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CAMO 2022 ASM

Physician Wellness

Canadian Association of Medical Oncologists

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FINDING THE WAY FORWARD

The basic goal of any process of change process is typically the same: change in order to help cope with new, more challenging circumstances. Over the last couple of years, CAMO embarked on a journey of change in an effort to refocus our organization and ensure we remain relevant to our members. Last spring, CAMO members voted on, and adopted, a refreshed vision statement namely, “Empowering medical oncologists to advance cancer care for all Canadians” but how we set out to achieve this vision is ultimately the challenge that lays ahead. To help clarify next steps, in early November, CAMO hosted its first ever Leadership Retreat featuring two powerhouse leaders in healthcare, Dr. Anthony Fields, CAMO Past President (1994-1996), and Cindy Morton, previous CEO of the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer (CPAC), who shared their thoughts on how best to guide our organization forward. Attendees heard that successful change usually requires a considerable amount of time, thoughtful engagement of stakeholders and a strategic plan that incorporates S.M.A.R.T. (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and timely) goals. With this in mind, in the coming months, CAMO hopes to enlist the help of its members through a comprehensive survey to learn what members feel the organization has done well and where improvements are needed. The results of the survey will help form the basis of CAMO’s strategic plan. Currently within the re-structured committee framework, CAMO’S main focus will be in the areas of Communications, Membership, Continuing Professional Development (CPD), Fellowship & Training, Human Resources and Advocacy.

Thank you to our team of committee members, who volunteer their time, for joining us to start the process of leading CAMO through this period of change! If you are interested in getting more involved, reach out to us at info@camo-acom.com.



Desiree Hao (AB), CAMO President



@camo-prez

Mentorship Program

Mentor of the Month

Recognizing the importance of mentorship in career advancement, productivity, and personal growth, CAMO launched a national virtual mentorship program with the first group mentorship event on October 15, 2021. The inaugural event was a great success, bringing over 70 participants, including 35 mentors and 34 mentees, together from across Canada and the USA. Our guest speaker Dr. Lorelli Nowell, Eyes High Postdoctoral Scholar at the Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning, University of Calgary, launched the event with an inspiring talk highlighting the importance of mentorship, and offered tips for optimizing mentorship opportunities. This was followed by small group breakout sessions where medical oncology residents and Fellows had the opportunity to meet and interact with various CAMO members who volunteered as mentors. It was inspiring to see the engagement by both mentors and mentees, and to observe the close-knit community of medical oncologists and trainees we have across the country.

We are excited to announce a new initiative "**Mentor of the Month**" where residents and fellows get an opportunity to connect one-on-one with specific mentors.

For more information on how to book a one-on-one meeting, visit the mentorship portal on the [CAMO website](#)

Based on feedback we received from our first session, the focus of our second group mentorship event on January 21, 2022 was career planning. Dr. Desiree Hao, CAMO President, started off our session with a motivational talk about the importance of making time for mentorship for career advancement. Medical oncology residents and fellows heard from a distinguished panel of CAMO faculty mentors (Drs. Jennifer Spratlin, Cheryl Ho, Lacey Pitre, Mita Manna, Craig Earle, and Gwyn Bebb) who spoke about their varied personal career paths, following which mentees had the opportunity to continue the discussion during small group breakout sessions.

FEBRUARY MENTORS



Amirtha Srikanthan
Ontario



James Michael
New Brunswick

Thank you to all who have participated in the mentorship program thus far. We encourage mentees to continue to reach out for 1-on-1 meetings to our enthusiastic group of mentors from across Canada; a list of mentors, their interests and contact information can be found on the [CAMO mentorship member portal](#). If you haven't done so already – it's not too late to join the mentorship program which is FREE for all medical oncology residents/Fellows.

CAMO Achievement Awards

Do you know a fellow medical oncologist who deserves to be recognized for their hard work? Nominate them for one of CAMO's **NEW** Achievement Awards!

The Canadian Association of Medical Oncologists (CAMO) Membership Committee **is pleased to announce the CAMO Annual Achievement Awards** to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of your fellow CAMO members. We all know fellow members who give their valuable time, energy and passion to other people, causes or activities and deserve to be honoured for their contributions. Share their achievements with others by submitting a nomination.



RISING STAR AWARD



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD



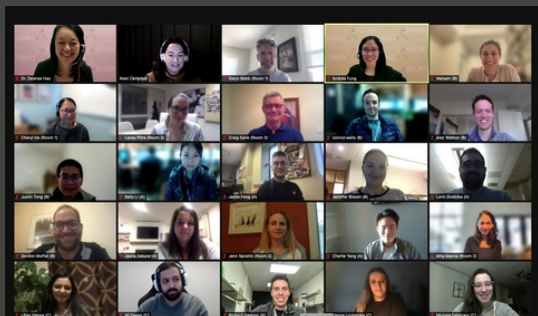
HUMANITARIAN AWARD

SUBMISSION DEADLINE | February 25, 2022 (11:59PM EST)

For more information, visit the [CAMO website](#)



Andrea Fung (ON), Mentorship Program Co-Lead
Cancer Centre of Southeastern Ontario
Queen's University, Medical Oncologist



CAMO National Virtual Mentorship Program - Part 2
January 21, 2022

CAMO 2022

Hybrid Annual Scientific Meeting



Thursday, April 28, 2022 | MaRS Centre – Toronto, ON | Online Platform

Embracing Equity Diversity and Inclusion to Improve Cancer Care for Canadians

Co-Chairs | Dr. Doreen Ezeife & Dr. Olexiy Aseyev

Building Back Better: Oncology in a Post-Pandemic World

Oncology Education & CAMO Evening Symposium | Chairs: Dr Scott Berry and Dr. Desiree Hao

Save the date! On April 27, 2022 at 7 pm EST, our expert panel will explore the impact as well as the opportunity to learn and improve from the pandemic. Taking a practical approach with a lens of EDI, speakers will explore innovation in clinical practice, research and education. Stay tune for registration details...

Thank you



CAMO 2022 Fellowship Recipient

Congratulations to Dr. Carly Barron who was awarded the 2022 CAMO Fellowship for her project proposal entitled "Cross tumor-comparison of the tumor immune-microenvironment, peripheral immune signatures and response to immunotherapy as a novel conceptual model in aerodigestive tumors". Dr. Barron will be pursuing her Fellowship training at Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, University Health Network, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON . Thank you to the members of our Fellowship Committee: Drs. Bindi Dhesy-Thind (Chair), David Dawe (MB), Flavia De Angelis (QC), Julie Lebert (ON), Mary McNeil (NS), Edward Hardy (BC)

CAMO gratefully acknowledges the continued support of the fellowship program. Thank you to our members for contributing to the fellowship fund as well as our partner:
Pfizer, Janssen Oncology, Amgen, Hoffman La Roche, Boehringer Ingelheim



Consider donating to CAMO's Fellowship fund to help ensure ongoing support for medical oncologists of the future.

[CLICK HERE TO DONATE TODAY!](#)

Medical Oncologist Wellness During the Pandemic and Beyond

It is hard to believe we will be marking 2 years from the WHO declaration of the COVID 19 pandemic on March 11th 2022. In order to understand the early impact of the pandemic on our Canadian medical oncology community, CAMO disseminated 3 serial surveys in May, July and December of 2020. The results of these surveys were disseminated with an initial publication, followed by posters at AACR-COVID 2020 and ESMO 2021 (1-3). While predictable adaptations in cancer care were identified across different phases of the pandemic, a consistent theme emerged with respect to personal and mental wellness being ranked as a top challenge among respondents.

While many of us have become accustomed to hearing about 'burnout', 'wellness' and 'resilience', we recognize that these issues may carry significant post-pandemic consequences on the medical oncology workforce in Canada. To that end, I'm pleased to share that CAMO is collaborating with Oncology Education to develop an interactive webinar series to be launched in Spring 2022, with the objective of providing mitigating strategies, sharing learnings and building a community of support among Canadian medical oncologists. We will also be launching another CAMO COVID survey this Spring, which will focus on assessment of well-being and resilience. I thank you in advance for your support of these initiatives and look forward to sharing back with our CAMO membership.

Sharlene Gill (BC), CAMO President-Elect

1. Curr Oncol. 2020 Apr; 27(2): 71-74
2. DOI: 10.1158/1557-3265.COVID-19-PO-016 AACR Virtual Meeting: COVID-19 and Cancer; July 20-22, 2020
3. Annals of Oncology (2021) 32 (suppl_5): S1129-S1163. 10.1016/annonc/annonc713



The Dignity of Cancer

Dr. Jennifer Spratlin is a medical oncologist at the Cross Cancer Institute in Edmonton, Alberta. She has a personal interest in wellness, connection, and the beauty that can be found in a cancer journey. Through the intimate relationships she forms with her patients, she has the priceless privilege of witnessing inspiring strength, courage, and hope. She shares about these patient experiences and how they impact her in her blog "The Dignity Of Cancer".

www.thedignityofcancer.com

@thedignityofcancer



Dr. Jennifer Spratlin
Medical Oncology, Cross Cancer Institute
Associate Professor, University of Alberta
Gastrointestinal Oncology and Phase I Clinical
Trials/Investigational New Drugs
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Did you know CAMO members get a discount for publishing in Current Oncology?

Current oncology impact factor 3.677

Abstracts of the 2021 Canadian Association of Medical Oncologists Annual Meeting
by Jonathan Loree, Erin Powell, Sharlene Gill, Stephen Welch, Bruce Colwell and Desiree Hao
Curr. Oncol. 2021, 28(3), 204; <https://doi.org/10.3390/curroncol28030204> – 15 June 2021

As of today, the Article Metrics that the paper received are as follows:

Abstract Views = 1,263
Full-Text Views = 1,654
Download Times = 1,100
Citations = 0

3rd Annual Geriatric Oncology Conference

Friday, March 4, 2022 - Virtual Conference

Registration is now open!

Join us as we identify and address **Systemic Issues to Improve Outcomes for Older Adults with Cancer**
For the complete agenda and to register, [click here](#).

Tina Hsu, MD (Conference Chair) - Medical Oncologist, Ottawa

Got an idea for our next newsletter?

Send your announcements, write-up or ideas to
info@camo-acom.ca
with the subject line: "Next newsletter"
to have your contribution considered
for the next CAMO newsletter.