

European Association of NeuroOncology Magazine

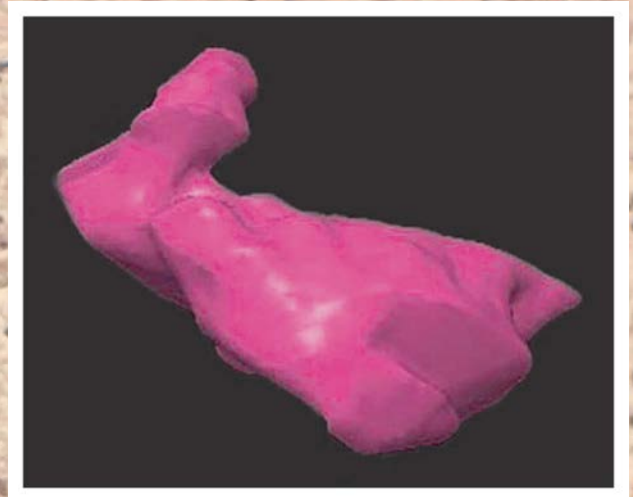
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**A Forum for Sharing the Latest
Laboratory and Clinical Research:
17th Annual Scientific Meeting and
Education Day of the Society for
Neuro-Oncology**

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A Forum for Sharing the Latest Laboratory and Clinical Research: 17th Annual Scientific Meeting and Education Day of the Society for Neuro-Oncology

Nicholas Butowski

The 17th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Society for Neuro-Oncology was held November 15–18, 2012, in Washington, DC. We thank Drs E Antonio Chiocca, Balveen Kaur, Vinay Puduvalli, and Michael Glantz for composing a comprehensive programme highlighting cutting-edge laboratory and clinical research in the field of neuro-oncology. The meeting resulted in a stimulating exchange of ideas among neuro-oncologists, medical oncologists, neurosurgeons, neuropathologists, radiation oncologists, neuroradiologists, paediatricians, laboratory scientists, nurses, and other specialists involved in the research, diagnosis, care, and treatment of patients with tumours of the central nervous system. In addition to the thought-provoking Education Day and the abstract-driven scientific sessions of the main meeting, SNO offered a number of innovative features at the 2012 meeting, including a special biomarkers course, a keynote address from Dr Bert Vogelstein, a new Public Service Award, the inaugural Abhijit Guha Award and Lecture, expanded sessions for Young Investigators, and an evening satellite symposium on 1p/19q co-deleted anaplastic gliomas.

■ Education Day

The meeting began on Thursday, November 15, with an opportune and relevant programme for the Education Day consisting of concurrent morning sessions entitled “Targeted Therapies Against Primary Brain Tumours” and “Quality of Life/Symptom Management”. The afternoon session offered a novel programme titled “SNO Course on the Basics of Biomarkers 2012”.

■ SNO Annual Meeting

The formal meeting launched on Friday, November 16, with Sunrise Sessions on the following topics: (1) EANO and SNO Joint Session: From Guidelines to New Trials in Low-Grade Gliomas: The American and European Views, (2) NF2 Update: Hearing Restoration and Foundations for the Future, (3) Energetics and Metabolism, and (4) Re-engineered T Cells and Bone Marrow Cells. The first plenary session began with an official meeting welcome by Dr Chiocca followed by a Public Service Award presented to Edward Shaw and by presentation of top-Scoring Abstracts. Subsequent to these events the first Abhijit Guha Award was bestowed to James Rutka, and we heard an invigorating keynote lecture given by Bert Vogelstein.

A Young Investigators Luncheon Roundtable was held at noon on Friday at which trainees and early-phase independent investigators participated in informal discussions with senior investigators at roundtables organized into a variety of differ-

ent areas. Afternoon concurrent sessions included (1) Medical, Neuro- and Radiation Oncology and (2) Basic Sciences. The next set of concurrent sessions included (1) Symptom Management, Neuro-cognitive and Quality of Life; and (2) Molecular Epidemiology, -Omics, and Prognostic Markers. After an exciting, first of its kind, town-hall style meeting on the management of 1p/19q co-deleted anaplastic gliomas, the evening opened for poster sessions, which was an opportunity for lively discussion and debate.

Saturday, November 17, Sunrise Sessions featured the following topics: (1) Asian Society for Neuro-Oncology Session, (2) The CMV and Glioma Connection, (3) Mechanisms of Glioblastoma Immuno-evasion, and (4) Pituitary Tumours: Biology and Treatment. Next in line was the presentation of the Victor Levin Award and Lecture by Gregory Cairncross and Robert Jenkins. The first afternoon concurrent sessions were (1) Cell Biology/Signalling and Epidemiology or (2) Pathology and Radiology with subsequent afternoon concurrent sessions on (1) Angiogenesis/Invasion and (2) Surgery and Immunology. The second lively poster session took place after the oral sessions concluded for the day. That evening, the SNO Banquet beheld itself as the social highlight of the meeting.

Sunday, November 18, witnessed the first SNO highlights session – an invitation-only press programme that highlighted new advances in neuro-oncology, major trial results, and significant advances in supportive care and patient quality of life. Sunrise Sessions included (1) Oncolytic Viruses: Clinical Trials Update, (2) The Radiobiology of CNS Tumours, (3) The Biology of Brain Metastases, and (4) MicroRNA Biology in CNS Tumours. These were followed by a plenary session presenting Top Scoring Abstracts and a RANO session prior to the meeting adjournment.

We look forward to seeing members of EANO at the 4th Quadrennial Meeting of the World Federation of Neuro-Oncology in conjunction with the 18th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Society for Neuro-Oncology next November 21–24, 2013, in San Francisco, California.

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