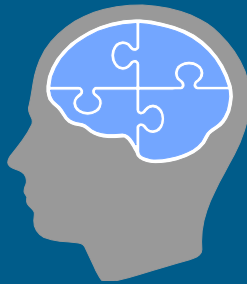


Quick Update:

- Membership: 662 members
- 11th COGNO ASM Update



COGNO

COOPERATIVE TRIALS GROUP
FOR NEURO-ONCOLOGY

Member Newsletter

Issue 27

Autumn 2018

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Message from our Chair



Dear COGNO members,

Although this is the first newsletter for 2018, we are already well into Autumn. The year started, as usual, with a flurry of grant-writing with COGNO members applying for funding to bring a clinical trial in Medulloblastoma to Australian patients. While we await outcomes, one measure of the success this application has already achieved is the strengthening of ties between COGNO members and our colleagues in paediatric oncology, as well as our European colleagues at the EORTC. I congratulate Liz Hovey and David Ziegler

in particular for what their work has already achieved, and I wish the team success in this application.

I'm also glad to be able to report that we have started to put into place some of the suggestions from the 2017 COGNO Strategic Planning Day. We have implemented many of the simple suggestions that were flagged for immediate action. For example, the COGNO Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) will now invite the winner of the MSD Hubert Stuerzl Memorial Educational Award to join for the year of his/her award, providing a valuable opportunity for a promising new investigator to observe and contribute to the SAC. COGNO was also promoted at the recent neurosurgical trainees workshop in WA in April. A revamp of the COGNO website is underway, although this is a significant task that is unlikely to be completed before the end of the year.

We are also taking small steps into social media engagement with the development of a LinkedIn COGNO group, and a LinkedIn difficult clinical cases group. We know that in neuro-oncology we can be faced with rare situations in which the literature is not helpful, and that our patients might benefit from someone else's experience with a similar scenario. At the moment we are testing the waters to see if this will be a useful forum for members, and activity so far is low. You can join the LinkedIn group as a COGNO member by searching for 'CoOperative trials ...' within LinkedIn and our group will be your top hit. For the difficult cases group, which clinicians can join, search for 'COGNO difficult...' I would encourage you to join the conversation; I would also encourage any other ideas on how COGNO can best use social media or what other platforms people might use to discuss difficult clinical scenarios. Would a closed Facebook group be better? Or do people prefer to stick with bulging email in-boxes? Of course, these platforms are only as good as the resulting member engagement. Please speak out if you would like to shape these ideas or be involved in COGNO's social media profile.

COGNO has now established an online donations facility via the University of Sydney. The online facility can be accessed via the COGNO website (<https://www.cogno.org.au/content.aspx?page=donation>) or via the University of Sydney (<http://give.sydney.edu.au/COGNO>). If you know of anyone wanting to donate to brain cancer research, please feel free to provide these links to them.

Finally, I am pleased to let our members know that I have been invited to join the Australian Brain Cancer Mission Advisory Board, which met for the first time on 3rd and 4th April this year. This will keep COGNO truly in the loop, and will ensure that our voice and interests are part of this incredibly important initiative as it develops. I was very encouraged by the thoughtfulness I observed from all members, and the rigorous debate during the meeting. I am confident that this substantial funding for brain tumour research is being directed by a representative and informed group.

Until next time,

Professor Anna Nowak
Group Chair

BEQUEST TO COGNO

In late 2017, COGNO received a generous gift from the estate of the late Mary Macha to assist in finding a cure for brain cancer.

Mary Macha was a pioneer in the development of Australia's indigenous art movement. In the early 1970s Mary commenced working at the Perth outlet of then Commonwealth funded Aboriginal Art and Craft Inc. At that time the promotion and sale of traditional artifacts dominated. Ever innovative Mary made contact with indigenous prisoners and negotiated with the authorities to permit the prisoners to start painting. Mary would then sell their works and deposit the money in trust until they were released. Correspondence between the prisoners and Mary led to long standing and deep relationships being developed -with many continuing to pursue drawing and painting after their discharge.

As part of her role Mary travelled to the remote communities in the north of WA where she made contact with indigenous people wanting to record their traditional stories and experiences through the new medium of painting.

Mary supplied canvasses and paints and promoted the sale of their works. So successful was she that many of the artists - both men and women - including such famous names as Rover Thomas, Paddy Jaminji and Queenie McKenzie became nationally and internationally recognised. That recognition would not have happened without the dedicated encouragement and sensitive promotion of their works by Mary. Mary was awarded membership of the Order of Australia for her work.

Mary's only child, Tom, died of complications arising from a brain tumour in 2016 and predeceased Mary by six months. Shortly after Mary's health declined, and although still working on the publication of a book on the art of the late Broome based Joe Nangan, Mary passed away just a few weeks short of her 95th birthday. A term of Mary's will bequeathed a sum to further research into finding a cure for brain tumours.

Mary was an incredible woman, and we sincerely and gratefully extend our thanks to Mary's family and executors for supporting COGNO's research.

11th COGNO ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING (ASM)

Targeting survival: living well with brain cancer in the era of precision treatments

Sunday 7th October - Tuesday 9th October 2018

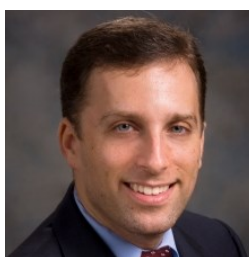
Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre, Australia

Save the date for COGNO's 2018 ASM, and keep an eye out for webmail updates. The ASM website and online registration will be opening soon. Convenor, Dr Mark Pinkham, and the organising committee are busy finalising an outstanding program which includes four International Guest Speakers:



Prof Mark Gilbert MD

Chief and Senior Investigator of the Neuro-Oncology Branch
CCR Deputy Director
Center for Cancer Research,
National Cancer Institute
USA



A/Prof Erik Sulman MD PhD

Associate Professor of Radiation Oncology, Translational Molecular Pathology, and Genomic Medicine Chief, CNS/Pediatrics Section
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
USA



Prof Susan Chang MD

Professor in Residence and Vice Chair of Neurological Surgery
Lai Wan Kan Endowed Chair
Director, Division of Neuro-Oncology
Program Leader, UCSF Comprehensive Cancer Center
Director, UCSF Neuro-Oncology Gordon Murray Caregiver Program
University of California San Francisco
USA



Dr Terri Armstrong PhD ANP-BC FAAN FAANP

(Courtesy of Brain Tumour Alliance Australia and Mark Hughes Foundation)

Senior Investigator of the Neuro-Oncology Branch
Vice President of the Society for Neuro-Oncology
Center for Cancer Research, National Cancer Institute
USA

MSD HUBERT STUERZL MEMORIAL EDUCATIONAL AWARD 2018

The Hubert Stuerzl Memorial Educational Award is an annual award, funded by MSD staff in memory of the late Hubert Stuerzl, an MSD product manager (temozolamide) who himself died from a GBM.

Applications are now open for the 2018 Award. The purpose of this award is to encourage education and training in the field of Neuro-Oncology and will provide up to \$15,000 for the successful recipient to attend an international Neuro-Oncology scientific meeting and undertake a Neuro-Oncology Preceptorship during 2018-19. The Award is open to applications from individuals with a clear interest in the field of Neuro-Oncology, who are:

- Advanced Trainees in Medical Oncology, Neurology, Radiation Oncology, Neurosurgery, Pathology or Radiology
- Medical Oncologists, Neurologists, Radiation Oncologists, Neurosurgeons, Pathologists or Radiologists of no more than 5 years standing who are enrolled in full-time or part-time post-graduate research (PhD or MD).

Closing Date for Applications: **Friday 29 June 2018**. Further details available on the COGNO website (www.cogno.org.au).

GETTING TO KNOW COGNO'S MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Associate Professor Georgia Halkett is on the COGNO Management Committee. She originally trained and worked clinically as a radiation therapist before completing her PhD and moving into research. Georgia is working as a Senior Research Fellow at Curtin University supported by a Cancer Council of WA Research Fellowship. Her research program is focusing on cancer patients' and carers' psychosocial and information needs, communication between health professionals and cancer patients and research in radiation therapy. Georgia is currently leading "CARE-IS": a randomised controlled trial of structured home-based support and education for carers of people with brain tumours.

How did you become involved in COGNO?

Over ten years ago Prof Anna Nowak (current Chair of COGNO and clinician/researcher in WA), Prof Liz Lobb (Chair, Calvary Palliative and End of Life Care Research Institute, NSW) and I started a small qualitative study to explore the support needs of brain cancer patients and their carers. This project led to a larger study where we surveyed patients and carers in Perth and Sydney to determine their levels of distress and their needs over time. From there we developed and piloted an intervention strategy prior to obtaining Cancer Australia funding to conduct the current RCT. I became involved with COGNO by initially presenting a poster at the Annual Conference. When we applied for Cancer Australia funding I felt encouraged by the support COGNO was able to provide and I was also impressed with the level of engagement that consumers had with this trials group.

Why are you still a COGNO member, 5 years on?

COGNO have provided great support for the CARE-IS trial and given me the opportunity for me to form collaborations and be involved in this trials community. The group continues to grow and conduct important research trials for brain cancer patients and carers. I enjoy attending the annual meetings to present the outcomes of our research and interact with other researchers, clinicians and consumers. It is great to have this opportunity to contribute to COGNO through my involvement in the management committee.

This year we submitted an additional trial proposal to the COGNO Scientific Advisory Committee. We really appreciated being able to present our idea and receive detailed written feedback from the SAC, which helped us refine our ideas and strengthened the concept. As the study was focused on the patient experience, it was also extremely valuable to have feedback from the consumer advisory panel. Without COGNO input, we would not have had that constructive and thoughtful external review. I look forward to further opportunities to work with COGNO, the clinicians involved and consumers.

Why did you become a researcher and decide to conduct research in neuro-oncology?

After working clinically in radiation therapy I felt that I could contribute more to patients by being involved in research. When I was working clinically I always wondered about the patients' journeys and experiences outside of coming for treatment and I was often concerned about the level of support available to patients and carers. I have been very fortunate in my research to have success in obtaining research grants and fellowships which have allowed me to continue working as a researcher. I also have formed strong collaborations with clinicians and researchers who I enjoy working with and have learnt so much from.

Brain cancer is a devastating disease for patients and their carers. Our initial research demonstrated that patients and carers have high levels of distress and complex needs for support from the time of first diagnosis. We are now testing an intervention designed to reduce carer distress and increase their understanding and preparedness to care for their family member. We know that this support for carers can improve the patient experience by reducing hospital admissions and length of stay in hospital. I am passionate about trying to improve this experience for both carers and patients.

In the last 18 months I have had the opportunity to interact and work with several consumers, including Tim Eliot and his wife Julie, who shared their experiences as Tim's brain cancer progressed and really highlighted the need for more research in neuro-oncology. I hope that I can continue to contribute to brain cancer research in this area for many years to come so that we can improve the quality of life of both patients and carers.

What is a typical workday for you?

My workday commences with getting my two daughters (4 and 6 years old) ready for school. After school drop-off I head to the office at Curtin University where I work with a great team of researchers, research assistants and PhD students on cancer related projects. My main tasks include conducting the research, writing manuscripts, supervising students and staff, grant writing and ethics applications. I also meet with collaborators at clinical sites regularly. I keep fit with regular visits to the gym.

How do you stay motivated to continue in your role?

My role gives me the opportunity to contribute to reducing patient and carer distress and to improving their quality of life. I am motivated by the people I work with as well as the consumers that we receive feedback from. I have been successful in obtaining grants and fellowships to support my interest in conducting research. I enjoy my role as a researcher and I am always learning. I am also at the point in my career now where I can share my research skills with others and provide mentorship to both students and staff.

What are you looking forward to in 2018-9?

I am looking forward to our ongoing work on the CARE-IS project and completing the current trial. I am keen to contribute further to COGNO as it grows and moves forward in supporting more research trials in neuro-oncology.

You can find Georgia on LinkedIn and Twitter ([@Georgia_Halkett](#)).

STUDY & TRIAL UPDATES

**** TRIAL IN DEVELOPMENT ****

CODEL (N0577): Phase III Intergroup Study of Radiotherapy with Concomitant and Adjuvant Temozolomide versus Radiotherapy with Adjuvant PCV Chemotherapy in Patients with 1p/19q Co-deleted Anaplastic Glioma or Low Grade Glioma

CODEL is an international, intergroup trial, jointly conducted by the Alliance for Clinical Trials in Oncology in the USA and the EORTC in Europe. COGNO will be participating under the EORTC umbrella.

As the title indicates, it is essentially comparing the efficacy of the Stupp protocol versus RT followed by PCV (procarbazine, lomustine, vincristine) in patients with both grade 2 and grade 3 oligodendroglioma.

Even though many clinicians already are using temozolomide in their practice, retrospective studies (particularly the 1000 patient Lassmann et al study) demonstrate PCV has a potentially superior survival to the temozolomide cohort, which is why this is still an important clinical question requiring an international effort to answer definitively.

The trial aims to recruit 360 patients internationally and 36 in Australia across 10 sites. A feasibility survey was circulated to COGNO members in May 2017 and 8 sites were selected to proceed in the first round. These sites are in various stages of completing the required USA regulatory requirements. Selected sites will also require IROC credentialing as part of the RT Quality Assurance requirements.

The trial is already recruiting patients in the USA. The first EORTC sites are planned to be activated in Q2 2018, and Australian sites will follow closely thereafter.

The CODEL Trial Coordinator is more than happy to provide any information that you may require on this study. Please email codel@ctc.usyd.edu.au if you have any queries.

CODEL – SELECTED SITES IN FIRST ROUND OF ACTIVATION				
No	Site name	State	Principal Investigator	Site status
1	Prince of Wales Hospital	NSW	Elizabeth Hovey	Site PI in process of completing requirements for an active CTEP account.
2	Liverpool Hospital	NSW	Eng-Siew Koh	Site PI in process of completing requirements for an active CTEP account.
3	Chris O'Brien Lifehouse	NSW	John Simes	Site PI in process of setting up a CTEP account.
4	The Alfred	VIC	Sanjeev Gill	Site PI in process of setting up a CTEP account.
5	Flinders Medical Centre	SA	Ganessan Kichenadasse	Site in process of activating IRB account.
6	Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital	WA	Anna Nowak	Site submitted for USA State Department Clearance
7	Princess Alexandra Hospital	QLD	Katharine Cuff	Site submitted for expedited USA State Department Clearance (due to holding clearance for another study)
8	Royal Hobart Hospital	TAS	Rosemary Harrup	Site submitted for USA State Department Clearance

ACED (COGNO14/02): Phase II randomised placebo-controlled, double blind, multisite study of acetazolamide versus placebo for management of cerebral oedema in recurrent and/or progressive HGG requiring treatment with dexamethasone

The ACED study is now open for recruitment at 11 of the 12 selected sites. With the additional 5 sites, the trial has had some activity in over the summer with now 14 randomised patients out of the expected 84.

Please email aced@ctc.usyd.edu.au if you have any queries.

ACED – PARTICIPATING SITE STATUS						
No	Site Name	State	Principal Investigator	Site Status	Site Activation	# Patients randomised
1	Liverpool Hospital	NSW	Eng-Siew Koh	Active	24-Jun-2016	9
2	Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital	QLD	Zarnie Lwin	Active	30-Sep-2016	3
3	St Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne	VIC	Anthony Dowling	Active	14-Nov-2016	1
4	Epworth Healthcare	VIC	Ross Jennens	Active	20-Feb-2017	0
5	Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital	WA	Anna Nowak	Active	04-Apr-2017	1
6	Royal Hobart Hospital	TAS	Rosemary Harrup	Active	28-Aug-2017	0
7	Prince of Wales Hospital	NSW	Elizabeth Hovey	Active	16-Nov-2017	0
8	Chris O'Brien Lifehouse	NSW	John Simes	Active	12-Dec-2017	0
9	Flinders Medical Centre	SA	Ganessan Kichenadasse	Active	17-Jan-2018	0
10	St George Hospital	NSW	Tracey Dunlop	Active	14-Feb-2018	0
11	St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney	NSW	Cecelia Gzell	Start up	Pending	N/A
Total Recruitment						14

NUTMEG (COGNO 16/01): A Randomised Phase II Study of Nivolumab and Temozolomide vs Temozolomide alone in newly diagnosed Elderly patients with Glioblastoma (NUTMEG)

The NUTMEG trial officially opened on the 22nd February 2018 with Royal North Shore Hospital being the first site activated. Within the following week, they recruited the first patient on the trial. Congratulations to A/Professor Back and his team.

Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital was open to recruitment a week later. Campbelltown Hospital should be activated soon. A further 4 sites are currently finalising all ethics and regulatory requirements and should be ready for their site initiation phone call in the coming weeks.

The NUTMEG trial aims to recruit 102 patients across 18 sites. Currently 15 of the 18 potential sites have confirmed their participation. If your site is interested to join, please contact the trial team. The NUTMEG Trial Coordinator is more than happy to provide any information that you may require on this study. Please email nutmeg@ctc.usyd.edu.au if you have any queries.

NUTMEG - PARTICIPATING SITE STATUS						
No	Site name	State	Principal Investigator	Site Initiation	Site status	Site activation
1	Royal North Shore Hospital	NSW	Michael Back	14/02/2018	Active	22/02/2018
2	Prince of Wales Hospital	NSW	Elizabeth Hovey	Pending	Not Active	Not Active
3	Chris O'Brien Lifehouse	NSW	John Simes	Pending	Not Active	Not Active
4	Gosford Hospital	NSW	Matthew Wong	Pending	Not Active	Not Active
5	Campbelltown Hospital	NSW	Annette Tognela	19/02/2018	Not Active	Not Active
6	Newcastle Private Hospital	NSW	Craig Gedye	Pending	Not Active	Not Active
7	Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre	VIC	Kathryn Field	Pending	Not Active	Not Active
8	Epworth Healthcare	VIC	Ross Jennens	Pending	Not Active	Not Active
9	Austin Hospital	VIC	Hui Gan	Pending	Not Active	Not Active
10	Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital	QLD	Zarnie Lwin	19/02/2018	Active	28/2/2018
11	Princess Alexandra Hospital	QLD	Katharine Cuff	Pending	Not Active	Not Active
12	ICON Cancer Care Wesley	QLD	Paul Eliadis	Pending	Not Active	Not Active
13	Flinders Medical Centre	SA	Ganessan Kichenadasse	Pending	Not Active	Not Active
14	Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital	WA	Anna Nowak	Pending	Not Active	Not Active

VERTU (COGNO 14/01): Veliparib, Radiotherapy and Temozolomide trial in Unmethylated MGMT Glioblastoma. A Randomised Phase II study of veliparib + radiotherapy (RT) with adjuvant temozolomide (TMZ) + veliparib versus standard RT + TMZ followed by TMZ in patients with newly diagnosed glioblastoma (GBM) with unmethylated O (6)-methylguanine-DNA methyltransferase (MGMT)

The VERTU trial aims to recruit 120 patients across 17 sites. As of 23rd February 2018, 307 patients have been registered for screening and 91 were enrolled into the trial. This means that we have now achieved nearly 76% of total recruitment.

The VERTU trial met the criteria of the interim analysis in Q4 2017 and the Interim Safety and Feasibility Report is currently under review. The results of the Interim analysis will be provided to sites soon. An abstract has been submitted to ASCO 2018 as part of the Trials in Progress category.

In January 2018, we opened Border Medical Oncology as the 17th and final site for the VERTU trial. Recruitment was quieter over the Christmas/New Year period as expected, despite this there were 36 newly registered screening patients over Dec-Feb (12 patients monthly) with 12 patients enrolled into the trial over this period. These are promising trends and a direct reflection of all staff's efforts. Thank you all.

The VERTU Trial Coordinator is more than happy to provide any information that you may require on this study. Please email vertu@ctc.usyd.edu.au if you have any queries.

VERTU - PARTICIPATING SITE STATUS							
No	Site name	State	Principal Investigator	Site status	Site activation	# Patients registered	# Patients enrolled
1	Canberra Hospital	ACT	Ganesalingam Pranavan	Active	27/02/2017	5	4
2	Royal North Shore Hospital	NSW	Helen Wheeler	Active	9/11/2015	52	11
3	Westmead Hospital	NSW	Najmun Nahar	Active	27/07/2017	3	0
4	Chris O'Brien Lifehouse	NSW	John Simes	Active	26/11/2015	21	9
5	Liverpool Hospital	NSW	Eng-Siew Koh	Active	21/01/2016	36	12
6	St George Hospital	NSW	Tracey Dunlop	Active	4/07/2017	7	2
7	Gosford Hospital	NSW	Matthew Wong	Active	7/06/2016	19	13
8	Royal Melbourne Hospital	VIC	Mark Rosenthal	Active	28/10/2015	12	1
9	University Hospital Geelong	VIC	David Ashley	Active	21/01/2016	19	8
10	Epworth Healthcare	VIC	Ross Jennens	Active	14/12/2015	15	3
11	Monash Medical Centre	VIC	Ronnie Freilich	Active	11/02/2016	8	1
12	Border Medical Oncology	VIC	Christopher Steer	Active	10/01/2018	0	0
13	Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital	QLD	Zarnie Lwin	Active	9/11/2015	40	20
14	Princess Alexandra Hospital	QLD	Matthew Foote	Active	5/07/2016	24	5
15	Royal Adelaide Hospital	SA	Nimit Singh	Active	24/03/2016	23	2
16	Royal Hobart Hospital	TAS	Rosemary Harrup	Active	2/12/2015	17	4
17	Launceston General Hospital	TAS	Stan Gauden	Active	12/12/2016	6	3
Total recruitment						307	91

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

Recruitment for the CATNON study closed on 17 Sep 2015 with 751 patients randomised internationally (1407 registered), and 82 randomised in Australia (191 registered); this represents approximately 11% of total trial accrual and is a great contribution to the global effort.

As all of our patients are now off study treatment and we have completed interim closure of Australian Pharmacies.

We are continuing to work with the EORTC during the follow-up phase to collect study endpoints ensure clean data. The CATNON Trial Coordinator is more than happy to provide any information that you may require on this study. Please email catnon@ctc.usyd.edu.au with any queries.

NEW CONCEPTS/TRIALS IN DEVELOPMENT

Do you have an idea for a potential study?

The COGNO SAC meets via teleconference 3 times a year, and hosts a face-to-face meeting during the COGNO ASM which is open to all COGNO members. During the SAC meeting, new protocols are presented both by the proposer and also by the COGNO-appointed scientific and consumer reviewer/s before a wider discussion by the Committee.

There are also opportunities to bring new ideas to COGNO throughout the year, including bringing nascent ideas to our annual Ideas Generation Workshop.

If you have a great idea, but not necessarily the resources or time to develop it into an actual protocol, you are welcome to contact the COGNO SAC to discuss how we can assist in concept development.

If you become aware of a funding opportunity during the year which might be of relevance to COGNO, or for which you would like to involve COGNO in your application, please do let us know! Under these circumstances, we can facilitate urgent COGNO SAC review and COGNO input to assist you in refining your proposal, building your team, and hopefully improving your chances of a successful application.

If you require any further information please email candace.carter@ctc.usyd.edu.au.

Dr Liz Hovey and Dr Eng-Siew Koh, on behalf of the COGNO SAC and COGNO community



COGNO
COOPERATIVE TRIALS GROUP
FOR NEURO-ONCOLOGY

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Prof Anna Nowak (Chair)
Dr Eng-Siew Koh (Deputy Chair)
Dr Liz Hovey (Treasurer)
Prof Meera Agar
Ms Marcia Fleet
Dr Sanjeev Gill
Dr Cecelia Gzell
A/Prof Georgia Halkett
Prof Terry Johns
Ms Robyn Leonard
Dr Jonathon Parkinson

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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Dr Eng-Siew Koh (Deputy Chair)
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Ms Liz Barnes
Ms Candace Carter
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A/Prof Jeremy Ruben
Prof John Simes
Dr Helen Wheeler
Dr James Whittle

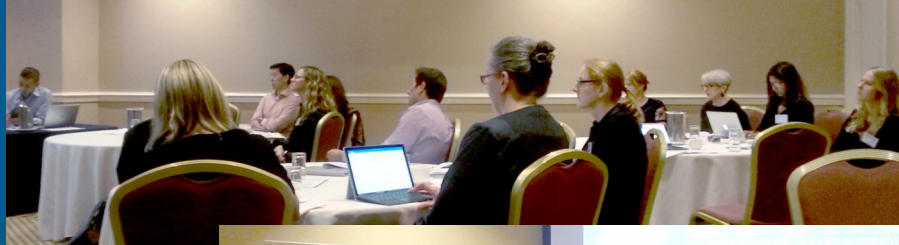
OPERATIONS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Dr Liz Hovey (Treasurer)
Ms Liz Barnes
Ms Candace Carter
Ms Jenny Chow
Mrs Merryn Hall
Dr Mustafa Khasraw
Dr Hao-Wen Sim
Prof John Simes

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

IDEAS GENERATION WORKSHOP

COGNO held an Ideas Generation Workshop co-chaired by Dr Kathryn Field, medical oncologist, and Dr Ben Chua, radiation oncologist, on 4 May in Sydney. The program included discussion of four concepts, presentations by the Quality of Life Office and the Cancer Research Economics Support Team, and an afternoon brainstorming session. The program was well received by participants and a report on outcomes is being prepared for the COGNO SAC.



L-R: A/Prof Mustafa Khasraw, Dr Zarnie Lwin, Dr Kathryn Field, Dr Ben Chua and Ms Candace Carter

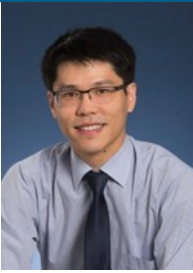
COGNO TEAM UPDATE

We farewell Tara Flores (ACED trial coordinator) who has commenced maternity leave, and thank her for all her hard work on the ACED trial. We wish Tara all the best with her growing family. We also farewell Joe Levitt (CATNON Trial Coordinator), a huge thanks to Joe for all his hard work on the CATNON trial.

We are pleased to introduce three new members to the COGNO team, Evonne Tim, Dr Hao-Wen Sim and Marzena Kelly.



Evonne is the new trial coordinator for the ACED trial. Evonne started out in research in oncology, tissue culture and tissue engineering and autoimmune diseases. After working in project management, she moved to data management, site monitoring and site start-up in the pharmaceutical and medical device industries.



Hao-Wen joins the NHMRC Clinical Trials Centre as a COGNO research fellow.

Hao-Wen is a consultant medical oncologist based at The Kinghorn Cancer Centre-St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney and Chris O'Brien Lifehouse-Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney. After completing medical oncology training in Melbourne, he pursued a three-year research fellowship at The Princess Margaret Cancer Centre in Toronto, Canada. Hao-Wen's subspecialty expertise and research interests are neuro-oncology and gastrointestinal oncology. His recent accomplishments include the NOYCIA Young Investigator Award, ASCO Merit Award and CAHON Young Investigator Award. He was a successful grant recipient for the 2017 GUMOC-Astellas Research Grant (CAD\$40,000) and Gastrointestinal Oncology Research Innovation Grant (CAD\$20,000). Alongside this, he is undertaking a Master of Biostatistics through The University of Sydney, for which he was recently awarded the 2017 Les Irwig General Epidemiology Award and 2017 Australasian Epidemiological Association Top Student Prize.



Marzena Kelly takes on the trial coordinator role for CATNON trial.

Marzena has a background in Nutrition Research and Food Science. She started working for the CTC in 2014 as a CTA and now as a TC across different oncology groups including ANZGOG, COGNO and AGITG.

Marzena enjoys cooking and loves outdoor activities specifically hiking and camping. She admires unique Australian animals and countryside which is so different from Poland where she originally comes from. She is in the process of becoming a minimalist and trying to live a simple life.

Welcome Evonne, Hao-Wen and Marzena!

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

COGNO now has 662 members! 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).

REMINDERS/ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- 1 - 5 June 2018: ASCO Annual Meeting, Chicago, USA
<https://am.asco.org/>
- 7 - 9 Oct 2018: 11th COGNO ASM, Brisbane, Australia
<http://www.cogno.org.au/>
- 10 - 14 Oct 2018: 13th EANO Meeting, Stockholm, Sweden
<https://www.eano.eu/eano2018/home/>
- 25 - 28 Oct 2018: 15th ASNO Meeting, Beijing, China
<https://www.asno2018.cn/>
- 31 Oct - 2 Nov 2018: AGITG 20th ASM, Brisbane Convention Centre, Australia
<https://gicancer.org.au/health-professionals/events-and-education/annual-scientific-meeting/>
- 13 - 15 Nov 2018: 2018 COSA ASM, Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre, Australia
<http://www.cosa2018.org/>
- 15 - 18 Nov 2018: 23rd SNO Annual Meeting, New Orleans, USA
<https://www.soc-neuro-onc.org/>

COGNO CONTACTS

Candace Carter

COGNO Development Program Manager

(Mon-Fri)

E: candace.carter@ctc.usyd.edu.au

T: (02) 9562 5092

Merryn Hall

COGNO Operations Program Manager

(Mon-Wed)

E: merryn.hall@ctc.usyd.edu.au

T: (02) 9562 5023

Lauren Fisher

VERTU & NUTMEG Trial Coordinator

(Mon-Fri)

E: vertu@ctc.usyd.edu.au

E: nutmeg@ctc.usyd.edu.au

T: (02) 9562 5339

Evonne Tim

ACED Trial Coordinator

(Mon-Fri)

E: aced@ctc.usyd.edu.au

T: 02 8036 5264

Marzena Kelly

CATNON Trial Coordinator

(Tue-Fri)

E: catnon@ctc.usyd.edu.au

T: 02 9562 5375

Diana Winter

CABARET Trial Coordinator

(Tues, Thu, Fri)

E: cabaret@ctc.usyd.edu.au

T: 02 9562 5393

Mustafa Khasraw

CTC Group Coordinator for COGNO

E: mustafa.khasraw@ctc.usyd.edu.au

Hao-Wen Sim

COGNO Research Fellow

E: hao-wen.sim@ctc.usyd.edu.au

Jenny Chow

Executive Officer

(Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri)

E: cognoeo@ctc.usyd.edu.au

T: (02) 9562 5389

Yi Feng

Admin Assistant

(Tue-Thu)

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

T: (02) 8036 5238

Mythily Sachchithanathan

BCBA Project Coordinator

(Mon-Wed)

E: bcba@bcba.org.au

T: (03) 8572 2544



COGNO
COOPERATIVE TRIALS GROUP
FOR NEURO-ONCOLOGY

11th COGNO Annual Scientific Meeting
*Targeting survival: living well with brain cancer
in the era of precision treatments*

Sunday 7th October – Tuesday 9th October 2018
Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre, Australia

PROVISIONAL PROGRAM OF EVENTS*

Sunday 7 October: Pre-ASM Meeting		
TIME	MEETING	CHAIR
2:15 – 4:15pm	Brain Cancer Biobanking Australia (BCBA) consortium meeting (closed meeting)	
4:30 – 6:00pm	Management Committee (MC) meeting (closed meeting)	

Monday 8 October: ASM Day 1		
TIME	MEETING	CHAIR
8:00 – 10:00am	COGNO Scientific Advisory Committee Meeting (open to COGNO members only)	
10:00 – 10:30am	Morning Tea	
10:30 – 10:40am	Welcome and Day 1 program overview	
10:40 – 12:40pm	Session 1: Opening Plenary	
12:40 – 1:40pm	Lunch	
1:40 – 3:00pm	Session 2: Brain Metastasis	
3:00 – 3:30pm	Afternoon tea	
3:30 – 4:00pm	Session 3: Abstracts	
4:00 – 5:00pm	Session 4: COGNO Trials Update	
5:00 – 6:30pm	Welcome Reception and Poster Walkaround	
7:30pm – late	COGNO Conference Dinner (Sky Room and Terrace) – includes presentation of the MSD Hubert Stuerzl Memorial Educational Award, COGNO Outreach Education Preceptorship and BTAA Lynette Williams Award	

Tuesday 9 October: ASM Day 2		
TIME	MEETING	CHAIR
8:00 – 8:45am	COGNO Annual General Meeting (open to COGNO members only)	
8:30 – 9:00am	On arrival tea/coffee	
9:00 – 9:10am	Welcome and Day 2 program overview	
9:10 – 10:30am	Session 5: Glioma	
10:30 – 11:00am	Morning tea	
11:00 – 12:30pm	Session 6: Survivorship and Supportive Therapies	
12:30 – 1:30pm	Lunch	
1:30 – 3:00pm	Session 7: Translational Science	
3:00 – 3:30pm	Afternoon tea	
3:30 – 4:20pm	Session 8: Adolescent and Young Adult, Paediatric and Rare CNS Tumours	
4:20 – 4:30pm	ASM Summary and Close – includes presentation of the Most Outstanding Oral Presentation, Most Outstanding Poster Presentation and Young Investigator Awards	

*changes may be made to the program