

INCTR Annual Meeting 2002

Cancer Control in Developing Countries

INCTR's Annual Meeting has become an important event which serves to bring together INCTR Associate Members from many different countries to strengthen international collaboration in all aspects of cancer treatment and research, to report progress that has been made in INCTR projects in the last year and to identify focal points for discussion that may lead to the development of new projects. While it is essential that key figures in cancer treatment and research are involved in these discussions, it is also essential, in the interests of ensuring long term viability of programs, that young health professionals also participate. Professional education - including continuing education - underlies much of the meeting content, and although primacy is given to an exchange of views among experts from a variety of backgrounds, didactic elements are included in order to provide a foundation on which discussion can be based.

This year's meeting will included elements relating to all aspects of cancer control (the reduction of morbidity and mortality from cancer), including early detection, diagnosis and treatment, bearing in mind that all three interacting elements must be firmly rooted in evidence - an understanding of the epidemiology of individual diseases, the use of the best available diagnostic tools, and treatment based on well conducted clinical trials. It must also be recognized that cancer control, although founded on the same basic principles throughout the world, must contend with even greater obstacles in developing countries than those present in more affluent nations - obstacles that ultimately arise from the economic difficulties faced by the populations susceptible to cancer, and the paucity of resources available to study predisposing factors, prevention, early detection and treatment. For these reasons, essential research relevant to cancer control in developing countries must, in part or in whole, be conducted in those countries themselves, where the pattern of cancer may be regionally unique, where the lifestyles, nutritional status and co-morbidities of potential and actual victims of cancer differ so profoundly, and where the availability or access to treatment may be poor or even absent. INCTR's annual meeting is unique in having, as its entire focus, the problems encountered in developing countries, and in bringing together experts both from within those countries and from affluent nations to discuss possible approaches, as well as the evaluation of such approaches, to the control of cancer; a problem that is becoming more and more immediate as communicable diseases are overcome, and populations age and adopt the bad habits of affluent societies,

particularly smoking,

In INCTR's Annual Meeting for 2002, new elements have been added - Award Lectures given by individuals who have made major contributions to cancer control in developing countries and a poster session, open to presentations on any aspect of cancer control in developing countries. Each year, specific themes are selected for particular emphasis. This year, the epidemiology of cancers of particular importance in specific geographic regions, the supportive and palliative care of cancer, and breast cancer, the most common cancer in women in the world, have been chosen.

Conference Meetings (29th May)

On the day immediately preceding the conference, simultaneous INCTR strategy group and committee meetings will be held, in which new and ongoing programs and projects will be discussed. The strategy groups are comprised of experts from developing countries who, working with INCTR staff, and calling upon whatever additional expertise they require, identify and design projects in specific diseases or groups of diseases,. This year, a special panel of the Advisory Board, consisting of distinguished oncologists and pathologists from developing countries, will also meet in order to provide independent advice to INCTR. Thus, INCTR functions largely as a facilitator or catalyst for projects considered to be important by specialists who have to deal with cancer in developing countries on a daily basis.

Morning

9 am to 12.30 am, Leukemia Study Group of India (Subcommittee of Leukemia Strategy Group). Facilitators: Melissa Adde, Ian Magrath

9 am to 12: 30 am. Breast Cancer Strategy Group. Facilitators: Phil Schein, Indraneel Mittra,, Carine Van de Merckt

Afternoon

2: 00 pm to 5:00 pm. Leukemia Strategy Group. Facilitators: Melissa Adde, Kishor Bhatia

2:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Cervical Cancer Strategy Group. Facilitators: Phil Schein, R Sankarnarayanan

Day 1. Thursday, 30th May 2002

8-9 am. Registration and Mounting of Posters

Opening Session: 9:00 am to 10: 15 am

9:00 am. Welcome: Ian Magrath

9: 10 am. Opening Remarks: Philippe Mettens

9:20 am. Opening Remarks: Joseph Harford

9: 30 am. President's Annual Report

10:15 - 10:30 coffee break

Session 2. Award Lectures: 10:30 am to 1 pm.

Chairperson: Ian Magrath

The Nazli Gad-el-Mawla Award Lecture.

For Outstanding Contributions to Cancer Control by an Individual from a Resource-Poor Country:

Recipient for 2002: Dr V Shanta.

10: 30 am. Introduction to Award: Hussein Khaled

10: 35 am. Introduction to Dr Shanta: Ian Magrath

10: 40: Dr V Shanta: My Encounter with Cancer

The Paul P Carbone Award for International Oncology.

For Outstanding Contributions to Oncology or Cancer Research by an Individual from a Resource-Rich Country:

Recipient for 2002: Dr John L. Ziegler

11: 30 am. Introduction to Award: Ian Magrath

11:35 am. Introduction to Recipient: Raphael Owor

11.40 am. Dr John L. Ziegler: Clinical Research in Uganda: Partnerships in Progress

Lunch 12:30 pm to 1:45 pm

Session 3. Poster Viewing and Discussion 1:45 pm to 5 pm.

In this session participants will have the opportunity to discuss the work of their colleagues. The chairpersons will select some of the more interesting posters for discussion by the presenters and audience.

4 pm to 5 pm. Poster Discussion Session

Chairpersons: Ama Rohatiner and Sidnei Epelman

Simultaneous Meetings

1:45 - 3:45 pm. Steering Committee for Translational Research. Chairperson, Kishor Bhatia

4:00 - 6 pm. INCTR Advisory Board

Day 2. Friday, 31st May, 2002

Session 4. 9 am to 12:30 am

Geographically Important Cancers:

In this session, the influence of environment and genetics on the patterns of certain cancers, important in specific world regions, will be discussed and the their appropriateness for future INCTR studies considered.

Chairpersons: Krishnan Nair and Max Parkin

9:00 am. Geographic Epidemiology of Cancer in Developing Countries Max Parkin

9:30 am. Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma in China. Guy de Thé

10:00 am. Hepatocellular Carcinoma in Africa. Geoffrey Mutuma

10: 30-10:45 am. Coffee Break

10:45 am. Bilharzia-associated bladder cancer in Egypt Hussein Khaled

11:15 am. Oral Cancer in India Krishnan Nair

11:45 am. Inflammatory Breast Cancer in N.Africa Sherif Omar

Lunch 12:30 pm to 1:45 pm

Session 5. Breast Cancer

This session will consist of a review of all aspects of breast cancer, with special reference to developing countries, including predisposing factors, early detection and treatment. This will be followed by a discussion of potential INCTR projects in breast cancer.

Chairpersons: Indraneel Mittra and Phil Schein

1:45 pm. Genetic Predisposition Malcolm Patterson

2.15 pm. Epidemiology of Breast Cancer in India V Shanta

2:45 pm. Screening in Developing Countries Indraneel Mittra

3: 15 pm. Coffee Break

3:30 pm. Treatment Zeba Aziz

4:00 pm to 5 pm. Discussion - Breast Cancer Projects that should be considered by INCTR

Simultaneous Strategy Group Meetings

1:45 pm to 4:45 pm. Retinoblastoma Strategy Group. Chairpersons: Sidnei Epelman, Carlos Leal

5:00pm to 6: 00 pm. Osteosarcoma Strategy Group. Chairperson: Sidnei Epelman

There will be no formal break, but coffee/tea will be available throughout the afternoon.

Day 3. Saturday, 1st June, 2002

Session 6. Supportive and Palliative Care

In this session, aspects of supportive care and palliative care, with special reference to the needs of patients in developing countries, will be discussed.

Chairpersons: Stuart Brown and Claudia Epelman

9:00 am. Management of febrile neutropenia Suresh Advani
9:30 am. Pain control Stuart Brown
10:00 am. Psychological support of families in childhood cancer Claudia Epelman

10:30-10:45 am. Coffee Break

10:45 am. Terminal care of patients in developing countries Paul Sebastian

11:15 am - 12:30 pm. Round Table Discussion: Socio-economic support and patient follow up

Simultaneous Strategy Group Meeting

9:00 am to 12:30 pm. Lymphoma Strategy Group/Global Alliance Meeting devoted to potential studies in Burkitt's Lymphoma in sub-Saharan Africa. Facilitator: Ian Magrath

There will be no formal break but coffee/tea will be available throughout the meetings.

Session 7. New Technologies relevant to Cancer Control

The importance of a knowledge of the molecular footprints made by cancer cells to new and more precise methods of detecting, diagnosing and treating cancer will be presented. While in developing countries, there are important issues of cost to be considered, it is also necessary to note that while improved diagnosis and imaging as well as less toxic (targeted) therapy are likely to be more expensive in themselves, they may not only result in improved survival rates, but could also prove to be economically cost-effective overall, since efficiency is improved and the cost of managing patients incorrectly treated or suffering from major toxic side effects could be lessened.

Chairpersons: El-Nassir Lalani and Ellen Feigal

2:00 pm. Molecular genetic lesions as indicators of disease Kishor Bhatia

2:30 pm. Molecular genetics and gene expression approaches to Therapeutic
Targets Ken Carter

3:00 pm. Molecular imaging Ellen Feigal

3:30 pm. Role of information technology in medicine today Frans Dhaenens

4:00-4:45 pm. Discussion - Role of new technologies in cancer care in developing
countries

4:45 pm. Closing Remarks Ian Magrath

List of Speakers (not necessarily part of the program)

Philippe Mettens

Joseph Harford

Ian Magrath

Hussein Khaled

Raphael Owor

V Shanta

J Ziegler

Max Parkin

Guy de Thé

Geoffrey Mutuma

Krishnan Nair

Sherif Omar

Malcolm Patterson

Indraneel Mittra

Zeba Aziz

Suresh Advani

Stuart Brown

Claudia Epelman

Kishor Bhatia

Ken Carter

Ellen Feigal