



Navigating Your First SIO P Annual Congress

The SIO P Annual Congress will bring together over 2'000 leading clinicians and scientists from over 100 countries to share recent momentous scientific advances in the field of paediatric oncology. The congress will gather multidisciplinary groups allowing a global audience in this exciting field. Our congress represents a unique opportunity to stay up to date in this rapidly moving field and to bring the latest science to bedside. The congress will feature an immense number of clinical updates with a scientific programme!

While the congress offers a wide array of sessions and networking opportunities, the crowds and choices can be overwhelming.

To make your congress attendance a little easier, we have gathered some suggestions for first-time attendees:

BEFORE THE CONGRESS

Membership

Not a member yet? Join the SIO P Community today and save on registration!

SIO P continues to be at the forefront of education and research in paediatric oncology.

SIO P has over one thousand members worldwide and its annual congress is typically attended by 1,800 healthcare professionals from 110 countries. Join our SIO P Community now and help raise awareness for children and adolescents with cancer.

[Find out more](#)

Plan logistics early.

Hotel rooms for the congress get booked quite early, so consider booking your hotel well in advance. You may consider sharing a room with a friend. You can book your accommodation directly via our congress website or reach out to colleagues via our social media platforms.

Review the congress programme and plan ahead.

As there are several parallel sessions going on at any given time, it is helpful to have sessions of interest marked on our SIO P congress app. Plan ahead to make sure you register for this day!

[Find out more.](#)

Connect with friends/colleagues during the various social events.

The Annual Congress is a great place to connect with friends at other institutions during the various social events. Those include the Welcome Networking Reception, the SIO P Fun Run, SIO P Networking Event and Young Investigator Collaborative Event. More information on how to register can be found on the congress website under Networking Events.

[Find out more](#)

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DURING THE CONGRESS

Be prepared for walking.

The congress halls and exhibition area can be scattered around depending on the venue we are at and your day will involve a lot of walking. Wearing comfortable shoes is helpful. Another thing to keep in mind is to give yourself enough time to get to a meeting/must-attend session.

SIOP Booth.

The SIOP booth is a fantastic resource for trainees and early-career professionals. We are providing tables and a small sitting area where you can enjoy a coffee or snacks during the coffee breaks and exhibition hours. If you want to renew your membership, find out who is around or get to know more about our various committees, continental branches, awards, prizes etc. Don't miss the chance to visit us. We are also happy to promote any activity that is related to paediatric oncology and you are free to bring us flyers etc.

Networking.

The Annual Congress is a great place to connect with current fellows/program directors for future fellowship applications, with potential collaborators, and with recruiters to discuss job opportunities. If there are specific people you wish to meet, reach out beforehand to set up a meeting, you may use our members directory for that purpose. The Posters area in the exhibition area is also a great place for informal networking.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

We do understand that combining work and family can be a balancing act sometimes, especially in the early stages of your career. Whilst we do not offer any childcare services, we want to make sure you feel comfortable at our congress and kindly note the below:

Family Lounge

We have allocated a room in the venue to host our Family/Nursing lounge. Please check with the registration desk onsite for more details and the locations. This is a spacious quiet space where you can relax, take care of your baby or children and get away from the hustle and bustle of the congress. We do have some small essentials such as wet wipes etc. provided there for you as well.

Access to Conference Events / Children Younger than 18

All conference technical and networking events require a badge for admission. Registered attendees may bring children with them as long as they have been issued a badge. Registration badges for children under 18 are free and available at the registration desk onsite. Children under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult at all times, and guardians are asked to help maintain a professional, disturbance-free conference environment. Please also note that some content of scientific presentations and talks might not be appropriate for children.

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Exhibition Hall Access / Children Younger than 18

Everyone who attends the exhibition must be registered and have a badge. Badges for children are free and available onsite at the registration desk. Children under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult at all times. Guardians are asked to help maintain a professional, disturbance-free exhibition environment. Children under 18 are not allowed in the exhibition area during exhibition move-in and move-out. Please also note that some content of scientific posters and exhibition materials might not be appropriate for children.

AFTER THE CONGRESS

Congress proceedings.

It is nearly impossible to attend everything that is marked on your calendar. Thankfully, many of the sessions are recorded (they are highlighted in the programme with an icon) and available to view later in the SIOP Membership Area “My SIOP”). We will also make the abstracts, posters and presentations available there. Access to the congress materials is an exclusive SIOP membership benefit and a great resource.

Follow up with your networking contacts.

If you met someone during the congress for something specific, like a fellowship or job application, remember to follow up with them within a few days after the congress ends.

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT WHO IS WHO HERE!

The structure of SIOP and its different groups

The SIOP Board of Directors

The SIOP board are responsible for setting the vision, mission and goals of SIOP. They are also responsible for the day to day running of the Society. Each member of the board is an elected position lasting 3 years, except for the Executive Director who is employed by SIOP. The board consists of:

- Executive Director – Susanne Wollaert
- President – currently Eric Bouffet, changing in Lyon to Kathy Pritchard Jones
- Treasurer – Gregory Reaman
- Secretary – Scott Howard
- Scientific Committee Chair (who serves for 3 years) – currently Steve Hunger, changing in Lyon to Lillian Sung
- PODC co-chairs – Alan Davidson and Sandra Lune-Fineman
- Advocacy Chair – Giorgio Perilongo
- The six Continental Presidents

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The Scientific Committee

The Scientific Committee are primarily responsible for the organisation of the annual SIO P congress. They plan the programme, evaluate the submitted abstracts, and liaise closely with the Local Organising Committee to ensure that the whole congress runs smoothly.

[Find out more](#)

The Paediatric Oncology in Developing Countries (PODC)

This group lead on the work that SIO P does in developing countries. They have a number of working groups and taskforces, including: adapted treatment regimens; nursing; palliative care; Supportive care and Essential Drugs among others. They also run the CancerPOINTE network which is a fantastic resource for education and training (<https://cancerpointe.com/>).

[Find out more](#)

The PODC group run one stream of the Educational Day and then have further talks and sessions scattered throughout the congress.

Young Investigators (YI)

The SIO P YI Network is represents the interests of young investigators in the field of paediatric oncology. It provides a platform for young investigators to develop research and scientific skills, and facilitates an international research network with other young investigators in paediatric oncology. A YI is any SIO P member or associate member under the age of 40 years, from any clinical or academic background. The YI group run one stream of the Educational Day and have many other events throughout the congress.

[Find out more](#)

Advocacy

Advocacy is central to the vision of the International Society of Paediatric Oncology (SIO P) which is that “no child should die of cancer.” SIO P has a critical and important role in contributing towards the global reduction of infant and child mortality.

[Find out more](#)

Nursing Steering Committee

The SIO P Nursing Group is dedicated to improving the lives of children with cancer and their families worldwide.

[Find out more](#)

Paediatric Psycho-oncology (PPO)

This group at SIO P are committed to ensuring that psycho-oncology is considered as an active component of cancer treatment, counselling and rehabilitation. The group run a stream at the Educational Day and have further sessions at the congress. They have a regular newsletter which you can sign up for at the SIO P website.

[Find out more](#)

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Supportive Care

In 2007, Prof. Dr. T. Lehrnbecher (paediatric oncologist, JW Goethe University, Frankfurt Germany) and Dr.M.D. van de Wetering (paediatric oncologist AMC/Emma Childrens Hospital, Amsterdam, the Netherlands) discussed with the SIOP board the possibility of initiating a supportive care working group within SIOP. We agreed on not an official committee but a working group which provided a platform for a group of enthusiastic members who discuss supportive care issues within SIOP. As treatment becomes more complex, supportive care will have a major role in improving quality of care, decreasing morbidity and mortality.

[Find out more](#)

Nutrition Network

The Network's main objective is to facilitate the incorporation of evidence-based nutritional practice into the care of children and adolescents with cancer in order to improve clinical outcomes e.g. reduced therapy-related toxicities, prolonged survival and enhanced quality of life.

[Find out more](#)

Affiliated & Partnering Societies

International Society of Paediatric Surgical Oncology (IPSO)

IPSO is an affiliated society with SIOP, specifically for paediatric oncology surgeons. They hold their annual meeting at the SIOP congress and have a stream at the Educational Day, along with many other events during the programme.

[Find out more](#)

Paediatric Radiation Oncology Society (PROS)

PROS is an affiliated society with SIOP, focused on all professionals working in paediatric radiation oncology. They hold their annual meeting at the SIOP congress and have a stream at the Educational Day, along with many other events during the programme.

[Find out more](#)

Childhood Cancer International (CCI)

CCI is an umbrella organization of childhood cancer grassroots and national parent organizations. They are an affiliated society and take the lead on patient and parent involvement with SIOP. They have their own stream at the Educational Day along with many other events during the programme.

[Find out more](#)

Our Journal: Pediatric Blood and Cancer (PBC)

Pediatric Blood & Cancer, published monthly by Wiley-Blackwell, is the official journal of the International Society of Pediatric Oncology (SIOP) and ASPHO.

[Find out more](#)

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ALL ABOUT THE CONTINENTS

AFRICA

SIOP Africa works on several projects and campaigns such as PODC Twinning Projects and Wilms Tumor Project. Dr Laila Hessissen is the SIOP Africa Continental President.

The 13th SIOP African continental meeting was held on 6–9 March 2019 in Cairo. The meeting was organised in collaboration with the Children Cancer Hospital (57357) in Egypt and the global parents' organisation (Childhood Cancer International) and supported by a large international faculty. With 629 delegates from 37 countries (24 African), this was the largest forum of healthcare professionals focused on children and young people with cancer in Africa to showcase advances and discuss further improvements. The next ABM will take place during the SIOP 2019 Lyon Meeting from October 23-26.

[Find out more](#)



Dr. Laila Hessissen, SIOP Africa Continental President

ASIA

The Asian continental branch of SIOP has founded its own society, called SIOP Asia. This society is dedicated to enhancing cancer awareness, diagnosis and treatment of children. SIOP Asia aims at promoting optimal standards of care for children and young people with cancer.

The 50th Anniversary of SIOP 2018 Congress was successfully held in Kyoto from November 16th to 19th, 2018. The number of participants to SIOP2018 was 2,475 from 90 countries over the world, which was a new record in the 50 years history of SIOP. The XIIIth Congress of SIOP-Asia will be held from 27th to 29th March 2020 at Hotel Taj Lands End, Mumbai, India.

[Find out more](#)



Dr. Rashmi Dalvi, SIOP Asia Continental President

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EUROPE

The European Society for Paediatric Oncology (SIOP Europe or SIOPE), is the only pan-European organisation representing all professionals working in the field of childhood cancers. With more than 1,600 members across 34 European countries, today SIOPE is leading the way to ensure the best possible care and outcomes for all children and adolescents with cancer in Europe.

The SIOP Europe 2019 Annual Meeting was held in Prague, Czech Republic on 20-24 May 2019. This unique event included novel session formats, interactive workshops and forums in order to empower clinical trial groups to debate and disseminate the outcomes of the high quality clinical and basic research carried out in Europe. Next SIOP Europe Annual Meeting will be held in Valencia, Spain from 4-8 May 2020.

[Find out more](#)



Prof. Dr. Pamela Kearns, SIOP Europe Continental President

OCEANIA

The Australian and New Zealand Children's Haematology and Oncology Group (ANZCHOG) is our regional multidisciplinary professional paediatric oncology society and includes all SIOP Oceania members. ANZCHOG has a diverse and multifaceted role within the region. ANZCHOG acts to coordinate sponsors for clinical trials and has close working relationships with the COG and several European clinical trials groups.

[Find out more](#)



Prof. Michael Sullivan, SIOP Oceania Continental President

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LATIN AMERICA

The Latin American continental branch of SIOP called “Sociedad Latino Americana de Oncología Pediátrica A.C.” (SLAOP) was founded in 1979 by a group of pediatric oncologists in Montevideo (Uruguay) and aims to optimize the care of children with cancer residing in Latin America. Main SLAOP objectives include to establish accurate epidemiological regional data, consolidate and increase cooperative work groups, define evidence-based treatment protocols, enhance childhood cancer awareness and improve diagnosis and treatment of children with cancer in Latin America.

XXX SLAOP Meeting was held in Guayaquil, Ecuador from 2-5 April 2019, with the participation of more than 250 attendees. XXXI SLAOP 2020 Congress will be held in Asuncion, Paraguay during the days 1 to April 4, 2020.

[Find out more](#)



Dr. Arturo Moreno, SIOP Latin America Continental President

NORTH AMERICA

SIOP North America, which includes Canadian and United States-based members, has 193 members, 49 from Canada and 144 from the U.S. Of these, 37 members are new in 2015. SIOP North America membership has focused its work over the past years looking at two specific issues: how best to train physicians with interest in global oncology and how to engage North American physicians in meaningful efforts to improve outcomes for children with cancer globally.

[Find out more](#)



Dr. Lindsay Frazier, SIOP North America Continental President

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