

Quick Update:

- Membership - currently 238
- Successful COGNO 4th ASM



COGNO
COOPERATIVE TRIALS GROUP
FOR NEURO-ONCOLOGY

Member Newsletter

Issue 10

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Message from our Chair

Welcome to this edition of the COGNO newsletter and once again I can reflect positively on the recent past and near future.

On all fronts, COGNO is thriving. Membership is growing and increasingly we are attracting a broader, multi-disciplinary group. Indeed, the total number of members (238) is really quite staggering given the relatively small area of Oncology that we represent. Our clinical trial portfolio is expanding and recruitment to the open trials is active and encouragingly rapid. This is the core COGNO activity and I'm pleased to note that there is an increasing interest in COGNO from outside organisations such as the EORTC and the USA cooperative groups. At a mundane governance level, our multitude of committees (Management, Scientific Advisory and Operations Executive) have met regularly and manage to keep the business of COGNO running smoothly without too much red tape intruding. As usual, I am very grateful to our committee members and Executive staff for their hard work, competence and advice.

Finally, the ASM in early August was a resounding success and once again, COGNO managed to provide a stimulating and educational backdrop for a well attended meeting.

Mark Rosenthal
Group Chair

COGNO 4th Annual Scientific Meeting

A very successful Annual Scientific Meeting was held on the weekend of 6 and 7 August 2011. The Joint Macquarie/COGNO Neuro-Oncology Day (in conjunction with the Macquarie Neurosurgery and Clinical Research Symposium) was well attended, and COGNO was pleased to host three international invited speakers as part of the COGNO program: Dr Annika Malmstrom (Sweden), A/Prof Wai Hoe Ng (Singapore) and A/Prof Christopher Ang (Singapore).

Highlights included the interesting and relevant presentations by our international speakers, a very popular 'speed-dating' session with leading Australian translational scientists, and updates on current COGNO clinical trials.

COGNO thanks Cancer Australia, Cancer Institute NSW, Roche, MSD Oncology and Elekta for their support of this year's Annual Scientific Meeting.



Travel grant recipients, from left: John Crofts, Marcia Fleet, Heather Kilsby, Paul Katris and Mark Pinkham

Study and Trial Updates

As you will see in the trials update below the COGNO operation team have been very busy since the last newsletter, during this time we have opened 17 new sites across our portfolio of projects and enrolled many patients. There has also been a lot of work going on in the background to develop data collection tools and processes, along with other processes to management the successful running of the studies.

The team have also been busy in support of the successful COGNO ASM.

The operations team could not have achieved the success we have without the continued support of the keen COGNO members who volunteer their time in support of the studies, so a big thank you to you all.

Trevor France
COGNO Associate Oncology Program Manager

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

Since opening the first site in November 2010 the CABARET study has made significant progress opening 14 sites in 10 months. Site activations will continue over the coming months with at least 3 more sites expected to open by the end of the year.

Forty-three patients have been randomised to Part 1 of the study, with Royal Melbourne Hospital being our top recruiter with 9 patients. Congratulations to Dr Kathryn Field and her team at RMH. Three patients have continued on to Part 2 of the study, with more expected to follow as patients complete study treatment in Part 1. For more detailed recruitment figures please refer to the table on the right.

We would also like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all the trial team members at each site for their continued dedication and hard work. With over one-third of the total patients already recruited we are very grateful for your efforts to ensure the study runs as smoothly as possible.

The addition of a translational research substudy to the CABARET protocol is currently underway and will involve collaboration with local Australian laboratories as well as International laboratories. Stay tuned for further updates regarding this substudy.

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



Dr Kathryn Field
Principal Investigator

CABARET Recruitment by Site						
No.	Site name	State	Principal Investigator	Date	No. of	
				Activated	Part 1	Part 2
61301	Royal Melbourne Hospital	VIC	Dr Kathryn Field	20-Apr-11	9	0
61201	Royal Prince Alfred Hospital	NSW	Prof John Simes	5-Nov-11	8	0
61331	Monash Medical Centre	VIC	Dr Ronnie Freilich	13-May-11	7	1
61303	St Vincent's Hospital (Melbourne)	VIC	Dr Anthony Dowling	18-May-11	6	1
61512	The Queen Elizabeth Hospital	SA	Dr William Kevin Patterson	4-Jul-11	4	0
61319	Austin Hospital	VIC	Dr Lawrence Cher	18-Apr-11	3	0
61245	Calvary Mater Newcastle	NSW	Dr Fiona Abell	3-Aug-11	2	0
61401	Royal Brisbane & Womens Hosp.	QLD	Dr Po-Ling Inglis	9-Jun-11	1	0
61204	Prince of Wales Hospital	NSW	Dr Liz Hovey	22-Mar-11	1	0
61202	Royal North Shore Hospital	NSW	Dr Helen Wheeler	17-Mar-11	1	0
61312	Epworth Healthcare	VIC	Dr Ross Jennens	22-Aug-11	1	0
61280	Port Macquarie Base Hospital	NSW	Dr Stephen Begbie	28-Jul-11	0	0
61701	Royal Hobart Hospital	TAS	Dr Rosemary Harrup	6-Apr-11	0	0
61702	Launceston General Hospital	TAS	Dr Stan Gauden	17-Feb-11	0	0
TOTAL NUMBER of ACTIVE SITES					14	
TOTAL NUMBER of PATIENTS RANDOMISED					Part 1	43
					Part 2	3

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 43 patients and randomised 22 patients in total from 9 active sites, with the rate of recruitment expected to increase as more sites are activated.

Two more sites are working through all the requirements for activation to recruit. The first South Australian site was activated in late July. Flinders Medical Centre has now registered and randomised their first patient to the study. Furthermore, another Victorian site was activated in late August. Congratulations to the team from Flinders Medical Centre and the Alfred Hospital for their hard work in meeting all the requirements for activation.

The Royal North Shore Hospital continues to lead the recruitment tally with 20 patients registered for tissue genetic testing and 12 patients randomised to receive treatment in the study.

We have also recently rolled out a standard process across all sites to ensure that the timeline from the results of patient eligibility to approval for randomisation of patients is as minimal as possible. This process is working well and we thank sites for their support in the process implementation.

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.

CATNON Recruitment by Site						
Site name	State	Principal Investigator	Date activated	No. of patients registered	No. of patients deemed ineligible	No. of patients randomised
Royal North Shore Hospital	NSW	Helen Wheeler	20-Aug-10	20	7	12
Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital	WA	Anna Nowak	29-Sep-10	5	3	2
Royal Hobart Hospital	TAS	Rosie Harrup	8-Sep-10	4	1	3
Austin Health	VIC	Lawrence Cher	21-Jun-10	9	6	1
Royal Melbourne Hospital	VIC	Mark Rosenthal	3-Sep-10	2	1	1
St. Vincents Hospital Melbourne	VIC	Anthony Dowling	22-Mar-11	1	0	2
Flinders Medical Centre	SA	Ganessan Kichenadasse	26-Jul-11	1	0	1
Royal Prince Alfred Hospital	NSW	John Simes	11-Mar-11	0	0	0
The Alfred Hospital	VIC	Sanjeev Gill	31-Aug-11	1	0	0
				TOTAL	18	22

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

Since opening the first site in July this year, the SEED study has made significant progress opening another 3 sites in last 3 months. Site activations will continue over the coming months with at least 1 more site expected to open by the end of the year.

Congratulations to A/Prof Richard Chye and their team at Sacred Heart and Dr Melanie Lovell and their team at Greenwich Hospital for their hard work in meeting all the requirements for activation. Braeside leads the recruitment tally having registered 4 patients and their caregivers to the study followed by Sacred Heart who have registered 1 patient. For more detailed recruitment figures please refer to the table on the right.

We look forward to continue working closely with all sites in the recruitment of participants to the study.

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	4
61245	Calvary Mater Newcastle	NSW	Dr Katherine Clark	5-Jul-11	0
61212	Sacred Heart Hospice	NSW	A/Prof Richard Chye	22-Aug-11	1
61298	Greenwich Hospital	NSW	Dr Melanie Lovell	1-Sept-11	0
TOTAL NUMBER of ACTIVE SITES					4
TOTAL NUMBER of PATIENTS REGISTERED					5



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Membership Updates

We now have 238 members! 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 on www.cogno.org.au.

Reminder: Quality of Life Needs Survey

The Quality of Life office is currently planning its program until 30 June 2013, and has invited COGNO members to participate in a five-minute needs survey. Participation is entirely voluntary and completely anonymous. The survey will remain open until 31 October 2011. Your consent will be assumed if you submit the survey. To access the survey, please click [here](#). Email survey problems to pocogqoloffice@psych.usyd.edu.au, or contact [Rebecca Mercieca](#), QoL Project Officer, ph (02) 9114 1365.

COGNO 4th ASM Photos



Dr Annika Malmstrom



A/Prof Wai Hoe Ng



Prof John Simes



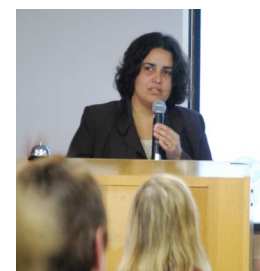
A/Prof Christopher Ang



Dr Lawrence Cher



Dr Lindy Jeffree



A/Prof Meera Agar



Dr Liz Hovey



A/Prof Michael Back



Dr Claire Phillips

2012 ASM

COGNO's 5th Annual Scientific Meeting will be held in conjunction with the Medical Oncology Group of Australia (MOGA) from 8 – 11 August 2012, at the Sofitel Brisbane. 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.