



## **Draft Minutes – EONS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**

**Date:** Friday 9 September 09.00-11.00 CET AM

**Location:** Mercure Hotel Paris, Porte d’Orleans

### **Attendees:**

#### *Executive Board Members:*

Johan de Munter (JdM)	President
Virpi Sulosaari (VS)	President-Elect
Wendy Oldenmenger (WO)	Board Member + Treasurer
Matt Fowler (MF)	Board Member-Communication
Merel van Klinken (MvK)	Board member-Advocacy
Wendy McNally (WMC)	Board Member-Education
Amanda Drury (AD)	Board Member- Research
Nikolina Dodek (ND)	Board Member (YCN)
Andreas Charalambous (ACh)	Board Member
Richard G. Kelly (RGK)	EONS COO
Rudi Briké (RB)	Coordination and Membership Manager

#### *Advisory Council Members/delegates:*

Giannos Toumbis, Cyprus Oncology Nursing Society  
Oili Papinaho, Finish Oncology Nursing Society  
Anu Viitala, Finish Oncology Nursing Society  
Ani Khmaladze, Georgian Oncology Nursing Society  
Ilona Bences, Hungarian Oncology Nursing Society  
Nora Talmaci, Hungarian Oncology Nursing Society  
Caitriona Duggan, IANO, Ireland  
Gianluca Conte, AIIAO, Italy  
Danuta Lichosik, AIIAO, Italy  
Jorgina Serra Lopez, Spanish Oncology Nursing Society  
Helena Ullgren, Swedish Oncology Nursing Society  
Bodil Westman, Swedish Oncology Nursing Society  
Mary Tanay, UKONS, UK

All presentations have been made available on the EONS website.

### **Item 1 Introduction & Minutes of the previous meeting & matters arising**

JdM welcomed the participants to the Advisory Council meeting. Apologies of absence were received from Lena Sharp, EONS Senior Board Advisor. The members approved the minutes of the previous online meeting held on Wednesday 8 December 2021.

### **Item 2 Word of Thanks**

JdM expressed his thanks to the EONS Board, the EONS Team, the EONS Work & Task groups and the EONS members and EONS Member Societies for their input and

cooperation. He highlighted the role of the Advisory Council meeting acting as a platform to exchange ideas between EONS and our member Societies.

A special warm thank you was provided for Lena Sharp who arrived at the end of her term as EONS Senior Board Advisor in September 2022. JdM informed the meeting participants that in 2023 there will be elections organized for the role of EONS President-Elect and he invited the meeting participants to consider potential candidates for this position.

### **Item 3 Introduction on EONS main activities in 2021-2022**

JdM highlighted the EONS Strategy for the period 2018-2023. JdM pointed out we need now to reflect on the preparation of the EONS Strategy for the next five years. We need to keep in mind that a number of the strategic goals have been reached but that there are still some challenges that lie ahead of us such as achieving the recognition of cancer nursing, access to specialized education of cancer nurses in Europe and achieving financial sustainability.

JdM provided a short outline of the EONS Governance highlighting the Advisory Council as a platform to exchange ideas and the importance of cooperating with our Society members. An overview was provided of the main activities that took place in 2021/2022 or are still scheduled to take place in 2022. He encouraged the Society members to put forward an invitation to organize ECND 2023 in cooperation with their Oncology Nursing Society. JdM highlighted the importance for cancer nurses to be present at the EONS Congress and to put forward their research and knowledge during EONS15 and EONS16 in 2023. JdM informed the participants that the PrEvCan launch is taking place at this same moment, and he stressed the significant role that nurses have in prevention. He invited the participants to visit the PrEvCan website and to engage in this project.

### **Item 4 EONS Working groups**

#### *-Young Cancer Nurses Network*

ND provided an overview of the main activities that took place in 2022 or will take place shortly. There will be a twitter chat about Sexuality, Intimacy & Cancer on 15 September. ND invited the participants to join the Nightingale Challenge with the first webinar taking place on 3 October (Pain Management), the second on 24 October (Adolescents & Young Adults with Cancer) and on 14 November the webinar about Second-hand smoking.

#### *-Communication WG*

MF pointed out that the focus of the WG is now related to PrEvCan with the launch taking place and two members of the CWG linking in with this event. The deadline for the call for two new members is 16 November. MF pointed out that four members of the CWG will be linking with the other EONS WG's to streamline the activities of the CWG.

Short videos are in preparation looking at various cancer nursing roles across Europe. MF informed the participants that an EONS membership survey will be available during the EONS15 Congress.

#### *-Advocacy WG.*

MvK reminded the participants about the Survey on Patient & Occupational Safety which led to the Safety Manifesto and the Safety webinars. Work is now in progress related to the EONS Workplace accreditation, a core set of workplace standards that will foster safety for cancer nurses and for patients. The pilot will take place in three hospitals in Sweden, Belgium, and Netherlands. The Cancer Nursing Index has been initiated in 2020 to illustrate the development and status of the cancer nursing profession in Europe. An update survey is now available online in sixteen languages and MvK invited the participants to inform their National Oncology Nursing Society about this and to take part in the survey. MvK informed the participants about the EONS Advocacy toolkit, which is a tool in four parts for cancer nurses to better advocate their profession. This will be launched at ECND 2023.

MvK highlighted the EONS Cancer Prevention Campaign, and she stressed the fact that in this campaign, nurses, physicians, and patients are collaborating. MvK invited the participants to promote this campaign through social media using the hashtags and the toolkits available on the PrEvCan website.

*-Research WG*

AD informed the participants that over the coming years there will be some changes in the Research WG membership. AD provided an overview of the four objectives of the Research Wg with each its specific activities. Related to objective 4-*Generate Research Evidence*, AD informed the participants about the EONS Cancer Nursing Research Priorities Study. EONS would like to determine a set of research priorities in cancer nursing in Europe. A survey will be available throughout the EONS15 Congress for cancer nurses to join the survey by scanning the QR code.

*-Education WG*

WMc provided an overview of the Education WG objectives. The EONS Cancer Nursing Framework has been updated and will be presented during the EONS15 Closing session. The 13<sup>th</sup> ESO-EONS Masterclass in Oncology Nursing will take place in Barcelona from 23-27 September with twenty-eight participants. WMc pointed out that the Education WG is also supporting other WG's by cooperating related to PrEvCan and the Nightingale webinars. The call for the ESO-EONS Clinical Fellowship is now open and two places are available for a 4-week observation placement in Lisbon or Milan. Related to Interact, an EU4Health Project, the Education WG is leading on WP 2 with a literature review on interspeciality and a quantitative/qualitative survey on interspeciality training. JdM informed the participants that the aim of this project is to create a curriculum for interspeciality training, and it is important that the EONS Education WG participates in this project. There will also be a Newsletter about Interact which will be forwarded to the EONS membership. WMc pointed out that related to ECCN, a pilot with twenty nurses will start in January 2023 until December 2023. Looking to the future, WMc stressed the fact that the Education WG will add in objectives that will align with the new strategy, once approved.

**Item 5 Future challenges**

JdM provided an overview of the current & future challenges. There is an increasing demand of care but on the other hand there are general nursing shortages. It is important to make the profession of nurse attractive again and to motivate people to become a nurse/cancer nurse. JdM referred also to the COVID period with the increase in virtual care and the challenge to provide high qualitative care and to stay in touch with the patient. JdM stressed also the importance of having a healthy work environment and he referred to the work EONS is doing related to the Occupational Safety. An important challenge EONS is facing is the lack of nursing recognition in some countries. JdM pointed out that ECND is playing a significant role in providing each year support to nurses. JdM highlighted the need of resolving these problems and to ensure a sustainable cancer care to provide best care for the patients. JdM stressed the importance of supporting the young cancer nurses related to their educational needs to allow them to bring back their knowledge into their profession. JdM referred also to the Cancer Nursing Fund as an important instrument to support cancer nurses across Europe and he encouraged the participants to provide support when possible, to the Cancer Nursing Fund. JdM outlined the different components to ensure the further development of European Cancer nursing and he stressed the importance of the patient & public involvement as they can testify how important cancer nursing and cancer nurse are.

**Item 6 EONS Strategy & Collaboration workshop**

VS welcomed the meeting participants for the Strategy Workshop. VS highlighted the fact that within the reach of the current EONS Strategy, EONS has been moving forward and some significant changes took place such as the fact that the voice of cancer nurses is now recognized across Europe. However, as the current Strategy is until 2023, we need to reflect on a new EONS Strategy. The plan would be to reflect and prepare the new Strategy throughout the rest of the year/early next year and have it ready by ECND 2023 and to have it officially launched during EONS16 Congress in Madrid. VS provided an overview of the current Mission/Vision and the Strategic Goals. VS invited the participants for their input in providing a SWOT analysis of the current Strategy, considering external and internal factors. A number of key points were put forward:  
Strengths

-Recognition, collaboration, voice of European Cancer Nurses, networking opportunities, the voice of cancer nurses is heard for all level of experiences, high level of communication.

#### Weakness

-Are we reaching the nurses? EONS not enough focus on clinical practice, patient participation is missing, language issues.

#### Opportunities

-Representation in key organisations, learning opportunities, lobbying opportunities for changing legislation, specialization, international networking.

#### Threats

-Losing connectivity with membership, lack of local resources, lack of visibility from National Societies, lack of nurses, lack of standard criteria for competencies.

The overview of the SWOT Analysis is available in the separate document.

#### EONS Strategic Goals

Are the Strategic Goals still valid, can we keep them or is there a need to change or add something or to remove one of the goals? The participants joined in separate groups to reflect on each of the Strategic Goals.

**1.Cancer nursing is recognised across Europe for its positive impact on the lives of people affected by cancer through C.A.R.E. – Communication, Advocacy, Research and Education.**

*Revise: Care Y people (not sure here)*

**2.All cancer nurses have access to specialised education that is aligned with the EONS Cancer Nursing Education Framework.**

*Keep*

**3.All cancer nurses gain official recognition, reward and respect as a result of the RECaN and advocacy campaigns.**

*Keep*

*Comments: show these campaigns more to the outside world. More f.t.f meetings with different Societies to explain the campaigns/projects, BM representative at Societies' Congress. More nurses needed in political area*

**4.All cancer nurses are connected to exchange and share information and support for their work.**

*Keep*

*Comments: to add in "to share information and respond to emerging challenges and innovations in care, e.g remote care, A.I. To include protecting protected roles, to describe these more clearly.*

**5.EONS facilitates, leads, and promotes collaborative cancer nursing research across Europe.**

*Keep*

*Comments: development of evidence-based Pan-European Cancer Nursing Guidelines, patient+carer centered. Research to be collaborative with clinical staff. Knowledge transfer.*

**6.EONS leads EU-wide advocacy initiatives at EU policy level.**

*Keep*

*Comment: To change EU- wide to European*

**7.EONS provides evidence-based advice to people and organisations affected by cancer on healthy lifestyles and cancer prevention**

*Remove*

VS thanked the participants for their input and cooperation related to the Strategy Workshop. The comments and suggestions received will be taken forward in the further process by the EONS Board.

**Item 6 Closing remarks**

JdM and VS thanked the participants for their important input and collaboration and wished the participants a successful EONS15 Congress.

Signed:

Date: