

Quick Update:

- Membership: 303 members
- COGNO's first stand-alone ASM
- COGNO to host 2016 ASNO



COGNO

COOPERATIVE TRIALS GROUP
FOR NEURO-ONCOLOGY

Member Newsletter

Issue 15

Winter 2013

Inside this issue:

Chairman's Message	1
COGNO ASM	1, 5
CABARET Update	2
CATNON Update	2
SEED Update	3
Patterns of Care Study of Adult Medulloblastoma	3
Patterns of Care Study: Neuro-Oncology Practices in Australia	4
New Concepts	4
Working Groups	4
CODEL Survey	4
Membership Update	4
COGNO Team Update	6
Reminders	6

Message from our Chair



The COGNO machine continues along with considerable activity noted through this newsletter. As usual, we report on our three active studies: CABARET, SEED and CATNON as well as a terrific "patterns of care" study that surveyed an international audience regarding the management of medulloblastoma.

Our international profile is remarkably high, due in part to our contribution to international glioma studies as well as posters and presentations at major meetings including ASCO. Further, Dr Elizabeth Hovey was an invited guest at the April NCIC Brain Tumour Research meeting in Toronto and Dr Gail Ryan represented us at the February EORTC Brain Tumour Trials meeting.

The immediate future of COGNO is secure with continuation of our Cancer Australia grant (under the Support for Cancer Clinical Trials program), due to the hard work of Jenny Chow and Ann Livingstone in particular. In addition, there are a number of trial concepts working their way through our Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC).

A few things to look forward to. First, I encourage all our members to attend our first stand-alone ASM in October. The program covers wide territory and should appeal to anyone with an interest in brain tumour research. Secondly, COGNO has been awarded the right to host the 2016 Asian Society of Neuro-Oncology (ASNO) meeting which we will dovetail with our own ASM. I attended the 2013 ASNO meeting earlier this year in Mumbai and was impressed by the quality of the meeting and the number of attendees (over 500) from almost every Asian country. Third, our strategic meeting confirmed our vision and mission but recognised some fundamental changes were required to the business of COGNO. In particular, we recognised that there needs to be a succession and mentoring process for the COGNO leadership positions as well as increasing representation at international cooperative group meetings. Those with aspirations to higher positions should come and see me!

Finally, we should take pride in our successes. We are all aware that brain tumours and gliomas in particular represent a small percentage of cancers and the field is relatively young. However, COGNO and its members have, in quick time, elevated neuro-oncology to a position of some prominence nationally and the group has achieved an international profile in a short time.

Mark Rosenthal
Group Chair

6th COGNO ASM - 'NEURO-ONCOLOGY IN THE YOUNGER ADULT'

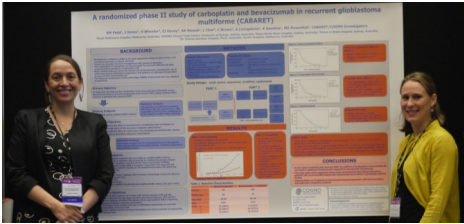
Friday 25th - Saturday 26th October 2013
PARKROYAL Darling Harbour, Sydney, Australia

The new-look COGNO ASM website has been relaunched (<http://www.cogno.org.au/content.aspx?page=cognoasm-home>) and we encourage you to visit it to view the

- excellent preliminary program developed by convenor Eng-Siew Koh and the organising committee
- call for abstracts (now open and closing 9 August)
- travel grant information (now open and closing 9 August)
- reduced registration rates for COGNO members (online registration now open).

STUDY & TRIAL UPDATES

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



Kathryn Field and Kate Sawkins with the CABARET poster at ASCO

In exciting news, preliminary progression-free survival results for the study were recently presented at the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) annual meeting in Chicago. Please follow this link to the abstract to review the preliminary PFS results: <http://meetinglibrary.asco.org/content/115649-132>.

We look forward to hearing from the attending CABARET team members Kate Sawkins (Trial Coordinator) and Dr Kathryn Field (Study Chair) about discussions raised following the presentation of these preliminary findings. Thank you once again to the CABARET team and site staff for all their efforts in making this opportunity possible.

In regards to the current status of CABARET patients, the majority of patients are now deceased, with only 6 remaining on treatment (6 on Part 1 treatment and none on Part 2 treatment) and 7 patients in follow-up. Below is a summary of the current status of patients on the trial:

Patient Status	
On Part 1	6
On Part 2	0
In follow-up	7
Deceased	108
Withdrawn consent	1
Total	122

Randomisation Numbers	
Randomised to Part 1	122
Randomised to Part 2	47

The focus for the study is now on the Central Radiology Review of MRI scans and the translational research sub-study. Site monitoring visits are now complete, and the CABARET team and site staff are continuing with data entry and cleaning in preparation for further statistical analyses during 2013.

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

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

CATNON Recruitment by Site						
No.	Site name	State	Principal Investigator	Date activated	No. of patients registered	No. of patients randomised
1	Royal North Shore Hospital	NSW	Helen Wheeler	20-Aug-10	33	16
2	Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital	WA	Anna Nowak	29-Sep-10	16	8
3	The Alfred	VIC	Sanjeev Gill	31-Aug-11	13	5
4	Royal Melbourne Hospital	VIC	Mark Rosenthal	3-Sep-10	8	5
5	Royal Hobart Hospital	TAS	Rosie Harrup	8-Sep-10	8	5
6	St. Vincents Hospital Melbourne	VIC	Anthony Dowling	22-Mar-11	10	4
7	Austin Health	VIC	Lawrence Cher	21-Jun-10	13	2
8	Flinders Medical Centre	SA	Ganessan Kichenadasse	26-Jul-11	7	2
9	Princess Alexandra Hospital	QLD	Katharine Cuff	14-Dec-11	5	2
10	Royal Prince Alfred Hospital	NSW	John Simes	11-Mar-11	2	1
Current as at 22 Jul 2013				Total	115	50

1 participant currently awaiting eligibility confirmation.

Since the last newsletter, the CATNON study has reached 50% of target accrual with 115 participants registered and 50 participants randomised. To date we have activated 10 sites and work continues to activate 3-4 more sites; Westmead Hospital, Prince of Wales Hospital, Macquarie University Hospital and Gosford Hospital.

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 and queries - we are happy to provide any assistance we can. Please drop us an email at catnon@ctc.usyd.edu.au.

STUDY & TRIAL UPDATES

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

SEED study recruitment continues to be slower than expected, however with 6 of the last 9 patients recruited having a primary brain tumour (PBT), we are close to reaching our recruitment target. A special thank you to Liverpool for registering 8 of the last 9 PBT patients.

Sacred Heart is leading recruitment with 27 registered patients followed by Liverpool with 20 patients, then Braeside with 8 patients. Sacred Heart and Liverpool have recruited 15 patients in 2013 - congratulations to both teams for all their efforts! Liverpool Hospital is leading the way with PBT patient recruitment.

SEED's current recruitment target is 25 PBT patients. SEED has currently recruited 84% of its target. Emphasis continues to be on recruiting more patients with primary brain tumours as only 4 more are required to complete recruitment in 2013.

SEED Recruitment by Site (current as at 22 Jul 2013)							
No.	Site name	State	Principal Investigator	Date activated	No. of patients	No of Patients Registered	Percentage of Patients
1	Liverpool Hospital	NSW	Dr Eng Siew Koh	23 Sep 2011	20	10	50%
2	Sacred Heart Hospice	NSW	A/Prof Richard Chye	22 Aug 2011	27	7	26%
3	Braeside Hospital	NSW	A/Prof Meera Agar	5 Jul 2011	8	2	25%
4	Prince of Wales Hospital	NSW	Dr Elizabeth Hovey	13 Nov 2012	4	1	25%
5	Greenwich Hospital	NSW	Dr Melanie Lovell	1 Sep 2011	3	1	33.3%
6	Calvary Mater Newcastle	NSW	Dr Katherine Clark	5 Jul 2011	0	0	0%
Total Number of Active Sites					6		
Total Number of Patients Registered					62(21 PBT)	21	33.87%

As you will be aware the SEED study is currently moving to Open Clinica; a database that collects study data using an electronic rather than paper based case report forms. To this end the SEED team have entered the back log of patient data. The training for Open Clinica database has been rolled out to sites and hopefully we can have everyone on board by the end of July, if you have not completed the training please do so.

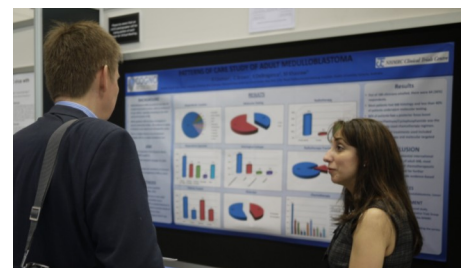
As always, the SEED Coordinating Centre welcomes all suggestions and queries - we are happy to provide any assistance we can. Please don't hesitate to contact the team at seed@ctc.usyd.edu.au.

Patterns of Care Study of Adult Medulloblastoma

In COGNO's efforts to take a closer look at adult medulloblastoma (MB), COGNO member Dr Mustafa Khasraw, a medical oncologist at Geelong Hospital, Chris Brown, NHMRC CTC biostatistician, and Dr Rasha Cosman, COGNO Clinical Research Fellow, with input from Dr Kevin DeBraganca from Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, designed and launched an international electronic survey which was launched at the 2012 meeting of the Society of Neuro-Oncology. The aim was to determine the range and consistency of clinicians' approaches to management as a basis for future clinical trials.

The study has shown substantial international variation in the treatment of adult MB, most pronounced in the choice of chemotherapeutic agents, highlighting the need for further collaborative research to guide evidence-based treatment strategies.

The results of the survey were presented in poster form at the ASCO annual meeting in June 2013 in Chicago, Illinois. This study received great interest from various clinicians from different parts of the world, recognising the lack of strong evidence to guide management. They voiced their keen interest in collaborating with COGNO in future research in this rare tumour. The study is currently being prepared for publication.



Rasha Cosman and patterns of care study poster at ASCO

STUDY & TRIAL UPDATES

Patterns of Care Study: Neuro-Oncology Practices in Australia

In 2010 COGNO undertook a patterns of care study in neuro-oncology practices in Australia, led by then COGNO Research Fellow, Dr James Chen. An initial report of the study was made available to COGNO members at the 2010 ASM. We are pleased to inform you that the article "Neuro-oncology practices in Australia: A Cooperative Group for Neuro-Oncology patterns of care study" will be published in the Asia-pacific Journal of Clinical Oncology. The abstract and the 2010 report are available on the publications page of the COGNO website (<http://www.cogno.org.au/content.aspx?page=publications>).

NEW CONCEPTS

The COGNO Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) met in May and approved 2 concepts for further development:

- REPO (Repurposing Olanzapine) - Antipsychotic drug re-purposing for the treatment of glioblastoma
- CCC (Comfort, Care and Clots) - Rivaroxaban for treatment and secondary prevention of VTE in glioma.

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. If you would like to propose a concept or have an amazing idea for a COGNO clinical trial, please contact us on cogno@ctc.usyd.edu.au or call and chat to Ann Livingstone, Program Manager on 02 9562 5332. The SAC meets quarterly and Ann and the team can assist you to develop and progress your idea or assist you with completion of the Trial Concept Outline form available at www.cogno.org.au. The next SAC meeting is scheduled for 15 August 2013.

WORKING GROUPS

Following on from the 2012 COGNO Concept Development Workshop there are now separate small groups working via regular teleconference on designing protocols to further explore issues such as **sleep disturbance** in glioma patients; challenges facing **CALD patients**; and the benefits of **exercise** in the glioma setting. Please contact COGNO Secretary, Dr Elizabeth Hovey, via COGNO (cogno@ctc.usyd.edu.au) if you are interested in participating in any of these working groups.

CODEL SURVEY

COGNO members participated in an international survey late last year with regards to refashioning the important CODEL study, which is an international study (NCI/EORTC) open for patients with grade 3 glioma with 1p and 19q co-deletion. Based on the 2012 updates of the RTOG (Cairncross et al) and EORTC (van den Bent et al) oligodendroglioma studies, there was striking evidence that patients with co-deleted 1p and 19q doubled their median survival from 7 to 14 years if they received PCV (procarbazine, lomustine and vincristine) in addition to radiation. Due to these updates, the protocol of CODEL required amendment as previously the control arm was radiation alone. The arms of the amended CODEL study will include radiation followed by PCV as the new control arm; the Stupp protocol as the main study arm and a smaller experimental arm with temozolomide alone up-front. Depending on logistics and financial constraints, as well as securing provision of temozolomide for the study, it is not yet determined whether COGNO will participate.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

COGNO has 303 members and is still growing! Currently we have 16 international members; 136 in New South Wales; 53 in Victoria; 47 in Queensland; 19 in Western Australia; 14 in South Australia; 9 in Australian Capital Territory; 8 in Tasmania; and one in Northern Territory.

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 office (cogno@ctc.usyd.edu.au).

6th COGNO ASM - 'NEURO-ONCOLOGY IN THE YOUNGER ADULT'
Friday 25th - Saturday 26th October 2013, PARKROYAL Darling Harbour, Sydney, Australia

(continued from page 1)

Early registration and booking of your accommodation is encouraged as there are a number of other large meetings happening in Sydney around this time (eg 15th World Conference on Lung Cancer commences the day following the COGNO ASM). Please note accommodation is not included in your registration and must be booked directly with the hotel of your choice. Special rates are available for delegates at the PARKROYAL hotel - details are available on the COGNO ASM website: <http://www.cogno.org.au/content.aspx?page=cognoasm-accomm>.

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM OF EVENTS

Friday Morning 25 October: Pre-ASM Meetings		
TIME	MEETING	CHAIR
9.00-9.30	On arrival tea/coffee	
9.30-10.30	Scientific Advisory Committee Meeting (open to COGNO members only)	Mark Rosenthal
10.30-11.00	Morning tea	
11.00-12.00	Scientific Advisory Committee Meeting (open to COGNO members only) cont	Mark Rosenthal
12.00-1.00	Lunch	
Friday Afternoon 25 October: Day 1		
TIME	SESSIONS AND SPEAKERS	CHAIR
1.00-1.05	Welcome and Day 1 afternoon program overview	Eng-Siew Koh
1.05-3.00	Session 1 - Challenges of Neuro-oncology in the Younger Adult - I	
	Prof Mitchel Berger: Maximising extent of resection in low grade glioma	
	Neuropathologist (TBC): Update on the molecular pathogenesis of low grade glioma	
	Prof Jan Buckner: Update on management of grade II and III glioma	
	Panel discussion and Question time	
3.00-3.30	Afternoon tea	
3.30-5.00	Session 2 - COGNO Trials Updates	
	CABARET	
	CATNON	
	SEED	
	EORTC-NCIC-TROG - Low Grade Glioma	
	NCIC-TROG Elderly GBM study	
	Dr Mustafa Khasraw: Cancer Australia Management Guidelines for Breast Cancer Brain Metastases	
	Dr Rasha Cosman: Medulloblastoma - Patterns of Care survey	
	New concept proposals (1-2)	
	Discussion and Question time	
5:00-5:45	Poster Walk Around/Welcome Reception	
Saturday 26 October: Day 2		
TIME	SESSIONS AND SPEAKERS	
8.30-9.00	On arrival tea/coffee	
9.00-9.05	Welcome and Day 2 program overview	Eng-Siew Koh
9.05-10.30	Session 3 - Angiogenesis Inhibitors in Neuro-Oncology	
	Prof Jan Buckner: The Role of Angiogenesis Inhibitors in Clinical Neuro-Oncology	
	A/Prof Michael Bynevelt: Imaging challenges in the era of Angiogenesis Inhibitors for Glioma	
	Panel - Case Presentations, Panel Discussion and Question time	
10.30-11.00	Morning tea	
11.00-12.30	Session 4 - Translational Research Session	
	A/Prof Terry Johns: Brain Cancer Discovery Collaborative - an overview	
	Invited speakers and selected abstracts	
	Discussion and Question time	
12.30-1.15	Lunch	
1.15-2.40	Session 5 - Challenges of Neuro-oncology in the Younger Adult - II	
	Dr Lawrence Cher: Supportive care in glioma (including seizure management)	
	A/Prof Janette Vardy: Challenges of cognitive assessment tools in the clinic and clinical trials	
	Ms Marina Kastelan: Care coordination for brain tumour patients in regional & remote areas	
	Selected abstracts	
	Discussion and Question time	
2.40-3.40	Session 6 - Management of Recurrent Glioma	
	Prof Mitchel Berger: Re-do surgery for high grade glioma	
	Dr Nitya Patanjali: Challenges of re-irradiation for recurrent glioma	
	Prof Jan Buckner: Update on management of oligodendroglioma (TBC)	
	Selected abstracts; Discussion and Question time	
	ASM Summary and Close	
3.40-4.00	Afternoon tea	
4.00-4.30	COGNO Annual General Meeting (open to COGNO members only)	Mark Rosenthal
4.30-5.15	COSA Neuro-oncology / Supportive Care - Breakout Meeting (TBC)	
7.00-11.00	COGNO Conference Dinner: venue TBC	



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COGNO TEAM UPDATE

We welcome 2 new members to the COGNO team: Joe Levitt, our new CATNON trial coordinator, and Beau Salwin, our new SEED study coordinator.

Originally from Philadelphia, Joe has been in Australia for nearly 17 years. He has a background in critical care and cardiology nursing, and was a site coordinator of cardiology trials for Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, the Heart Research Institute and the George Institute. Joe joins us from the Kirby Institute where he spent the last two years as a project coordinator for a large international HIV study. In addition to his role as CATNON trial coordinator, Joe also works with the Australia New Zealand Gynaecological Oncology Group (ANZGOG) on their ICON8 trial.

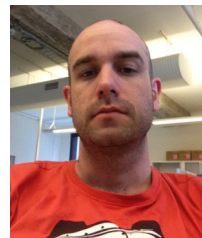
Beau has over five years experience in clinical research having previously worked as a study coordinator, data coordinator, and clinical trial coordinator. Beau completed his Master in Medical Science (Drug Development) in 2013 and has just started studying health economics at Monash University. Outside of work he enjoys playing basketball and rock climbing as well as reading.

Welcome Joe and Beau!

We also congratulate COGNO executive officer, Jenny Chow, on receiving the Sydney Medical School Award for Exceptional Performance by General Staff earlier in the year. Jenny was nominated by COGNO's coordinating centre, the NHMRC Clinical Trials Centre (CTC), for her work with COGNO and other areas within the CTC.



Joe Levitt



Beau Salwin



Ann Livingstone, Jenny Chow and John Simes at the awards dinner

REMINDERS

- 31 July - 2 August 2013, Melbourne, Australia: MOGA Annual Scientific Meeting, <http://www.mogaasm2013.com/>
- 22-25 September 2013, Atlanta, USA: American Society of Therapeutic Radiation Oncology (ASTRO), 55th Annual Meeting; <https://www.astro.org/Meetings-and-Events/Future-Annual-Meetings.aspx>
- 27 September - 1 October 2013, Amsterdam, The Netherlands: European CanCer Organisation (ECCO), 17th ECCO - 38th ESMO - 32nd ESTRO European Cancer Congress, <http://www.ecco-org.eu/Conferences/Conferences/ECCO-17.aspx>
- 3-5 October 2013, Sunshine Coast, Australia: Neurosurgical Society of Australasia Annual Scientific Meeting, <http://www.nsa.org.au/events/category/annual-scientific-meeting>
- 17-20 October 2013, Auckland, New Zealand: The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists 64th Annual Scientific Meeting
- **25-26 October 2013, Sydney, Australia: 6th COGNO Annual Scientific Meeting**, <http://www.cogno.org.au/content.aspx?page=cognoasm-home>
- 27-30 October 2013, Sydney, Australia: 15th World Conference on Lung Cancer, <http://www.2013worldlungcancer.org/>
- 12-14 November 2013, Adelaide, Australia: COSA's 40th Annual Scientific Meeting, <http://www.cosa2013.org/>
- 21-24 November 2013, San Francisco, USA: 4th Quadrennial Meeting of the World Federation of Neuro-Oncology in conjunction with the 18th Annual Meeting of the Society for Neuro-Oncology, <http://www.soc-neuro-onc.org/2013-annual-meeting/>