

**Final minutes Face-to-Face Meeting Advocacy WG  
Friday 11 April 2014, RMH London, 09.30 – 16.00 hrs**

**Participants:** Patrick Crombez (Co-Chair), Birgitte Grube (Co-Chair), Françoise Charnay-Sonnek, Sultan Kav, Katarina Lokar, Ineke Lokker, Mariska Mooijekind (Projects Manager)

**Not attending:** Per Fessé, Faith Gibson, Petra Riemer-Hommel, Paul Trevatt, Clair Watts

**09.30 hrs Welcome and Introductions**

BG welcomes all Working Group members present to the meeting, with a special mention of the new Working Group member, Ineke Lokker. Each of the participating WG members briefly introduce themselves, state their motivation for being on this Working Group and inform the other WG members on their main focus.

Apologies have been received from PF, PR-H, PT, CW. BG has spoken to FG the day prior to the meeting, at the EONS 30th Anniversary Event, where FG indicated that she wished to reconsider her participation in the group. BG and FG agreed to follow up by email soon. A suggestion for a new Working Group member has been received through Lena Sharp, who met the candidate at the Masterclass in March. It is agreed that at the moment there are no places available on the Working Group, but that the candidate would be invited to participate in one of the Task Groups.

**10.00 hrs Start of meeting**

BG starts the meeting notifying the WG members that it will be aimed for the meeting to finish at 14.45 hrs as the WG has received an invitation for a tour at RMH, starting at 15.00 hrs.

KL states that EONS / the Advocacy WG should not only advocate for cancer nurses, but more broadly, also for nursing in general.

**1. Review of Working Group's Terms of Reference (ToR)**

The current ToR document is to be provided to WG members for review. All WG members actively work on an update of the „Aims and Objectives“-part of the document of which the updated version is provided in a separate document. The top part of the ToR document is currently being revised centrally, to be applicable to all four EONS WGs.

IL has noticed the use of the terms „cancer nurses“, „oncology nursing“ and „nurses in cancer care“ in documents and on the website. The WG believes that this should be harmonised. The Board will need to be asked to decide on which term(s) to be used and the documents and web pages will need to be updated accordingly.

As the term „cancer nursing“ is preferred over the term „oncology nursing“ the question is being posed whether a name change for EONS is needed:

European Cancer Nursing Society (ECNS)? MM informs the WG members that this question also has come up at the Strategic Meeting of the EONS Board, last February. It was agreed for KL to prepare a Board paper on this

subject and that will provide it to BG & PC before 25 April. The WG chairs will bring it to the Board for discussion.

## 11.00 hrs Mid morning coffee break

### 2. Position Statements (90 mins)

#### - **Role of nurses in cancer care**

At the Advisory Council Meeting of last November the WG received the feedback from the membership that the Position Statement was very valuable (also on a national level), though was considered to be too long and not suitable for practical use. Therefore a Task Group (TG) was formed to work on a shorter version of the statement which was more practical in use. This document has been prepared by the TG and is shared with the group for information. After careful reading the WG agrees that it will not be possible to shorten the document (without losing content), but that it is more important for the Statement to be written in clearer, more understandable language. The original Position Statement and the updated version will be reviewed once more, with special attention to the first paragraph. Additionally a bullet point will be included on „cultural competence“. The TG (BG, IL & PF) will provide the WG with one updated version for review by late May.

#### - **Cultural competence in cancer care**

PC has prepared a first draft of the Position Statement, which is being shared with the group for review and feedback. The WG is of the opinion that the document provided is more a basis for an Educational Programme rather than a Position Statement. A TG is being formed (PC, FCS & PRH) that will further develop the paper and that will later on discuss possibilities for the Educational Programme with the Educational Programme. FCS can provide additional information on this as EFEC has a training course on this exact subject. The updated version of the paper will be ready for discussion by the WG for the conference call of early July.

#### - **Others needed?**

All WG members agree that it would be good to develop a Position Statement on personalised medicine. This will be discussed and planned for in the WG's cc of early July.

#### **Each CARE Working Group?**

The WG members are of the opinion that all EONS Position Statements should be placed under „About EONS“ on the website. Furthermore they think that it is not necessary for each of the four CARE WGs to have their own Position Statements.

- **A practical guidance** on best use of Statements for National Society Members needs to be developed. A TG is formed (SK, PC & CW) that will provide a draft document prior to the conference call of early July.

### 3. EONS Advocacy web pages (60 mins)

The WG's web pages require (regular) review and updating. The WG chairs will work on a full update together and aim to have all pages updated prior to the cc of October.

### 13.00 hrs Lunch

### 4. How to advocate on a European level (90 mins)

#### - Need for a strategic plan

The WG members agree that the following **two items** need to be incorporated in the strategic plan:

- Recognition of cancer nursing on EU-level
- Active assistance to National Member Societies to advocate at a national level

The **goals** of the plan are considered to be the following:

- To have cancer nursing recognised as a specialty in all European countries
- For „cancer nurse“ to be a protected title
- To get the training required to be defined

The Post-basic Core Curriculum is considered to be a very valuable document which could be very useful to the group.

FCS provides all WG members with the brochure „A new professional qualifications regime for Europe“. The brochure provides information on the revised Professional Qualifications Directive, which will make it easier for professionals to move around the EU. When 9 EU countries (or more) will adopt this new measure for cancer nursing the directive will be adopted and cancer nursing is automatically recognised as a specialty in their country. The WG is informed on this and will consider to incorporate this in the Strategic Plan.

The WG chairs, BG and PC, are planning a meeting with Martine Piccart of ECCO, who has kindly indicated that she was willing to help EONS to advocate on a European level. They will also contact Ingrid van de Neucker of ECCO, who is responsible for the advocacy policy of ECCO, and try to schedule a meeting with Ingrid on the same day as with Martine Piccart.

Hopefully EONS will receive valuable information in these two meetings, that will help the WG in setting up the Strategic Plan. BG and PC will feedback to the WG members on these actions.

- Request from ESTRO to participate in a multidisciplinary Working Group to comment on the ESMO position paper „The current and future role of the medical oncologist in the professional care for cancer patients“

The WG members consider this to be a request for political engagement and therefore believe this decision should be taken by the EONS Board, rather than by the WG. BG will communicate this to EvM, the EONS President.

- Request from EAHP (= European Association of Hospital Pharmacists) to engage in „COST“ initiative. This is an initiative to obtain funding from the European Commission to support a research network on Medicines Shortages (& Patient Risks)  
FCS will follow up to the WG members on this subject and will provide (further) background information. Furthermore BG will ask CW for further information, to be able to take a well considered decision on whether or not to engage in the initiative.

**14.45 hrs End of Meeting**