



Review of IPOS Quality Standard

Introduction

This proposal recommends a review of the *IPOS Statement on Standards and Clinical Practice Guidelines in Clinical Care* to encompass the 2014 Lisbon Declaration.

Background

In October 2014 IPOS and IPOS Federation Members endorsed the Lisbon Declaration, calling for the recognition of psychosocial cancer care as a human right.

The Declaration builds on the work of IPOS to promote the IPOS Statement on Standards and Clinical Practice Guidelines in Clinical Care (the *IPOS Standard*), which states that:

1. Quality cancer care must integrate the psychosocial domain into routine care;
2. Distress should be measured as the Sixth Vital Sign after temperature, blood pressure, pulse, respiratory rate and pain.

Adopted by IPOS and the IPOS Federation in 2010, the initial objectives of the IPOS Standard were three fold:

1. To raise the profile of IPOS within the international cancer control community.
2. To create global support for the IPOS Standard through endorsement by key organisations and agencies.
3. To effect change to the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) *World Cancer Declaration* to promote adoption of the IPOS Standard.

These objectives have been achieved. Worldwide 74 organisations have formally confirmed their endorsement of the Standard, and in 2013 the World Cancer Declaration was revised to include the codification of distress screening:

Target 8: Effective pain control measures, and distress management, will be available to cancer patients in all countries.

Further, IPOS is now a regular member of the UICC World Cancer Leaders' Forum and is engaged in global discussions on cancer control through affiliation with the World Health Organisation and Non-Communicable Disease Alliance.

Next steps

The next steps are to build on these gains to better position IPOS and better promote the Standard, with a view to achieving the follow objectives:

- Codification of the IPOS Standard in key cancer control reference documents.
- Observance and promotion of the IPOS Standard by key organisations.
- Implementation of the IPOS Standard as routine practice in cancer management.

Review of IPOS Standard

Specifically, it is proposed that the IPOS Standard be revised to encompass the Lisbon Declaration, as follows:

- 1. Psychosocial cancer care should be recognised as a universal human right;*
- 2. Quality cancer care must integrate the psychosocial domain into routine care;*
- 3. Distress should be measured as the sixth vital sign after temperature, blood pressure, pulse, respiratory rate and pain.*

The revised draft Standard recognises recent advancements and acknowledges the ongoing need for representatives of psychosocial oncology and related alliances, federations, associations, organizations, interested parties, stakeholders, governments, and members of civil society to collaborate towards attainment of the highest standards of health and quality of life for cancer patients.

Necessary actions

Pending endorsement of the revised draft Standard by IPOS and the IPOS Federation, release of the Standard will be communicated to endorsing organisations and promoted more broadly.

An updated Standard would underpin efforts to build the presence of IPOS at major international and professional meetings and in leading journals and periodicals. It would also conform the standing of IPOS as one of the lead organisation in the cancer control community.

In addition, the revised draft Standard would assist in advocacy to embed psychosocial cancer care principles in the post-2015 global development framework.

Importantly, the actions described above will further the work of IPOS to collaborate and partner with leading international bodies and other high-level affiliates.

For Board and Federation consideration.

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