



Draft Minutes – EONS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Friday 20 October 09.00-11.00 CET AM

Location: IFEMA Congress center, Madrid, Spain

Attendees:

Executive Board Members:

Virpi Sulosaari (VS)	President
Johan de Munter (JdM)	Past-President
Helena Ullgren (HU)	President-Elect
Matt Fowler (MF)	Board Member-Treasurer
Merel van Klinken (MvK)	Board member-Advocacy
Wendy McNally (WMc)	Board Member-Education
Amanda Drury (AD)	Board Member- Research
Nikolina Dodlek (ND)	Board Member (ECN/Communication)
Gülcan Bağçivan (GB)	Board member
Richard G. Kelly (RGK)	EONS COO
Rudi Briké (RB)	Coordination and Membership Manager

Advisory Council Members/delegates:

Christine Schneider Worliczek, Austrian Oncology Nursing Society
Johan de Munter, Belgium Oncology Nursing Society (VVRO)
Nikolina Dodlek, Croatian Oncology Nursing Society
Giannos Toumbis, Cyprus Oncology Nursing Society
Konstantinos Agelopoulos, Cyprus Oncology Nursing Society
Iveta Nohavova, Czech Oncology Nursing Society
Anita Sjeljes, Dutch Oncology Nursing Society
Saskia Claassen, Dutch Oncology Nursing Society
Leena Kopoonen, Finish Oncology Nursing Society
Anu Viitala, Finish Oncology Nursing Society
Ani Khmaladze, Georgian Oncology Nursing Society
Halldora Halfdanartottir, Icelandic Oncology Nursing Society
Patricia Hunt, IANO, Ireland
Silvia Bellone, AIIAO, Italy
Fernanda Conceicao, Portuguese Oncology Nursing Society
Natasa Bakic, Serbian Oncology Nursing Society
Laura Bascunana Sanchez, Spanish Oncology Nursing Society
Ulrika Persson, 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.

VS welcomed the participants to the Advisory Council meeting. No apologies for absence were received. The members approved the minutes of the previous Advisory meeting held in Paris on 9 September 2022.

Item 2 Word of Thanks

VS welcomed Helena Ullgren as the EONS President-Elect and Gülcan Bağçivan as the new EONS Board member. She provided a word of thanks to Wendy Oldenmenger and Andreas Charalambous who left the Board in June 2023 as they had reached the end of their term. JdM, EONS Past President stressed the importance of the 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.

Item 3 Introduction on EONS main activities in 2023

VS provided an outline of the main activities in 2023 and pointed out that EONS is engaged in several EU funded projects as Interact and the development of an inter-speciality cancer training programme across Europe. VS particularly highlighted the new project Nurture, funded by the Cancer Nursing Fund and which is aimed at improving the capacity of the cancer nursing workforce by developing and piloting cancer nurse training and capacity support meetings in cooperation between EONS and its members. JdM invited the participants to provide their input by indicating what should be the priorities in the different topics related to Nurture as well the rate of urgency related to each topic. An overview of the results is available in the pp presentation of the meeting.

Item 4 EONS Working groups.

-Early Career Nurses (ECN)

ND informed the participants that as of January 2024 Dimitris Protogiros and Irati Rodriguez will be acting as the new co-chairs of the ECN. There will be a new structure with the ECN WG and the ECN ambassadors. ND pointed out that as of next year max. 7 years of experience in cancer nursing will be the criterium to become a member of the ECN WG. ND provided an overview of the main activities that took place in 2023 with the ECN Blog, an overview of available resources on the ECN webpage and the upcoming Nightingale Challenge webinars in November. A Twitter chat is planned in February 2024 with the theme of the development of AI and its impact on Cancer Care.

-Communication WG

ND informed the participants that she has taken over co-chairing of the Comms. WG from MF. ND proposed some EONS16 promotional slides to be used during and after the Congress and she invited the participants to take part in this and use the specific slides during and after the event. ND provided an overview of the Cancer Calendar and the participation of a dedicated WG member at another WG meetings to promote their specific activities. An End of Year Message is in preparation. The results of the membership survey will be published in early 2024.

-Advocacy WG.

MvK presented the members of the Advocacy WG and indicated that a call will soon go out for new members. MvK highlighted several of the ongoing projects within the Advocacy WG.

-Workplace Accreditation: this is an accreditation tool that will empower cancer nurses to strive for excellence in several areas. The results from the 4 pilots are now being analyzed to finetune the accreditation toolkit.

-Cancer Nursing Index:

MvK provided an overview of the preliminary results comparing the results from 2020 with the results from 2022. She informed the participants that Lena Sharp will present the complete Cancer Nursing Index during the EONS16 Congress.

-Advocacy toolkit

This is now ready to be published on the EONS website.

-PrEvCan:

This project is now coming to an end and the partners involved will submit their reports. A policy paper is in preparation.

-Research WG

GB presented the members of the Research WG. She provided a thank you to leaving members Greg Kotronoulas and Nikolaos Efstathiou as they are coming to their end of term. GB provided an overview of the four objectives of the Research WG in line with the 2018-2023 Strategy (increase research literacy, build capacity and provide opportunities, influence strategic priorities and to generate research evidence) outlining the main activities within each objective. GB invited the participants to join in the EONS Cancer Nursing Research Priorities Study by scanning the QR code; This will also be available during the EONS16 Congress.

-Education WG

WMc provided an update related to the European College of Cancer Nursing (ECCN).

The ECCN's first level of the pathway was launched in January and ran until September 2023 There were 20 nurses from across various countries with 12 completing; mainly from the UK, Spain, and Greece. The results will be presented on Monday 23 October during the EONS16 Congress.

The ESO-EONS Masterclass 2023 was a very successful Masterclass with 29 participants.

WMc also provided an update related to the ESO E-sessions, the EONS Endorsement and Interact, an EU4Health Project, where the Education WG is leading on Workpackage 2. EONS will also be part of Interact 2. WMc also pointed out that ECND 2024 will take place in Finland in May 2024.

Item 5 Updated EONS Strategy 2024-2028

VS provided the participants with the background and process related to updating the EONS Strategy 2024-2028. VS reminded the participants that the process was initiated at the Advisory Council meeting in 2022 in Paris. The updated Strategy is now available at the EONS website. VS highlighted the EONS values, vision, and mission statement as well as the different strategic priorities linked with the Strategy update. VS pointed out that the WG's will now be working on their own specific action plans to implement the EONS Strategy but also EONS as an organization will need to reflect on the implementation.

The participants were requested to provide their feedback regarding the updated Strategy through the mentimeter. Most of the participants considered the strategic priorities to be necessary, realistic and achievable.

Is the EONS Strategy in line with the Strategy of our National Societies? Are there specific issues/challenges?

AS, delegate of the Dutch Oncology Nursing Society (V&VN) indicated that one of the main ongoing issues in the Netherlands is the professionalization of oncology nursing and the transition from hospital care to home care. There is a shortage of oncology nurses in the homecare arena.

GT, delegate of the Cyprus Society highlighted the ongoing educational programme of specialization for oncology nurses, based on the EONS Framework and referred also to the changing care setting.

LBS of the Spanish Society confirmed that the EONS Strategy is in line with the national strategy. There is a challenge to engage the nurses and have them involved in the work that Society is doing. The focus is on having standardized sets of criteria for the role of advanced practical nurses for all hospitals.

MN (UKONS) confirmed that the EONS Strategy is in line with the UKONS Strategy and that UKONS is very much focusing on education. MN pointed out that the current role of the advanced nurse practitioner is too generic, and it would be beneficial to have more cancer

nursing focus in this role. Due to the pandemic, engagement with the Society decreased but this is now improving again.

CSW (Austria) pointed out that the profession of a cancer nurse is becoming well known in Austria. The Society's strategy is to engage in providing education to upgrade the basic nursing profession to that of the advanced cancer nurse practitioner.

ND (Croatia) highlighted the fact that having the ECND event taking place in Croatia in 2022 changed a lot. As a result of this, the nursing council approached the Society to create a curriculum for palliative care and at this stage the oncology specialists in Croatia are starting the educational programme.

IN (Czech Republic) confirmed that because of having the ECND in her country, there is now cancer nursing specialization offered as a post graduate specialty.

AV (Finland) highlighted the fact that the Society is aiming to have a voice nationwide and she referred to the cooperation with the hospitals to develop quality standards for chemotherapy.

The participants were also invited to provide their advice on how EONS could increase the number of individual members, without competing or interfering with the National Societies. The participants provided several suggestions such as sharing opportunities, leadership, offering joint events, access to education and benefits.

Item 6 Cancer Nursing - Future challenges and need for European collaboration.

VS referred to the paper from AD published in the EJON: *The future of cancer nursing in Europe: addressing professional issues in education, research, policy and practice*.

This paper made clear that cancer nursing has evolved to meet the demands of rising cancer incidence, newer and more complex treatment options, and the emergence of specialist roles supporting people at risk of, living with, and beyond cancer. However, nursing and cancer care still face challenges, arising from workforce shortages, work environment, under-investment in services and under representation in decision making. The participants were invited to rank EONS priorities on professional issues and from this "Cancer Nurse burn out & drop out", "Nursing shortages & recruitment barriers" and "Cancer Nursing recognition" were the most important priorities.

Item 7 AOB

VS informed the participants about the Forum on 40 Years of EONS Cancer Nursing leadership", taking place on 15 May in Turku, Finland and the ECND2024, which will take place online on Saturday 18 May. VS also highlighted the fact that EONS will have its 40th anniversary in 2024 and this will be celebrated during the EONS17 Congress in Barcelona in September 2024. The Congress theme will be "40 years of European Cancer Nursing- Shaping the future of healthcare". VS referred to the Cancer Nursing Fund and invited the participants to encourage their colleagues to donate to this fund as it is a unique opportunity to support the excellent work that cancer nurses do and advance the profession of cancer nursing in Europe.

Item 8 Closing remarks

VS, JdM and HU stressed the importance of collaboration with our National Societies and the membership, and they thanked the participants for their important input and collaboration and wished the participants a successful EONS16 Congress.

Signed:

Date: