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A Message from the ISOO President, Deborah Saunders

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to this spring edition of the ISOO Newsletter. I think we can attest that this has been not only a memorable year for tenacity, teamwork, vigilance and patience but a year for feeling the need to coalesce with our colleagues and families again soon. When will we safely be able to return to our old ways of communication in person, is still not clear but our ability to communicate has been impressive. As humans we accommodate to change! I think we all need to give each other credit for this unique time in patient care, patient delivery and research.

I am hopeful that you will consider joining your new and old colleagues at the MASCC/ISOO Virtual meeting. This meeting is anticipated to be dynamic, exciting, and jam packed with new innovation and science to enhance our patient's clinical care. Keep watching your emails and social media for updates as they are announced or visit MASCC.org for up to date information.

Lastly, thank you to our meeting Chair and MASCC president, Dr Andrew Davies and the organizing committee for your hard work in reworking this program to be completely digital.

Take Care and Stay in touch!
Debbie Saunders, BSc, DMD, *President ISOO*

Oral Health and Oral Healthcare for People with Cancer: Education Course

The ISOO membership has been working with the FDI in the development of a global Education course for community dentist, and health care professionals in the oncology setting. Drs Steven Sonis, Cherry Estilo and Deborah Saunders will be forming the Task Group which will meet with the FDI chosen Task Group members to complete the final draft of the Education Program.

Special thanks to our Subject Matter Experts in the Delphi Group for their participation with the Delphi Questionnaires: Ourania Nicolatou-Galitis, Kivanc Bektas, Deborah Saunders, Caroline Fulop, Joel Epstein, Luisa Barreto Costa Correa, Cathy Van Poznak, Arjan Vissink, Mario Elvira Pizzigatti Correa, Erin Watson, Judith Raber-Durlacher, Heidi Hansen, Nikolaos Tsoukalas, Johann Beck Mannagetta, Allan Hovan, Andreia Capela, Jonn Wu, Maria Lavdaniti, Eduardo Fregnani, Cherry Estilo, Maria Lavdaniti.

Welcome NEW ISOO Board!

The ISOO Board recently concluded our Board Nominations and Election process. In the new Board, Dr. Debbie Saunders will serve as Past-President and Dr. Eduardo Fregnani will be installed as our new ISOO President. The first meeting of the new Board will be in June 2021, likely during the virtual 2021 Annual Meeting.

At the initial meeting, we will be electing Board members to Table Officer positions which are:

- President-Elect
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Social Media/Communications
- Membership

Please welcome the members of our new Board!



Paolo Bossi, MD

Paolo Bossi is Professor of Medical Oncology at the University of Brescia, with an interest in head and neck cancer and quality of life. He is serving as Co-Chair of the Mucositis study group of MASCC and he is the President of the Italian Association for Supportive Care in Cancer (NICSO).



Siri Beier Jenson, DDS, PhD

Siri Beier Jenson is an associate professor of Oral Medicine with a long-time interest in oral oncology and with a particular research focus on salivary gland dysfunction and oral complications of cancer therapies. She looks forward to the continuous collaboration within ISOO and MASCC supporting our unique multidisciplinary strength that provides a solid base for really being able to make a difference in supportive care in cancer to the benefit for the patients.



Eduardo Fregnani, DDS, PhD

Eduardo Fregnani is from São Paulo, Brazil and holds a Master's degree in Oral Pathology and Oral Medicine and a PhD in Oncology. Currently his interest is in both clinical and research focused on support for cancer patients and dental complications of cancer treatment.

Deborah Saunders is presently the Co-lead of Cancer Research at the Health Sciences Research Institute, and Medical Director of the Department of Dental Oncology. Dr Saunders is the Program Lead for the Oral Maxillofacial Rehabilitation Program and Clinical Tobacco Intervention Program at the North East Cancer Centre at Health Sciences, Sudbury Ontario.



Deborah Saunders, BSc, DMD



Alessandro Villa, DDS, PhD, MPH

Alessandro Villa is the Chief of Oral Medicine and Director of Oral Oncology at the University of California San Francisco where he also serves as program director for the Oral Medicine Residency program. Previously, he was an associate surgeon at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and served as the Program Director for the Oral Medicine Residency Program at Harvard University. Dr Villa completed the Harvard Oral Medicine Residency program at Brigham and Women's Hospital. His research interests are focused primarily on oral complications of cancer treatment, including mucositis. He has published extensively on topics related to cancer regimen toxicities, the epidemiology of oral and oropharyngeal cancer and disparities in treatment outcomes.



John Wu, BMSc, MD, FRCPC

John Wu is a Radiation Oncologist at the Vancouver Cancer Centre (Canada), Clinical Professor at the University of British Columbia and is the Chair of the Provincial H&N Tumour Group. His interests include the development of precision radiation therapy techniques, leveraging health information technologies to enable population based quality assurance and outcomes research.



Noam Yarom, DMD

Noam Yarom is an Oral Medicine specialist from Israel. Dr Yarom serves as the head of the Oral Medicine Unit at the Sheba Medical Center. As part of his role at Sheba Medical Center he is treating cancer patients suffering from various oral complications. His research is focused on these oral complications and on quality of life in cancer patients.

Meet a New ISOO Member **Lucía Ortiz-Comino**



Lucía Ortiz-Comino, PT, MsC, PhD
University of Granada
Melilla, North Africa

Hello ISOO Members,

I'm Lucía Ortiz-Comino, PT, MsC and PhD. Currently I'm working as a lecturer at the University of Granada, in its campus located in Melilla (a Spanish city located in the North of Africa).

My thesis was focused on head and neck cancer survivors and the consequences they have to live with after all the medical treatment they receive. That is why I found really interesting joining the ISOO: an association where I could learn more about the side effects of these treatments and new approaches in order to treat or minimize them. As a physio, I find this really interesting, as, sadly, many cancer survivors do not receive enough information about how to handle these troubles.

Now I'm teaching all this to my students, to make them aware of the need of a follow-up of this population, and the need of a close relation with our patients, to make them feel that they are not alone. I also continue doing experimental research with head and neck cancer survivors and different physical therapy treatments, to treat their sequelae (limitation on their mouth opening, pain, troubles when swallowing, etc.).

When I'm treating patients or teaching, I'm quite creative, but this is expanded to my hobbies too! I enjoy photography: as I live in a seaside town, I have really nice landscapes mostly all days (and also windy days!). That helps me with other of my hobbies: writing! I also love practising sports; these days weather is a bit cloudy and wavy, so hopefully by the end of March, when the weather becomes sunnier and the water more calm, I start paddle surfing!! In the meantime, twice a week, I practice yoga.

2020/2021 Distinguished Service Award

The ISOO Distinguished Service Award recognizes an ISOO member that has shown outstanding contributions to the ISOO and its mission. Applicants are nominated by their peers and the award is presented each year at the MASCC Annual Meeting. The 2019 winner was Dr. Fred Spijkervet. The 2020/2021 winner will be announced and presented with their award at the 2021 meeting. Join us during the 2021 Annual General Meeting for the presentation!



New Format, New Opportunities

The 2021 MASCC/ISOO Annual Meeting will be an entirely virtual event.

[Early-bird Registration closes April 28, 2021](#)

[Reserve Today!](#)

These themes will be reflected in sessions throughout the 2021 virtual meeting:

- COVID-19 PANDEMIC
- BIOETHICS
- CARDIO-ONCOLOGY
- MODELS OF SUPPORTIVE CARE
- SESSIONS ON VARIOUS MASCC STUDY GROUP TOPICS

The exciting digital conference will include our regular offerings and opportunities for engagement, including:

- Plenaries and sessions, both live and on-demand
- State-of-the-art networking space to connect with partners, sponsors, exhibitors, and colleagues and MASCC and ISOO members from across the globe
- An innovative COVID-19 track for attendees
- Access to the latest supportive cancer care research
- Attendees will have access to on-demand recordings for a period of time after the meeting

>> View the [2021 Program](#)

>> [Promotional slides and banners](#) are now available

Be sure to check the [MASCC website](#) for annual meeting information and updates. You also can get the latest annual meeting news from the MASCC [Society News](#), social media posts, and emails.

Invitation to MASCC & ISOO Members to Submit MRONJ research to Frontiers in Oral Health and Oral Surgery

Medication Related Osteonecrosis of the Jaw (MRONJ) continues to be a matter of debate for clinicians and researchers in the fields of both oncology and dentistry. MRONJ is perhaps one of the most searched and discussed oral complications in cancer therapy. Initially related to bone targeted agents, MRONJ has recently been described with many targeted biological therapies and immunotherapies. The increasing numbers of patients with long-term cancers, and the increasing use of combined therapies have increased the risk of MRONJ. There is a need to further clarify several aspects of the prevention and management of this disease.

MASCC and ISOO members are invited to submit their research manuscripts related to MRONJ to be considered for publication in the dedicated Issue of Frontiers in Oral Health, a multidisciplinary open-access journal which publishes rigorously peer-reviewed research.

[For further details and information, please click here](#) or contact the Guest Editors:

Josiah Eyeson, PhD: jeyeson@nhs.net

Vinod Patel, BDS, MOralSurg RCS, FDSRCS, PhD: vinod.patel@kcl.ac.uk

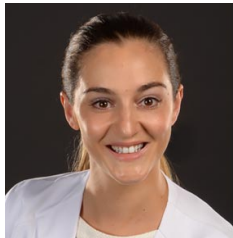
Ourania Nicolatou-Galitis, DDS, MSc, DrDent: nicolatou.galitis@hotmail.com

Oral Care Study Group Update

I hope this message finds you well. First of all, we would like to express our gratitude to Noam Yarom for his service as Co-chair for the [ISOO OCSG](#) and congratulate him on his new position with the ISOO Board.

Secondly, Debbie and I are pleased to announce that Erin Watson has accepted the position of ISOO Oral Care Study Group Co-Chair. Along with Derek Smith and the rest of the OCSG leadership, for the next 2 years (and hopefully—beyond), Erin and I will be working hand-in-hand as Chair and Co-Chair of the ISOO OCSG. We look forward to working with all of you.

Dr. Erin Watson is a general dentist at Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, where she holds an appointment as a Clinician-Investigator and acts as the Deputy Chief of Dentistry and Director of the Fellowship in Dental Oncology. She graduated with the gold medal from the Faculty of Dentistry at McGill University in 2012, followed by a residency in Hospital Based Dentistry at Mount Sinai hospital in Toronto, as well as a Master's in Health Administration at University of Toronto. Dr. Watson is a published author in peer-reviewed journals with a special interest in dental care for patients with acute leukemia and head and neck cancer, as well as the inequity experienced by cancer patients seeking dental care. She provides continuing education lectures on the topic of dental care for cancer patients, both to dental study clubs and on behalf of the University of Toronto, where she holds an appointment as an Instructor in the Faculty of Dentistry.



Erin Watson, BSc, DMD
*Princess Margaret Cancer Centre
Toronto, Canada*

Let us welcome Erin to the ISOO family!

Thank you, all! Best,
Cherry L. Estilo, DMD (OCSG Chair)
Attending, Department of Surgery, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

The Mucositis Study Group (MSG) of MASCC will launch its first ever MSG Quick Poll in April 2021

This exciting project involves the MSG members in several ways. First, the topics for the MSG Quick Poll were proposed by the MSG members. We received many interesting suggestions, but needed to limit the poll to 2 topics. Second, the MSG members will be the target audience and therefore be able to share their knowledge and experience.

The over 400 global members of the MSG, experienced in providing care for cancer patients, and interested in mucositis, form an outstanding group with the potential for gathering important data from focused polls. Furthermore, the MSG is driven by a collaborative spirit, and an ambition to produce practical scientific literature. Therefore, the MSG leadership is enthusiastic about the 2021 MSG Quick Poll.

The MSG leadership has been joined by two MSG delegates assigned with specific rolls in this project: poll logistics coordinator and poll IRB coordinator. Together with the lead poll researchers this team works tirelessly to deliver this project to the MSG members.

We encourage the ISOO members to watch for the email with the link to the MSG Quick Poll. The email with a link will be sent to the MSG members via the MASCC/ISOO distribution list. We estimate that it will take 10-15 minutes to answer all the questions in the poll.

We are looking forward to the participation of all the MSG members in this exciting endeavor.

Sharon Elad, DMD MSC, Chair, Mucositis Study Group, MASCC

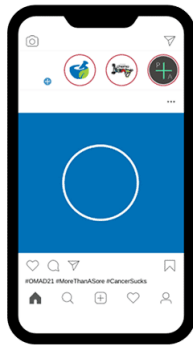
On behalf of the MSG Quick Poll Leadership:

Paolo Bossi, MD – Vice-Chair, Mucositis Study Group, MASCC

Karis Cheng, RN PhD – Vice-Chair, Mucositis Study Group, MASCC

Noam Yarom, DMD – MSG Quick Poll delegate, logistic coordinator

Yehuda Zadik, DMD MPH – MSG Quick Poll delegate, IRB coordinator



Oral Mucositis Awareness Day - APRIL 6

This is an advocacy effort in support of Adolescent and Young Adult (AYA) Cancer Awareness Week and in support of Esophageal, Oral, and Head & Neck Cancer Awareness month.

Help raise awareness by sharing on social media.
It only takes 1 minute to create a post.

Show your support by posting the Oral Mucositis Awareness Circle ([download here](#)) on social media, along with Oral Mucositis tips and information - use the tags #MoreThanASore #OMAD21 #OralMucositis.

Visit www.MucositisAwareness.org for more information.

FELLOWSHIPS

[Job opportunity for Research Associate](#) 

Email Deborah Saunders to submit your CV: dsaunders@hsnsudbury.ca

Princess Margaret Hospital Dental Oncology – [Fellowship Application](#)

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Please email jonwu@bccancer.bc.ca.

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