## European Association of NeuroOncology Magazine

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## **News from the Society for Neuro-Oncology**

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The Society for Neuro-Oncology is already hard at work planning its 17th Annual Scientific Meeting and Education Day, which will be held November 15-18, 2012, at the Washington, DC, Hilton Hotel.

As in years past, the meeting will begin with an Education Day where attendees can catch up on timely and relevant topics from the field. Education Day co-chairs Vinay Puduvalli and Balveen Kaur are developing a program entitled "Targeted Therapies Against Primary Brain Tumours", which will feature 3 sessions: Signal Transduction Agents, Immunotherapy, and Biological Therapies and Stem Cells. Each session will provide a comprehensive review of each topic, from development to clinical application. Immediately following the Targeted Therapies session, there will be a 2.5-hour course on biomarkers, organized by Susan Chang and Ken Aldape. This course will review the definition and potential roles of biomarkers as it pertains to neuro-oncology, the various types of biomarkers, the importance of biostatistical considerations in the development and validation of biomarkers, application of biomarkers in drug development, and the clinical application of biomarkers including their role in the use of anti-angiogenic treatments and future directions.

Running concurrently with Education Day will be a special focused session on quality of life organized by Michael Glantz. This session will cover a number of important topics, including neurocognitive testing, symptom management, novel diagnostic and therapeutic interventions as well as defining and measuring quality of life.

In addition to the accepted oral and poster presentations, the main scientific portion of the meeting, chaired by Nino Chiocca, will feature a number of informative Sunrise Sessions. In the planning stages are sessions on neurofibromato-

sis, microRNA, energetics and metabolism, emerging neurodevelopmental targets, oncolytic viruses, radiobiology, pituitary tumours, and the biology of brain metastases. And in what is sure to be one of the highlights of the meeting, SNO is pleased to announce that Bert Vogelstein will be delivering the Plenary Keynote Address on Friday, November 16. Consistent with prior meetings, there promises to be high-quality abstracts on a variety of topics related to neuro-oncology for poster and platform presentations. Members of EANO interested in submitting their research for the SNO annual meeting should note the abstract submission deadline of May 15, 2012.

The organizers are also developing a number of sessions for Young Investigators, including a Young Investigators reception, roundtable discussion with senior SNO members, and a post-meeting networking session.

Starting in May, SNO will also be accepting applications for travel scholarships to our annual meeting for professionals living in developing regions of the world. A total of 8 scholarships will be awarded to individuals in the following geographical regions (one per region): Central America & the Caribbean, Central and Southern Africa, China & associated countries, Eastern Europe, Far East and Australasia, Indian Sub-Continent, North Africa & the Middle East, and South

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For more information on the Society for Neuro-Oncology, please visit our website,

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