



24 June 2016

EONS and the UK's EU referendum

Dear colleague,

The European Oncology Nursing Society (EONS) is disappointed that the United Kingdom (UK) has chosen to vote to leave the European Union (EU).

EONS, as the oldest European cancer nursing society with more than 23,000 members, is proudly pro-European; its roots, which started growing over 30 years ago, have now spread to more than 28 Member States, and other European countries. EONS, from the very beginning, promoted partnership working and collaboration among European cancer nurses.

While the UK has voted to leave the EU, the implications of this are far from clear, for both the EU and the UK: the timelines for leaving the EU and what this means for UK residents living overseas accessing local healthcare have yet to be determined. What this means for EU members working as nurses and doctors in the UK also remains unclear.

As a pro-European organisation, EONS will need time to explore and understand the ramifications of the UK leaving the EU as nothing of this magnitude has happened before. EONS has several UK members on its Board and its current President is British; all of them remain strongly committed to working as a European collective. We will spend the next few weeks examining our statutes for any major impacts as well as talking with our colleagues in ECCO (who may also be affected by the vote).

We recognise that this new working environment may be concerning for some of our members. If you have any questions we invite you to share those with us by sending them to:

oons.secretariat@cancernurse.eu However, we would like to reassure all our members across Europe that we remain a pan-European organisation dedicated to the support and development of cancer nurses. This vote will not change that. We will continue to work in partnership to develop and promote excellence in cancer nursing practice through education, research, leadership and support to cancer nurses across Europe.

With best wishes

Professor Daniel Kelly

EONS President

About EONS

The European Oncology Nursing Society is a pan-European organisation founded in 1984 and dedicated to the support and development of cancer nurses.

Through our individual members and national societies we engage in projects to help nurses develop their skills, network with each other and raise the profile of cancer nursing across Europe.

EONS is an independent, not-for-profit, voluntary organisation registered as a charity (UK number 802484).

Our vision is that all people affected by cancer across Europe will benefit from the care of well-educated, well-informed and highly competent cancer nurses, who will play a central role in providing support, promoting health and improving clinical outcomes.

Work with us to deliver this vision:

Visit our website: www.cancernurse.eu

E-mail us: eons.secretariat@cancernurse.eu

Follow us on Twitter: @cancernurseEU

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