

Oncology Section E-News

May 2006

Dear Members,

We've never been so excited to send out an e-newsletter. The Section is proud to announce the creation of a plan to pursue clinical specialization in oncology, and the first-ever Section Research Grant and Fund to support Oncology Rehabilitation Research. Our sincere thanks for making all of this possible through your support of the Oncology Section.

Regards,

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Section Executive
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In this issue:

- Oncology Certified Specialty
- Oncology Section Research Grant
- Fund for Oncology Rehabilitation Research
- Continuing Education Director sought
- CaringBridge- a resource for your patients
- World HIV Awareness Day – December 1
- Recent Articles in Oncology

**** PLAN TO PURSUE ONCOLOGY CLINICAL SPECIALIZATION APPROVED BY SECTION BOARD ****

In response to positive feedback from the members of the Oncology Section of the American Physical Therapy Association, and a long-standing desire on the part of past officers, we are excited to announce that the Board of Directors has approved a plan to pursue a specialist certification exam for Oncologic Physical Therapy. Work on the first stage of this project has already begun, and we hope to have an Oncology Specialty Exam through the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties (ABPTS) ready by the spring of 2009.

The first thing members can do to support this effort is fill out an online survey that will be sent out this summer. The initial survey will help us write the detailed practice survey that will determine the content of the Description of Advanced Clinical Practice in Oncology.

For more details, please visit: <http://www.oncologypt.org/cr/specialization.cfm>

**** NEW - CLINICAL RESEARCH GRANT ****

Starting in 2007, the Oncology Section will be offering a \$5,000 Clinical Research Grant each year. Applications are due April 1. The grant is available to Section members only. Download the application packet using the link below.

<http://www.oncologypt.org/pdfs/OncologySectionResearchGrant.pdf>

**** FUND FOR ONCOLOGY REHABILITATION RESEARCH ****

Would you like to support research in Physical Therapy for people with Oncology or HIV/AIDS? Donate to the Fund for Oncology Rehabilitation Research! Your contribution will be placed in an interest-accruing fund that will be used to pay for Oncology Section Research Grants. Our hope is that this fund will grow, allowing us to one day support research projects using only the interest generated.

Please feel free to print the donation form for your waiting rooms- all are welcome to support the future of oncology and HIV/AIDS physical therapy research.

<http://www.oncologypt.org/pdfs/FundOncologyRehabilitationResearch.pdf>

**** VOLUNTEER NEEDED - CONTINUING EDUCATION DIRECTOR ****

The Section currently sponsors 2 continuing education courses that we would like to offer regionally. We are looking for a Continuing Education Director to oversee arrangement of the logistical details for the courses (with support from the executive office). This is an exciting new position in our Section, and is a chance to make a truly meaningful contribution to Oncology Continuing Education and the Section. Contact oncology@apta.org or 800/999-2782 x3238 for more information.

**** ONLINE RESOURCE TO SHARE WITH PATIENTS ****

Thanks to Oncology Section Member Lorraine Lovejoy-Evans of Washington State for sharing the following for E-News:

While trying to keep friends and family updated without being overwhelmed with several phone calls each step of the way, I have found www.caringbridge.org to be a huge benefit. It spares me the emotional roller coaster of giving current status reports to all our friends and family when I am barely keeping myself together. This internet site allows someone to author a page on behalf of a friend or family member who is going through a trying time, such as the case of cancer (Carcinoid) my sister is currently fighting. It is a free service that offers a web page where you can post photos and update a journal of current medical and other situations for your loved one. There is also a guestbook that allows visitors to send their well wishes. While recovering from a major abdominal surgery and then 5 days of 24 hours of continuous chemotherapy infusions we found the website to be a wonderful tool to keep us in touch with loved ones without dealing with the never ending phone calls. I was shocked at the end of the two weeks to

see the number of people checking the site increasing by over 500. I can only imagine how that many phone calls would have never allowed my sister the rest she desperately needed to adequately recover. CaringBridge is a wonderful way for your patients to keep loved ones updated and yet be able to maintain their own sanity.

**** APTA TO RECOGNIZE WORLD AIDS DAY, DECEMBER 1 ****

Through the efforts of the Oncology Section's HIV/AIDS Special Interest Group (HIV SIG), APTA will be recognizing World AIDS Day this year on December 1 through articles in PT Magazine and PT Bulletin, and a link from www.apta.org to the HIV SIG's webpage. The HIV SIG is working hard to build their web page in preparation for the amazing PR they will receive in December. If you can help them in any way to add resources to the page, please contact the SIG Chair, Michael Smith, at msmith@cc.nih.gov. (To view the page, go to www.oncologypt.org, click on "About Us," and scroll to the bottom of the page.)

**** RECENT ARTICLES FROM THE SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE OF INTEREST TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ONCOLOGY SECTION: ****

(The title should be a link to the abstract on PubMed. If the link doesn't work, e-mail oncology@apta.org for a more detailed copy.)

1: [J Palliat Care](#). 2006 Spring;22(1):5-11.

Lower limb lymphedema: experiences and perceptions of cancer patients in the late palliative stage.

Frid M, Strang P, Friedrichsen MJ, Johansson K.

Physiotherapy Unit, Karolinska University Hospital, Stockholm, Sweden.

2: [Tumori](#). 2006 Jan-Feb;92(1):55-61.

Two exercise schemes in postoperative breast cancer: comparison of effects on shoulder movement and lymphatic disturbance.

de Rezende LF, Franco RL, de Rezende MF, Beletti PO, Morais SS, Gurgel MS.

**** JOIN THE ONCOLOGY SECTION LISTSERVE ****

Share your questions or clinical tips with Oncology PTs and PTAs from all over the country! To join, e-mail oncology@apta.org, and provide your full name or APTA member number.

**** PALLIATIVE AND HOSPICE CARE SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIG) ****

The Oncology Section is undertaking the formation of a new SIG in Palliative and Hospice Care. There are no additional dues for membership in the SIG. To express interest in the Palliative Care SIG, simply e-mail oncology@apta.org.

Thank you for supporting the Oncology Section!

Do you have anything you would like to share with US? Have you read a good research article? Tell us about your Oncology Practice. Send a synopsis to share with others.

Contact me at CJA44@aol.com to submit material for this newsletter.