

Quick Update:

- Membership: 285 members
- Successful COGNO 5th ASM

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COGNO

COOPERATIVE TRIALS GROUP
FOR NEURO-ONCOLOGY

Member Newsletter

Issue 13

Winter/Spring 2012



Message from our Chair

Welcome to the Winter/Spring COGNO newsletter. Another few months have passed and COGNO has some noteworthy achievements in that time. First, we held a very successful Scientific Meeting in Brisbane in conjunction with MOGA. Congratulations to our co-convenors, Zarnie Lwin and Matthew Foote who ran a faultless meeting. Indeed, COGNO now believes it is time to have a stand-alone meeting for 2013 and I encourage all members to attend. What struck me most was that the ASM covered all aspects of neuro-oncology from paediatrics to adults and from molecular biology to supportive care: something for everyone.

As you will see below, membership is approaching 300, our trial portfolio is strong and the group executive is always looking at how to improve the organisation. To that end, we have convened a Strategic Workshop to discuss the long-term future of COGNO.

One final comment as I sit at the Society of Neuro-Oncology meeting in Washington: I was delighted that COGNO was mentioned very positively in two key-note presentations related to our work and trial accrual.

Mark Rosenthal
Group Chair

COGNO 5th ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

COGNO held a very successful ASM in Brisbane from 7-9 August, joining with MOGA for a MOGA/COGNO Joint Symposium on the morning of 9 August. Feedback received during and following the ASM was extremely positive ('best ASM ever!'). Co-convenors Zarnie Lwin and Matthew Foote, along with the organising committee members, developed an excellent scientific program, spearheaded by international guest speakers Professor Susan Chang and Dr Michael Vogelbaum and ably supported by Australian experts.

Selected presentations from the ASM are now available for viewing on the member's page of the COGNO website (<http://www.cogno.org.au/member/default.aspx>). To view the presentations log in with your COGNO username and password.

COGNO awarded 6 travel scholarships this year, and we were pleased to welcome the following recipients to the ASM: Paul Katris, Danielle Langbecker, Louise Lutze-Mann, Mayra Ouriques, Wafa Trad and Thu Tran. This was the first ASM with submitted abstracts and posters, with prizes for the best abstracts being awarded during the very enjoyable COGNO Dinner. Our congratulations to the best abstract prize winners: Angus Harding (\$500), Michael Back (\$250) and Gail Robinson (\$250).



Angus Harding & Kurt Erler (Brainlab)

COGNO thanks the following for their support of this year's ASM:



Plans are already underway for the 2013 ASM which will be held in Sydney in late October. Convenor, Dr Eng-Siew Koh, and the 2013 organising committee are already in the throes of developing another outstanding scientific program for you. So keep an eye out for our webmail updates!

STUDY & TRIAL UPDATES

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

Following the close of recruitment to Part 1 of the CABARET study in March 2012, the focus shifted to reaching our recruitment target for Part 2 of the study. Patients who have been randomised to Part 1 of the study have the opportunity to continue onto Part 2, and potentially receive further bevacizumab following disease progression in Part 1. Currently 46 patients have continued on to Part 2 of the study. Based on current data we estimate that approximately 50 patients will be randomised to Part 2 of the study, just under our Part 2 recruitment target of 60.

The CABARET team is now busy reviewing and cleaning the data with the aim of presenting progression-free survival results in 2013. Thank you to all CABARET sites who have assisted us by ensuring that missing data is entered into the database and that queries are responded to promptly. Data entry and cleaning will be a big focus for the study over the coming weeks, and your cooperation with this will be essential in preparing the data for analysis.

As always, a huge thank you to everyone involved in CABARET for making the study run so smoothly. Our success to date is a reflection of your dedication and commitment.

Below is a summary of the current status of patients on the trial:

| Patient Status | | Randomisation Numbers | |
|-------------------|------------|-----------------------|-----|
| On Part 1 | 12 | Randomised to Part 1 | 122 |
| On Part 2 | 5 | Randomised to Part 2 | 47 |
| In follow-up | 22 | | |
| Deceased | 82 | | |
| Withdrawn consent | 1 | | |
| Total | 122 | | |

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 | 17 | 5 |
| 61301 | Royal Melbourne Hospital | VIC | Dr Kathryn Field | 20-Apr-11 | 16 | 7 |
| 61201 | Royal Prince Alfred Hospital | NSW | Prof John Simes | 5-Nov-11 | 13 | 3 |
| 61303 | St Vincent's Hospital (Melbourne) | VIC | Dr Anthony Dowling | 18-May-11 | 11 | 3 |
| 61312 | Epworth Healthcare | VIC | Dr Ross Jennens | 22-Aug-11 | 9 | 4 |
| 61512 | The Queen Elizabeth Hospital | SA | Dr William Kevin Patterson | 4-Jul-11 | 8 | 4 |
| 61319 | Austin Hospital | VIC | Dr Lawrence Cher | 18-Apr-11 | 7 | 2 |
| 61245 | Calvary Mater Newcastle | NSW | Dr Fiona Abell | 3-Aug-11 | 7 | 2 |
| 61202 | Royal North Shore Hospital | NSW | Dr Helen Wheeler | 17-Mar-11 | 6 | 2 |
| 61204 | Prince of Wales Hospital | NSW | Dr Liz Hovey | 22-Mar-11 | 6 | 6 |
| 61280 | Port Macquarie Base Hospital | NSW | Dr Stephen Begbie | 28-Jul-11 | 5 | 3 |
| 61401 | Royal Brisbane & Womens Hosp. | QLD | Dr Po-Ling Inglis | 9-Jun-11 | 5 | 2 |
| 61601 | Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital | WA | Prof Anna Nowak | 27-Oct-11 | 5 | 2 |
| 61501 | Royal Adelaide Hospital | SA | Dr Nimit Singhal | 19-Oct-11 | 4 | 1 |
| 61435 | Mater Adult Hospital | QLD | Dr Zarnie Lwin | 27-Oct-11 | 1 | 1 |
| 61701 | Royal Hobart Hospital | TAS | Dr Rosemary Harrup | 6-Apr-11 | 1 | 0 |
| 61704 | Launceston General Hospital | TAS | Dr Stan Gauden | 17-Feb-11 | 1 | 0 |
| 61305 | The Alfred (CLOSED) | VIC | Dr Sanjeev Gill | 30-Nov-11 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL NUMBER of ACTIVE SITES | | | | | 17 | |
| TOTAL NUMBER of PATIENTS RANDOMISED | | | | Part 1 | 122 (closed) | |
| | | | | Part 2 | 46 | |

STUDY & TRIAL UPDATES

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

Recruitment has greatly improved since the last newsletter, congratulations to all active sites. The CATNON trial has now registered 94 patients and randomised 41 patients in total from 10 active sites. However, in the last months the ratio of patients registered/randomised has dropped considerably, this is due to various reasons including patients being ineligible, patient refusal and one patient progressing prior to randomisation.

Congratulations to Dr Katharine Cuff and her research team at the Princess Alexandra Hospital - they have now registered 3 patients. To date we have activated 10 sites and work is continuing to activate 1 more site in the next month - Westmead Hospital. Concurrently the activation process is underway for Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital.

Recent processes have also been circulated to all sites regarding requirements for tumour sample shipments to the EORTC in the Netherlands. So far, the processes have proven effective in ensuring that the correct requirements and timing for shipments are met.

The site coordinators continue to do a fantastic job in submitting the case report forms and queries.

As always, the CATNON Coordinating Centre welcomes all suggestions, queries and any assistance we can provide. Please drop us an email at catnon@ctc.usyd.edu.au.

| 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 | 30 | 13 | 15 |
| 2 | Royal Hobart Hospital | TAS | Rosie Harrup | 8-Sep-10 | 7 | 2 | 5 |
| 3 | Austin Health | VIC | Lawrence Cher | 21-Jun-10 | 11 | 9 | 2 |
| 4 | Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital | WA | Anna Nowak | 29-Sep-10 | 12 | 5 | 5 |
| 5 | The Alfred | VIC | Sanjeev Gill | 31-Aug-11 | 11 | 7 | 4 |
| 6 | St. Vincents Hospital Melbourne | VIC | Anthony Dowling | 22-Mar-11 | 8 | 4 | 4 |
| 7 | Royal Melbourne Hospital | VIC | Mark Rosenthal | 3-Sep-10 | 6 | 2 | 4 |
| 8 | Flinders Medical Centre | SA | Ganessan Kichenadasse | 26-Jul-11 | 6 | 4 | 2 |
| 9 | Royal Prince Alfred Hospital | NSW | John Simes | 11-Mar-11 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 10 | Princess Alexandra Hospital | QLD | Katharine Cuff | 14-Dec-11 | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| TOTAL | | | | | 94 | 49 | 41 |

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

The SEED study recruitment has greatly improved in the previous months. Sacred Heart is currently leading recruitment with 20 registered patients followed by Braeside with 8 patients. Liverpool has recruited 8 patients in the past 2-4 months - congratulations to the Liverpool team for all their efforts! As you may recall, the initial recruitment target for this study was 50 patients, 25 from the advanced cancer/brain metastases group and 25 from the primary brain tumour (PBT) group. SEED has currently recruited 25 patients to the advanced cancer/brain metastases group. Due to slower than expected recruitment of PBT patients the Study Management Committee has recently decided to continue recruitment of advanced cancer/brain metastases patients until the target of 25 primary brain tumour patients is reached. Emphasis continues to be on recruiting more patients with primary brain tumours.

Prince of Wales Hospital has recently been activated to SEED trial, it is hoped that this site will increase the number of primary brain tumour patients recruited.

As always, the SEED Coordinating Centre welcomes all suggestions and queries - we are happy to provide any assistance we can. Please don't hesitate to contact the team at seed@ctc.usyd.edu.au

| SEED Recruitment by Site | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------|------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| No. | Site name | State | Principal Investigator | Date activated | No. of patients registered |
| 61212 | Sacred Heart Hospice | NSW | A/Prof Richard Chye | 22-Aug-11 | 20 |
| 61297 | Braeside Hospital | NSW | A/Prof Meera Agar | 5-Jul-11 | 8 |
| 61245 | Calvary Mater Newcastle | NSW | Dr Katherine Clark | 5-Jul-11 | 0 |
| 61298 | Greenwich Hospital | NSW | Dr Melanie Lovell | 1-Sep-11 | 1 |
| 61213 | Liverpool Hospital | NSW | Dr Eng Siew Koh | 23-Sep-11 | 8 |
| 61204 | Prince of Wales Hospital | NSW | Dr Elizabeth Hovey | 13-Nov-12 | 0 |
| TOTAL NUMBER of ACTIVE SITES | | | | | 6 |
| TOTAL NUMBER of PATIENTS REGISTERED | | | | | 37 |



COGNO CONTACTS

Ann Livingstone

Associate Oncology Program
Manager

(Mon - Thur)

E: ann.livingstone@ctc.usyd.edu.au

T: (02) 9562 5332

Daniel Obando

CATNON Trial Coordinator
SEED Trial Coordinator

E: daniel.obando@ctc.usyd.edu.au

or catnon@ctc.usyd.edu.au

or seed@ctc.usyd.edu.au

T: (02) 9562 5318

Kate Sawkins

CABARET Trial Coordinator

E: cabaret@ctc.usyd.edu.au

T: (02) 9562 5374

Bernadette Tomes

Clinical Trials Assistant

E:

bernadette.tomes@ctc.usyd.edu.au

T: (02) 9562 5321

Rasha Cosman

Clinical Research Fellow

E: rasha.cosman@ctc.usyd.edu.au

T: (02) 8036 5230

Jenny Chow

Executive Officer (Tues, Wed)

E: cognoeo@ctc.usyd.edu.au

T: (02) 9562 5389

Yi Feng

Admin Assistant (Thur, Fri)

E: yi.feng@ctc.usyd.edu.au

T: (02) 8036 5238

COGNO Coordinating Centre

NHMRC Clinical Trials Centre

Locked Bag 77

Camperdown NSW 1450

T: +61 2 9562 5000

F +61 2 9562 5094

E: cogno@ctc.usyd.edu.au

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

COGNO membership is now at 285 and we are pleased to welcome our first (and so far only) member from the Northern Territory, Dr Ajay Gupta. Help us expand our Group's expertise and networking capacity. If you know someone who would like to join, you can 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

Concepts under consideration:

1. Use of modified Baby POG1 protocol in combination with the histone deacetylase inhibitor sodium valproate in medulloblastoma in children <3 years of age without the use of radiation

Concepts approved for further development:

1. Randomised phase II study of acetazolamide + dexamethasone v dexamethasone alone for management of cerebral oedema in recurrent or progressive High Grade Glioma
2. Phase 2 Study of Salvage PENAQ for Recurrent Glioblastoma Multiforme (GBM)
3. Valproate and Metformin in Glioblastoma multiforme Study - The VIBE study
4. Confidence to Care: A randomised controlled trial of structured home-based support and education for carers of people with high grade glioma
5. Patterns of care study in Medulloblastoma

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 have experienced a number of staff changes, and we take the opportunity to farewell Alan Lucas (CATNON) and Bhagwant Sekhon (SEED) and welcome Daniel Obando and Yi Feng. Daniel joins us as trial coordinator for the CATNON and SEED studies, and Yi as our part-time administrative assistant.

Daniel Obando hails from Colombia, but now calls Australia home. He has 6 years experience in academic research at The University of Sydney, during which time he completed his PhD in medicinal chemistry, and worked on a number of projects including anticancer research and development of iron chelators to treat neurology disorders. Having decided on a career change from lab research to clinical research, Daniel currently splits his time between the CATNON study for COGNO and lung cancer trials for the Australasian Lung Cancer Trials Group (ALTG).

Yi Feng joins COGNO as a part-time administrative assistant. Originally from Perth, Yi moved to Sydney to complete her university study. On her days off from COGNO Yi works part-time for the Australian and New Zealand Urogenital and Prostate Cancer Trials Group (ANZUP).

REMINDERS

- 21-24 March 2013, Mumbai, India: Asian Society for Neuro-Oncology (ASNO), 10th Meeting, (jointly with the 5th Annual Meeting of the Indian Society of NeuroOncology); <http://www.asno2013.org/>
- 6-10 April 2013, Washington DC, USA: American Association for Cancer Research (AACR), 10th Annual Meeting, <http://www.aacr.org/home/scientists/meetings--workshops/aacr-annual-meeting-2013.aspx>

2012 ASM PHOTOS



Zarnie Lwin



L-R: Liz Hovey, Matthew Foote, Susan Chang, Michael Vogelbaum, Zarnie Lwin, Mustafa Khasraw, Mark Rosenthal