pfizer), Maureen Sullivan (Blue Cross Blue Shield), Caroline Robert (Gustave Roussy)
- Using new knowledge in clinical trials – René Bernards (NKI), Daniel F. Hayes (University of Michigan, President of ASCO 2016-2017), Reinhardt Büttner

(University Hospital of Cologne), Stefan Pfister (DKFZ) and Robert G. Bristow (Princess Margaret)

There will be open discussion with audience participation on each of these topics. In addition, three forums with open discussion for all attendees will debate on how to deliver better treatments to patients and improving their outcomes and these will be published in a synopsis of the symposium.

- Trends of clinical trial design, moderated by Razelle Kurzrock (UCSD) and Brian Leyland- Jones (AVERA)
- Place of immunotherapy approaches in precision cancer care, moderated by Antoni Ribas (UCLA) and Jean-Yves Blay (Centre Léon Bérard)
- Challenges of real world implementation of precision medicine and implications for other diseases, moderated by Lisa Hutchinson (Nature Publishing Group) and Thomas Tursz (Fondation ARC) with the exceptional participation of Otmar D. Wiestler (Helmholtz Association) and Richard L. Schilsky (ASCO)

For more information visit:
www.winsymposium.org or
E: win@congressbydesign.com
@WIN_Consortium

3rd World Congress on Thyroid Cancer

Date: 27-30 July 2017. **Venue:** Boston, Massachusetts, USA.

Preview

The 3rd World Congress on Thyroid Cancer will take place in the gorgeous city of Boston, Massachusetts USA at The Westin Boston Waterfront July 27-30, 2017. This international meeting builds on the success of WCTC1 in 2009 with 770 delegates and WCTC2 in 2013 with 1010 delegates. WCTC3 is expected to attract more than 1,200 delegates to participate in cutting edge scientific program that will feature:

- Keynotes
- Panels / Debates
- Workshops
- Meet the Professor
- Symposia
- Welcome Reception



- Gala Dinner
- Poster Reception

The objective of this Congress is to:

- Foster a collegial multidisciplinary atmosphere amongst all stakeholders for the discussion of management of and research in thyroid cancer
- Discuss and demonstrate all state of

the art aspects for the management of and research in the field of thyroid oncology worldwide

- Create the groundwork for future direction for management of and research in thyroid cancer

State of the art information, presentations and discussion:

- Medical management
- Surgical management
- Advances and innovations
- Future directions

<http://thyroidworldcongress.com>
@ThyroidCongress

3rd John Fitzpatrick Genitourinary Cancer Conference

John Fitzpatrick
Irish Genitourinary
Cancer Conference
2017



Date: 6-7 April 2017 Venue: Dublin, Ireland.

Preview

The 3rd edition of the John Fitzpatrick Genitourinary Cancer Conference is taking place Thursday 6th and Friday 7th April 2017 in the Aviva Stadium Conference Centre, Dublin. Formerly the John Fitzpatrick Irish Prostate Cancer Conference, the multidisciplinary scope of the meeting has broadened to include educational sessions on prostate, bladder and kidney cancer care.

This year's meeting will bring Irish healthcare and research professionals together with peers from Europe, North America and Australia. An international faculty of leading oncology, pathology, urology, surgical, and scientific experts will present the latest research on diagnostics and therapies for genitourinary cancers. Emerging trends and developments in prostate, bladder and kidney cancer care will also be discussed and debated in a range of themed panel discussions.

These panels provide participants with the opportunity to learn about best practices and key research topics, whilst also affording the opportunity to network with medical and surgical peers.

Professor John Fitzpatrick was a distinguished academic urologist, Emeritus Professor of Surgery at the University College Dublin (UCD) School of Medicine & Medical Science, former Consultant Urologist and Chairman of the Division of Surgery at Mater Misericordiae University Hospital (MMUH) Dublin and Head of Research at the Irish Cancer Society. He was an academic clinician and scientist of distinction, who advanced surgical techniques and urology training throughout his career until his untimely death in May 2014. Professor Fitzpatrick developed enduring professional connections worldwide earning a global reputation and providing

an immeasurable contribution to the understanding and management of prostate cancer. He will be remembered in continuum at this annual research and educational meeting; the John Fitzpatrick Irish Genitourinary Cancer Conference.

Urologist Kieran O'Malley and Consultant Medical Oncologist Prof John McCaffrey, both of the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital Dublin, co-chair the Conference Organising Committee. Registration is open to medical professionals working across the genitourinary cancer care community, including; urologists; medical oncologists; radiation oncologists; pathologists; surgeons; nurses; scientists; registrars; geneticists; pharmacists; researchers and trainees.

For more information visit
www.irishgenitourinaryconference2017.org
@JFIGUCC

Defence is the Best Attack: Immuno-Oncology Breakthroughs

Date: 9 - 11 October 2017 Venue: Barcelona, Spain

New Conference

Preview



Building on the strong success of conferences held in the EACR Conference Series, the European Association for Cancer Research is pleased to announce a new conference: Defence is the Best Attack: Immuno-Oncology Breakthroughs. It will be held in Barcelona, Spain, 9-11 October 2017 at Casa Milà, popularly known as 'La Pedrera', a modernist building designed by Antoni Gaudí and a UNESCO World Heritage site for its exceptional universal value. Barcelona is one of the most visited cities in Europe, famous for its endless culture, extraordinary architecture and seaside location.

This conference features an outstanding, internationally renowned faculty who will discuss and explore their up-to-the-minute findings as well as roadmap the 'where to' in identifying novel targets, progressing our understanding of the mechanisms of action of therapeutic interventions, developing improved biomarkers of response to therapy, and overcoming mechanisms of intrinsic and acquired

resistance to immunotherapy. Keynote lectures will be given by:

- Lisa Coussens (Professor, Chair, and Associate Director of Basic Research at the Knight Cancer Institute, OHSU)
- Carl June (Director of translational research, Abramson Cancer Center and Professor at Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania)
- Jedd Wolchok (Associate Chairman of Immunotherapeutics, MSKCC and Associate Director of the Ludwig Center for Cancer Immunotherapy)

"We are living in very exciting times in the context of molecular oncology and in particular in the field of immuno-oncology. A deeper understanding of the molecular mechanisms involved in the interaction between the tumour and the immune system is revealing an attractive set of novel therapeutic approaches to treat cancer. With some pronounced recent successes in this field, this is fuelling aggressive investigation, leading to new questions and challenges", said Joan Seoane, Conference Chair.

"Despite these important advances, we as translational researchers, physician-scientists, and clinicians in oncology, must collectively up the tempo by more precisely developing this powerful anti-cancer weaponry to better control the immune system and ultimately achieve higher response rates across tumour types. This exceptional EACR conference represents an essential platform for this must-have sharing of avant-garde discovery in the rapidly emerging field of cancer immunology. In short, EACR's Defence is the Best Attack, is set to track the latest breakthroughs in immuno-oncology as well as signpost future next steps."

With extensive networking opportunities, this conference will provide an intimate setting for top quality scientific interaction. Reduced registration rates are available to EACR members and five EACR Meeting Bursaries will be awarded.

For further information, please visit: www.eacr.org/conference/immunooncology17