



REPORT

3rd Balkan and Eastern European Masterclass in Clinical Oncology

08-12 May 2013

Dubrovnik, Croatia

Chair: R. Popescu, CH/RO

Co-Chair: S. Beslija, BA

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

This clinically oriented residential educational programme has been designed for dedicated physicians wishing to improve their skills in the management of cancer patients.

The 3rd Balkan and Eastern European Masterclass is dedicated to clinicians who are specifically and almost exclusively dedicated to medical oncology, radiation oncology and surgical oncology (breast and colon). The programme will expose participants to a full spectrum of issues in clinical oncology and to practice-orientated training. The programme focuses on lung, GI and breast cancers.

TEACHING FORMAT

The Masteclass offers plenary lectures regarding the state-of-the-art clinical evaluation and treatments with reference to clinical guidelines and which conclude in taking-home messages. Furthermore, practical training will be offered in the frame of clinical case presentations prepared and presented by the faculty and participants for an interactive discussion.

All participants will reside at the masterclass venue and participation is compulsory throughout the course.

The Masterclass will be entirely in English and fluency in English is necessary for admission.

THE MASTERCLASS IS:

- A 3-day residential educational event
- Full immersion
- Clinically-oriented
- Multidisciplinary
- An international faculty of experts delivering lectures focusing on lung, GI and breast cancers

CME ACCREDITATION

The 3rd Balkan and Eastern European Masterclass in Clinical Oncology is accredited by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME) to provide the following CME activity for medical specialists. The EACCME is an institution of the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS), www.uems.net.

The 3rd Balkan and Eastern European Masterclass in Clinical Oncology is designated for up to 20 hours of European external CME credits. Each medical specialist should claim only those hours of credit that he/she actually spent in the educational activity.

Through an agreement between the European Union of Medical Specialists and the American Medical Association, physicians may convert EACCME credits to an equivalent number of AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Information on the process to convert EACCME credit to AMA credit can be found at www.ama-assn.org/go/internationalcme.

The programme is furthermore accredited with **15 ESMO-MORA cat. 1 points**.



The 3rd Balkan and Eastern European Masterclass in Clinical Oncology is an ESMO supported meeting

PROGRAMME

8 May

- 18:30 **Welcome address and general introduction**
R. Popescu, CH/RO - S. Beslija, BA
- 20:00 **Dinner**

9 May

LUNG CANCER

Chairs: T. Cufer, SI - D. Jovanovic, RS

- 8:00 **Pathology and molecular biology of lung cancer**
I. Kern, SI
- 8:20 **Diagnostic procedures, staging and surgery of lung cancer**
D. Jovanovic, RS
- 9:00 **Combined chemo-radiotherapy in lung cancer**
A. Juretic, HR
- 9:45 **Coffee break**
- 10:15 **Adjuvant/neoadjuvant systemic therapy in NSCLC**
T. Cufer, SI
- 11:00 **Systemic therapy for advanced NSCLC**
D. Cortinovis, IT
- 12:00 **Systemic therapy for SCLC**
D. Cortinovis, IT
- 13:00 **Lunch**
- 15:30-18:00 Case presentations and discussions with interactive voting**
Panellists: I. Kern, SI - D. Jovanovic, RS - A. Juretic, HR - T. Cufer, SI - D. Cortinovis, IT
- 18:15 **e-grandround "New targeted therapies and their cost effectiveness"**
Expert: I. Tannock, Princess Margaret Hospital, Toronto, CA
Discussant: M. Hutka, Royal Marsden Hospital, Sutton, UK
- 20:00 **Dinner**

10 May

GI CANCERS

Chairs: R. Popescu, CH/RO - E. Vrdoljak, HR

- 8:00 **Pathology of colorectal and gastric cancer**
G. Cserni, HU
- 8:30 **Systemic therapy for advanced colorectal cancer**
R. Popescu, CH/RO
- 9:20 **Optimal therapy for colorectal cancer with liver metastases**
J. Souglakos, GR
- 10:10 **Adjuvant chemotherapy for colorectal cancer: key messages**
J. Souglakos, GR
- 10:30 **Coffee break**
- 11:00 **Rectal cancer treatment**
E. Vrdoljak, HR
- 12:00 **Gastric and pancreatic cancer: key messages**
R. Popescu, CH/RO
- 13:00 **Lunch**
- 14:00-16:00 Case presentations and discussions with interactive voting**
Panellists: G. Cserni, HU - R. Popescu, CH/RO - J. Souglakos, GR
E. Vrdoljak, HR
- 16:45 Transfer from the Hotel to Dubrovnik old town
- 20:00 Transfer from Dubrovnik old town to the hotel
- 20:30 **Dinner**

11 May

BREAST CANCER

Chair: S. Beslija, BA - A. Costa, IT

- 8:00 **Pathology of breast cancer. Epidemiology in the Balkan region**
G. Cserni, HU
- 8:30 **Principles of surgery and radiotherapy for breast cancer**
J. Zgajnar, SI
- 9:00 **Principles of adjuvant chemotherapy and anti her2 treatment-issues on availability**
A. Eniu, RO
- 9:45 **Principles of adjuvant hormonal therapy for pre-and postmenopausal breast cancer patients**
S. Beslija, BA
- 10:30 **Coffee break**
- BREAST CANCER**
Chairs: T. Cufer, SI - A. Eniu, RO
- 11:00 **Principles of systemic neoadjuvant treatment (chemotherapy, antiHer2, hormonal) for locally advanced disease**
A. Eniu, RO
- 11:30 **Principles of treatment of metastatic disease: hormonal and chemotherapy treatment**
T. Cufer, SI
- 12:30 **Principles of treatment of metastatic disease: anti-Her2 treatment**
S. Beslija, BA
- 13:15 **Lunch**
- 15:30-18:00 Case presentations and discussions with interactive voting**
Panellists: S. Beslija, BA - G. Cserni, HU - T. Cufer, SI - A. Eniu, RO - J.Zgajnar, SI
- 18:15-
19:00 **Occupy Oncology: a report from the World Oncologic Forum**
F. Cavalli, CH
- 20:00 **Dinner**

12 May

PALLIATIVE CARE

Chair: R. Popescu, CH/RO - M. Sporis, RO

- 8:30 **Palliative care**
M. Sporis, RO
- 9:30 **Discussion and open questions (present faculty)**
- 10:00 **Closure**
R. Popescu, CH/RO

ATTENDANCE TO THE MASTERCLASS

Attendance to the masterclass was by application only.

Successful applicants were granted free registration and accommodation.

The application deadline was 3 March 2013.

Ideal Masterclass candidate profile:

- Age up to 40 years
- At least 2-3 years' experience mainly in medical oncology or clinical oncology
- Involvement in scientific activities
- Fluency in English

Application procedure:

Applicants had to fill in the application form and provide:

- Letter describing motivation for attending
- Supporting letter from head of department or mentor
- CV with list of publications (if the list of publications is not provided it will be assumed that no articles have been published)
- Abstract relating to one of the subjects of the Masterclass: lung cancer, gastro-intestinal cancers, breast cancer (The abstract of one page should describe a clinical case, not a clinical study, in the form of a clinical grand round with: Diagnostic considerations, treatment, results, follow-up, at least three questions proposed for discussion with the faculty)

EVENT STATISTICS

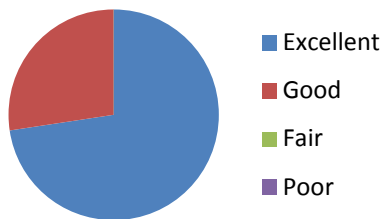
Speciality	
MEDICAL ONCOLOGY	12
CLINICAL ONCOLOGY	8
SURGERY	5
RADIATION ONCOLOGY	4
CHEMOTHERAPY	3
ONCOLOGY	3
SURGICAL ONCOLOGY	2
EPIDEMIOLOGY	1
GENERAL MEDICINE	1
INTERNAL MEDICINE	1
NOT SPECIFIED	1
ONCO-HAEMATOLOGY	1

Age	
Under 35	35
35-45	7
Over 45	0

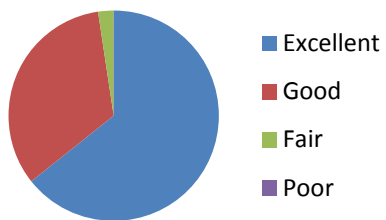
Country	
Russia	7
Romania	5
Serbia	5
Albania	4
Bulgaria	4
Poland	3
Belarus	2
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2
Croatia	2
Macedonia	2
Slovenia	2
Czech Republic	1
Greece	1
Hungary	1
Serbia and Montenegro	1

GENERAL EVALUATION

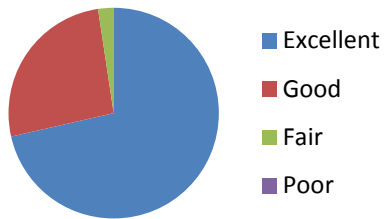
Achievement of the goals



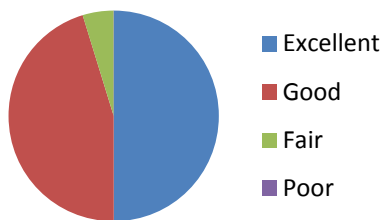
Usefulness of information



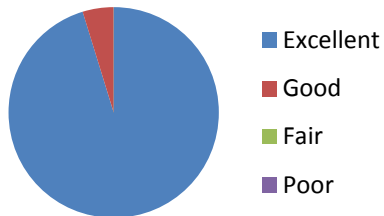
Evidence-based teaching



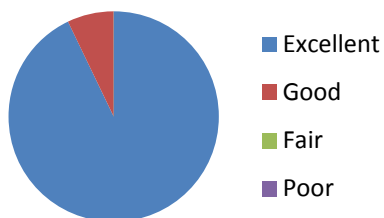
Interaction (among faculty and participants)



Course facilities



Course organisation



Teaching per topic (scoring 1-4):

Lung cancer	3,63
Gastro Intestinal cancers	3,66
Breast cancer	3,71
Palliative care	3,5

SUMMARY

Participants appreciated the high level of this educational event and the broad opportunities for informal discussion with the faculty during sessions and beyond.

Mediating oncological knowledge and principles in this way of full immersion in modern oncology created a collective spirit of teaching and learning to improving clinical skills and patient care.

The evaluation of the participants opinion (questionnaire focussing on programme objectives, programme organisation, course organisation, facilities, and faculty) indicated that the Masterclass met the needs of the participants on most of the items and highlighted the necessity of such an event. The results of this evaluation will be in particular useful to further improve the upcoming 4th Balkan and Eastern European Masterclass which will be held in 2014.

The European School of Oncology (ESO) is an independent organisation. It recognises that the industrial partners are crucial for the delivery of best cancer care and fosters the continuation of the dialogue and identification of synergies.

It restrains, however, the influence of marketing and strives to maintain its independence from the sponsors with whom it interacts with a neutral approach. Since its inauguration in 1982, ESO has been promoting cancer education in Europe and abroad. The original idea of the school is to fight against cancer in optimising training and updating competence of physicians and health care workers dealing with cancer patients in providing them with a comprehensive understanding of oncology - covering all aspects from epidemiology, screening, primary and secondary prevention, molecular-biology, diagnostic procedures, interdisciplinary treatment modalities, rehabilitation, palliative care, to psycho-oncological skills and promoting the importance of controlled randomised trials in clinical oncology. ESO's mission is reflected in its motto "Learning to Care", which stresses the concept of studying and learning and also of caring for the patient in a global sense. By improving the skills of all health professionals dealing with cancer patients, ESO shortens the length of time needed to transfer knowledge from advanced research centres to daily practice, combining advanced technology with humanism in care.

3rd Balkan and Eastern European Masterclass in Clinical Oncology Group-Photo

