



Member Newsletter

Issue 11

Summer 2011

Quick Update:

- Membership - currently 245
- 2 successful grant applications



Message from our Chair

Welcome to the final COGNO newsletter for 2011. I suspect many of us are looking forward to a break from teleconferences; scientific meetings; outpatient clinics and the daily routine of work. I will be sitting on a beach for a few weeks and watching plenty of cricket. Despite this, COGNO will never be far from my mind.

We end the year on a high note with two successful grant applications: one to Cancer Australia that will support the Group for another 18 months; and one under the Priority-driven Collaborative Cancer Research Scheme (PdCCRS) for the CATNON study (congratulations to the CIA Anna Nowak and team). Our diverse membership continues to grow and accrual to our clinical trials is very impressive as you will read on the following pages. Our committees remain very active and we are well prepared for next year's ASM in conjunction with MOGA. Can I recommend the COSA Clinical Professional Day early in 2012 (details on page 4).

Our plans for 2012 include continued membership expansion, the addition of new studies to the clinical trial portfolio; a formal strategic planning day and ensuring the success of our ASM.

I would like to thank all members of the COGNO Management and Scientific Advisory Committees as well as John Simes and Liz Hovey who have been outstanding members on the operations executive. Finally to the various operational staff (Jenny Chow, Trevor France and the recently returned Ann Livingstone), my sincere thanks for all their work over the year.

Mark Rosenthal
Group Chair

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Study and Trial Updates

CABARET Study: A randomised phase II study of Carboplatin and Bevacizumab in Recurrent Glioblastoma Multiforme (GBM)

Happy 1 year anniversary CABARET! Since opening the first CABARET site in November 2010, the CABARET team have activated 18 sites across Australia and have recruited over half of the target number of patients. An additional 2 sites have been selected to participate in the study, bringing our total number of sites to 20. Congratulations to Geelong Hospital and Liverpool Hospital – we very much look forward to working with you on the study.

Monash Medical Centre and Royal Melbourne Hospital continue to trade places as the lead recruiting site, with Royal Prince Alfred Hospital not far behind. Seventy-three patients have been recruited to Part 1 of the study, with 12 patients continuing on to Part 2 so far. We expect more patients to continue onto Part 2 of the study following completion of treatment in Part 1.

Since the last COGNO newsletter a translational research substudy has been added to the CABARET protocol and sites have commenced collecting blood and tumour samples for this substudy. Sites will also be transitioning from paper to electronic CRF's over the coming months following the finalisation of the InForm database.

As always, a huge thank you to all the site staff involved with making the study run so successfully. Our fantastic recruitment numbers are a reflection of your continued efforts and commitment.

For more information or queries, please contact the team on cabaret@ctc.usyd.edu.au.

CABARET Recruitment by Site						
No.	Site name	State	Principal Investigator	Date activated	No. of patients randomised	
					Part 1	Part 2
61331	Monash Medical Centre	VIC	Dr Ronnie Freilich	13-May-11	14	2
61301	Royal Melbourne Hospital	VIC	Dr Kathryn Field	20-Apr-11	11	1
61201	Royal Prince Alfred Hospital	NSW	Prof John Simes	5-Nov-11	10	1
61303	St Vincent's Hospital (Melbourne)	VIC	Dr Anthony Dowling	18-May-11	7	2
61312	Epworth Healthcare	VIC	Dr Ross Jennens	22-Aug-11	6	1
61512	The Queen Elizabeth Hospital	SA	Dr William Kevin Patterson	4-Jul-11	6	1
61245	Calvary Mater Newcastle	NSW	Dr Fiona Abell	3-Aug-11	5	0
61319	Austin Hospital	VIC	Dr Lawrence Cher	18-Apr-11	4	1
61601	Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital	WA	Prof Anna Nowak	27-Oct-11	2	0
61280	Port Macquarie Base Hospital	NSW	Dr Stephen Begbie	28-Jul-11	2	1
61401	Royal Brisbane & Womens Hosp.	QLD	Dr Po-Ling Inglis	9-Jun-11	2	1
61501	Royal Adelaide Hospital	SA	Dr Nimit Singh	19-Oct-11	1	0
61204	Prince of Wales Hospital	NSW	Dr Liz Hovey	22-Mar-11	1	1
61202	Royal North Shore Hospital	NSW	Dr Helen Wheeler	17-Mar-11	1	0
61704	Launceston General Hospital	TAS	Dr Stan Gauden	17-Feb-11	1	0
61435	Mater Adult Hospital	QLD	Dr Zarnie Lwin	27-Oct-11	0	0
61701	Royal Hobart Hospital	TAS	Dr Rosemary Harrup	6-Apr-11	0	0
61305	The Alfred	VIC	Dr Sanjeev Gill	30-Nov-11	0	0
61309	Geelong Hospital	VIC	Dr Mustafa Khasraw	Pending		
61213	Liverpool Hospital	NSW	Dr Paul DeSouza	Pending		
TOTAL NUMBER of ACTIVE SITES					18	
TOTAL NUMBER of PATIENTS RANDOMISED					Part 1	73
					Part 2	12

CATNON (EORTC 26053-22054): Phase III trial on concurrent and adjuvant Temozolomide chemotherapy in non-1p/19q deleted anaplastic glioma

Recruitment activities have been consistent in the last few months. The CATNON trial has now registered 53 patients and randomised 29 patients in total from 9 active sites, with the rate of recruitment expected to increase once we've activated all of our planned participating sites.

Congratulations to investigators and study staff at Royal North Shore Hospital who are currently the fourth highest recruiting site to CATNON internationally, with 22 patients registered and 14 patients randomised. This is an amazing achievement in a short time, with only three European centres, open for a substantially longer period, ahead of Royal North Shore. Thanks to Dr Helen Wheeler and Dr Michael Back and their staff at site for their sustained support of this study.

To date we have activated 9 sites and work is underway to activating 2 more sites in the next few weeks. We will be looking into activating Princess Alexandra Hospital which would be the first site in Queensland and Westmead Hospital to add to the recruiting sites in NSW. We look forward to the close collaboration with these sites.

We would like to send out a special recognition for the hard work and effort of all CATNON Site Coordinators in ensuring that patients are registered and randomised according to the trial procedures. Again, keeping on top of all the processes against the tight timelines is not the easiest part of this trial. The Site Coordinators have done a fantastic job. Well done everyone!

CATNON Recruitment by Site							
No.	Site name	State	Principal Investigator	Date activated	No. of patients registered	No. of patients deemed ineligible	No. of patients randomised
1	Royal North Shore Hospital	NSW	Helen Wheeler	20-Aug-10	22	7	14
2	Royal Hobart Hospital	TAS	Rosie Harrup	08-Sep-10	4	1	3
3	The Alfred	VIC	Sanjeev Gill	31-Aug-11	3	0	3
4	Austin Health	VIC	Lawrence Cher	21-Jun-10	10	7	2
5	Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital	WA	Anna Nowak	29-Sep-10	6	4	2
6	St. Vincents Hospital Melbourne	VIC	Anthony Dowling	22-Mar-11	1	0	2
7	Royal Melbourne Hospital	VIC	Mark Rosenthal	03-Sep-10	3	1	1
8	Flinders Medical Centre	SA	Ganessan Kichenadasse	26-Jul-11	2	1	1
9	Royal Prince Alfred Hospital	NSW	John Simes	11-Mar-11	0	0	0
TOTAL					53	21	29

Overall, active Australian sites are in close communication with the CATNON Coordinating Centre to submit all trial requirements, and data, and to send any enquiries they have. As always, the CATNON Coordinating Centre welcomes all queries and any assistance we can provide at catnon@ctc.usyd.edu.au.

SEED Study: Self-reported evaluation of the adverse effects of Dexamethasone

Since opening the first site in July this year, the SEED team have made significant progress in having activated 5 sites across NSW and already recruited 13 patients and their caregivers to the study.

Braeside and Sacred Heart are leading the recruitment board, with both sites having recruited 6 and 7 patients respectively. These recruitment numbers are higher than expected for a palliative care based study where patients have a relatively short life expectancy of ≥ 8 weeks.

The SEED database is anticipated to be ready in the first quarter of 2011. In the interim, paper CRFs will continue to be used. Sites will be advised regarding the transition to eCRFs.

We would like to thank all staff involved in the study, your enthusiasm and efforts are greatly appreciated. We look forward to further successes into the New Year.

For more information or queries, please contact the team on seed@ctc.usyd.edu.au.

SEED Recruitment by Site					
No.	Site name	State	Principal Investigator	Date activated	No. of patients registered
61297	Braeside Hospital	NSW	A/Prof Meera Agar	5-Jul-11	6
61245	Calvary Mater Newcastle	NSW	Dr Katherine Clark	5-Jul-11	0
61212	Sacred Heart Hospice	NSW	A/Prof Richard Chye	22-Aug-11	7
61298	Greenwich Hospital	NSW	Dr Melanie Lovell	1-Sep-11	0
61213	Liverpool Hospital	NSW	A/Prof Meera Agar	23-Sep-11	0
TOTAL NUMBER of ACTIVE SITES					5
TOTAL NUMBER of PATIENTS REGISTERED					13



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Membership Update

We now have 245 members! We currently have members in all states and the ACT, but no members yet in the Northern Territory. We have 9 members who identify themselves as regional/rural. Internationally, we have members from New Zealand, Canada, USA, Sweden and Singapore. Help us expand our Group's expertise

and networking capacity. If you know someone who would like to join, you can now refer prospective members to our online membership application on our website (www.cogno.org.au) or to the COGNO Coordinating Centre on cogno@ctc.usyd.edu.au.

New Concepts

DO YOU HAVE A NEW CONCEPT?

COGNO is always looking to develop new studies—from inception through to full protocol development and managing feasibility and operational issues. We aim to help progress and support development of important clinical

trial questions. So if you would like to propose a concept for a COGNO clinical trial, please contact us on cogno@ctc.usyd.edu.au or complete and return our Trial Concept Outline form available at www.cogno.org.au.

COGNO Team Update



We are happy to welcome back AOPM Ann Livingstone, who has been on parental leave for the past 13 months. Ann has returned on a part-time basis, working Mondays – Wednesdays. Sadly, we say farewell to Trevor France who has accepted a position with a clinical research company. Trevor's hard work during his time with us is much appreciated.

Reminders

- 15th Biennial Canadian Neuro-Oncology Meeting, Vancouver BC, 9-11 February 2012, <http://www.cnomeeting.ca/>
- COSA Neuro-Oncology Clinical Professional Day, Friday 9 March 2012, Sydney Exhibition & Convention Centre, <http://www.rcpa.edu.au/Continuing/PathologyUpdate/PathologyUpdate2012/COSA.htm>
- COSA Cancer Care Coordination Conference: Towards New Horizons, Novotel St Kilda, Melbourne, 6-7 March 2012, <http://www.cosacc2012.org/>
- COGNO's 5th Annual Scientific Meeting will be held in conjunction with the Medical Oncology Group of Australia (MOGA) from 7th – 11th August 2012, at the Sofitel Brisbane. The COGNO ASM will run from 7-8 August, with a conjoint session with MOGA on 9 August. The MOGA ASM will run from 8-11 August. COGNO ASM Co-Convenors, Dr Zarnie Lwin and Dr Matthew Foote, along with the other members of the organising committee are busy developing a very interesting and topical scientific program, with confirmed international speakers Professor Susan Chang (Director, Division of Neuro-Oncology, University of California, San Francisco), and Dr Michael Vogelbaum (Associate Director, Brain Tumor and Neuro-Oncology Center, Cleveland Clinic). Save the date and keep an eye out for updates on the COGNO website (www.cogno.org.au), the MOGA website (www.moga.org.au) and COGNO member emails.