

## **Recruitment to EONS Young Cancer Nurse Network**

Dear Presidents, Chairs and National Cancer Nursing Society Leads,

I am writing to introduce myself as the recently appointed EONS young cancer nurse (YCN). As such, I have joined the EONS board as a non-executive member (non-voting position) to represent the views of European YCN community. For several years, EONS has highlighted the concerns expressed by younger cancer nurses and the challenges that they have faced. Many YCNs struggle to find full time employment, or are unable to access education and training. It is also recognised that many are having to leave their home countries to find employment elsewhere; thus, placing a further strain on the local workforce and healthcare infrastructure. YCNs also want to be recognised by and more connected to their national societies. Further information can be found on our website <http://www.cancernurse.eu/communication/youngcancernurses.html>

Part of my role as the YCN board member is to develop a network of such nurses across Europe. The network would represent all the different EONS member countries and national societies. Its role would be to identify the challenges, concerns and issues that younger cancer nurses face and to begin to develop solutions and agreed actions via a peer-to-peer supportive environment. My role is to act as an ambassador for this network and ensure that the EONS board are regularly updated.

To develop the network, I need your help and support in identifying a national YCN representative from your country (the job description is outlined below). It is important that societies are free to identify how to choose their young nurse, for example, the individual may already be on their national cancer nursing society board (or not), the individual may be actively involved in one of the working groups (or not), or the individual may be known to EONS (or not). Simply put, all I would need is a name and the assurance that they meet the job description below:

### **Job Description – Young Cancer Nurses (YCN)**

The national YCN representative must:

- Be 30 years of age or under
- Belong to their EONS national society
- Work with cancer patients on a regular basis
- Have more than two years of professional experience
- Understand, speak and write English

### **Role and Responsibility – The national YCN representative will be expected to:**

- Outline the concerns and challenges facing YCNs in his/her country
- Begin to develop a YCN community in his/her country and some strategies/solutions to address the issues identified, working in partnership with the national society and EONS
- Regularly update the EONS YCN team
- Raise the profile of YCNs on social media, in collaboration with the national society and EONS

I hope that each society will want to be kept informed of what is happening within the YCN European network. As such, each of you will develop your own internal communication strategies

for being kept up to date, some may want to receive written reports from your YCN, others may value regular oral presentations to your society board, others something different. It's important that you get to choose the method most suitable for your country and society.

While this looks like a substantial request, EONS believes that this is an amazing opportunity for the personal and professional development of a YCN in your country. Although the current YCN generation is known for digital entrepreneurship and being fully engaged with new technology, we also know that, in some cases, technology and social media are not enough. We need face-to-face contact, we need ambassadors. EONS needs a team of enthusiastic young people, who are motivated to raise the profile of YCNs and cancer nursing in their own country and across Europe.

I would appreciate if could send the name of your nominee no later than 30 September 2017, to [eons.secretariat@cancernurse.eu](mailto:eons.secretariat@cancernurse.eu)

I look forward to hearing from you and would be happy to answer any questions that you might have or receive any comments or opinions.

Yours sincerely,

*Sara Torcato Parreira*  
MSc, RN  
Cancer Nurse Specialist  
EONS Board Member (non-executive)