Editorial

We are all going through tough times, the pandemic – hopefully coming to an end-, the Ukrainian war and many other obstacles that make life not easy. But despite of all these challenges we were able to meet in person again this year. We had our annual meeting in Sevilla, the biology meeting in Marseille and also the SIOP meeting in Barcelona, where we could sit together, discuss many topics, and last but not least could have dinner together. We all enjoyed and were all happy to come back to normal life and out of the increasing number of Zoom-conferences. We are all looking forward for the upcoming meetings in 2023, where we hope to see you all again.

Besides all the difficulties we were facing, we made a lot of progress in SIOP-RTSG. UMBRELLA and Randomet are running and recruiting patients. All panels and subgroups of SIOP-RTSG were very active resulting in many publications. Our collaboration with COG, shown in HARMONICA, intensified and more than 10 papers were written and will be published in a special issue of Pediatric Blood & Cancer. The SIOP-RTSG association is settled and gets stronger. But we are lacking many of you as a member. Therefore, we invite all of you, if not already done, to join our association.

In this issue of the newsletter, we have again many interesting articles about our work. We hope that you can enjoy reading all of them. We would be happy to get your feedback and maybe in the next issue we can also include articles from you as members of our fantastic group fighting for the cure of all children with kidney tumours.

Now, at the end of the year, it is our pleasure to wish you a Merry Christmas and a healthy New Year, for you, your families, and friends. Hopefully we see each other in 2023!

Norbert Graf
Gordan Vujanic
The inclusion of patients in the SIOP-RTSG-2016-UMBRELLA Study started in June 2019. Since then, 26 countries (in Europe, Asia and South America) have been initiated. More than 2000 unique patients have been registered so far, including 17% non-WT, and 86 patients that were registered at relapse (not upfront UMBRELLA treated).

In June 2022 the first amendment was approved, which is available on the SIOP-RTSG website.
In 2023 we will focus on completing data from registered patients of the first inclusion years of the study, and to collect biological data to answer the primary study question.
The randomized controlled trial SIOP-RTSG Randomet 2017, exploring the non-inferiority of upfront Vincristine, Carboplatin and Etoposide compared to standard Vincristine, Dactinomycin and Doxorubicin, has been opened in Germany since late 2021.

This was made possible after a challenging multi-site initiation visit by the Randomet Coordinating Team and the GPOH gGmbH representative with the presence of 125 local investigators and study nurses from more than 50% of the 47 German centres. Meanwhile, other sites were initiated in Germany.

In 2022, Switzerland, France, Austria and Belgium have also been initiated. As per December 2022, 59 centres are initiated in these 5 countries. In early 2023, 28 additional centres will be initiated in France.

Czechia and Denmark will soon be initiated. The National Coordinating Centres in Italy, Spain, Brazil and the Netherlands are currently in the process of submitting the protocol to the Competent Authorities and are expected to be initiated in 2023. It is envisaged to include further interested countries as, for example, Hungary, Sweden, Poland, and Greece as soon as possible. The remaining envisaged countries are searching for national funding and/or are preparing submission to the various (as per country) required steps, such as Research Councils, Competent Authorities, Ethical Committee, parents’ organizations, etc. These subsequent steps are obviously time-consuming for the NCCs as well as the Coordinating Team of the RANDOMET study and the data management team in the PMC.

As the contract between the Sponsor GPOH gGmbH and the PMC Data Center was finalized in 2021, the last hurdles could be discussed between the Coordinating Institute in Homburg, the sponsor and the PMC concerning the vast area of data management. Some remaining administrative hurdles persist that hopefully will be tackled by the Sponsor.

Nevertheless, patient accrual has started, and the first patient was randomized «VCE» in Germany in late February 2022. As per December 2022, 12 patients were randomized: 10 in Germany and 2 in Switzerland. Recruitment is planned to last roughly 5 to 6 years with an interim analysis after accruing 50% of patients. After the last administrative hurdles being tackled, we hope you are as excited as we are.

The results of this randomized trial will be of interest for all patients with stage IV renal tumours and potentially for other patients with Wilms tumour.

We want to thank everybody supporting the project, most notably the teams in Homburg, Utrecht and Essen for their long-lasting implication.
For several years the collaboration between the Children’s Oncology Group - Renal Tumor Committee, and the SIOP-RTSG has been strengthened by monthly video calls, and collaborative initiatives to improve outcomes for children with renal cancer. This collaboration is called HARMONIzation and CollAboration (HARMONICA) and is coordinated by chairs of COG-RTG and SIOP-RTSG. In 2022, this group worked on a specific initiative, i.e., on a special issue for the Pediatric Blood and Cancer journal. This special issue mainly focussed on Wilms tumour and was generated by collaboration of >100 co-authors representing panels and subcommittees and included young investigators as well as colleagues from low and middle income countries.

Members of COG and SIOP-RTSG are welcome to join the initiative of HARMONICA

There are already many collaborative efforts in HARMONICA achieved. A collection of these efforts will be given in an upcoming issue of Pediatric Blood & Cancer. At the end of the editorial, it is written: “Through sharing of ideas, data, and research on an international level, efforts like HARMONICA hold promise to move the pediatric renal tumor field in the direction that benefits all children with renal tumors globally. Nevertheless, access to such high-tech innovations and molecular driven personalized treatment developments, including advanced and novel surgical and radiotherapeutic techniques, need to be enhanced in low- and middle-income countries.”

HARMONICA Chairs:
Prof. Dr. James Geller
Prof. Dr. Marry M. van den Heuvel-Eibrink
Data Management

By Harm van Tinteren, Prakriti Roy, Sandra van der Kroef, Ingrid Schut, Danny Baars, Marry vd Heuvel-Eibrink

Now more than 1950 patients have been registered in the EDC system ALEA and together with the patients registered in Obtima, the UMBRELLA study includes over 2000 registrations. New countries are initiated at a regular pace (see the regular newsflash).

Recently, Prakriti Roy, the central data manager went on maternity leave and therefore her duties have now been temporarily taken over by Ria. Ria was the central data manager during the SIOP 9301 study. Some will remember her from that period and so she is well acquainted with kidney tumors.

The data of the SIOP9301 and the SIOP2001 studies are now ready to be uploaded into a copy of the UMBRELLA study. This means an extensive and in-depth process of mapping old forms and items to the current set of items and forms. In addition, data from many different sources must then be mapped to the variables (names and codes) in the new dataset, or sometimes additional variables must be created. Ingrid Schut has been doing that monk's work for several months now, often in consultation with experts from a particular discipline. The overall work is done but the "loose ends" still require some time. Ultimately, however, this will result in a dataset that can be followed up prospectively in the future, and in which more details (and corrections) can also be made so that these data will have lasting and even added value.

A few projects are now nearly final (bilaterals and blastemal volume) and other projects have been taken up and are discussed with the surgical and radiotherapy disciplines. Together with the Radiotherapy subcommittee, we are exploring the possibilities of sharing data between the QUARTETT/EORTC database where radiotherapists upload their images and discuss their planning and the ALEA database.

News from Biology Panel

By Manfred Gessler

The SIOP-RTSG biology group has two main tasks: ensuring high-quality biobanking to support our clinical studies and future decision making (1q gain analysis, etc.), but also to provide a forum to coordinate research efforts and to exchange ideas and materials for cutting-edge science on pediatric renal tumors.

Main topics at the spring online meeting were the mission statement of the biology panel, liquid biopsy studies, collection of vital tumor specimens and 1q gain analyses in UMBRELLA and Randomet and options for participation.

Talks from the labs of Lieve Tytgat (NL) and Bram de Wilde (BE) provided an update on the current state of copy number and mutations screening in liquid biopsy samples as well as the potential of methylation analyses to classify tumors.
Jarno Drost (NL) explained the requirements for collection of vital tumor tissue for organoid cultivation. Even if it represents an ambitious endeavor as it takes weeks to establish and screen cultures, this may become a valuable tool especially for relapse cases to gain additional information on drug sensitivity.

A major topic at the meeting were logistics for sample collection and 1q gain analysis to evaluate its potential as a biomarker as part of the UMBRELLA and Randomet protocols. Analyses will be performed on two levels. A small number of labs will work on high resolution analysis of copy number alterations from whole genome or whole exome sequencing. This will define the framework for subsequent incorporation of additional confirmatory data from other participating labs that can also be based on different methodologies like arrays or MLPA. This will allow us to maximize the number of samples and to include efforts from as many countries as possible.

While raw numbers of available samples already look promising and suggest that we are on track to reach the numbers needed for statistical power, the availability of complete clinical data and follow-up information will be critical. The results from 1q gain analyses will be an important piece of information to guide our planning of future studies to follow UMBRELLA.

In April 2022 the Lab Manual for collecting biomaterials has been updated to eliminate ambiguities. It can be found on the SIOP-RTSG web site in the download section of the UMBRELLA protocol.

There was no meeting of the biology group in the fall since most of the members participated in the Renal Tumor Biology Meeting in Marseille (see page 22).
With the pandemic finally (and hopefully, definitively) out of the way, we have continued not only with our work on delivering rapid central pathology review, but also re-started regular review meetings with national/regional pathology panels. Since the last Newsletter, we had ‘live’ review meetings in Rome (April 2022), Seville (June 2022, prior to the SIOP-RTSG Annual meeting), and Bratislava (September 2022), and a virtual meeting (December 2022, reviewing the cases from the Dutch Panel), and we have reviewed ~550 cases in total. However, with an ever-increasing number of new cases, we are making a slow progress towards catching up with the backlog from a 2-year forced Covid-related interruption in our work, so we have decided to have not only live review meetings, but also virtual / online meetings with the Panels that have facilities to scan the cases. We also continued with the practice to invite pathologists from the participating centres to attend our meetings, which gives them a unique opportunity to see hundreds of cases and gain experience in how to deal with them in their own practice.
Our members have published a number of papers on pathology and contributed to other projects (please see the list of publications in this Newsletter).


News from the Radiology Panel

By Jens-Peter Schenk, Hervé Brissé, Annemieke Littooij, Justine van der Beek

The radiology panel is the representative of the radiologists involved in research studies of the SIOP-RTSG association and is responsible for the data collection with radiology forms in the Umbrella protocol and Randomet protocol for stage IV Wilms tumours.

In continuation of the work of 2021 the panel initiated a study for Non-Wilms Tumors with members of the panel with a high amount of registered Non-WT, e.g. rhabdoid tumors and clear cell sarcomas. The study is organized by Justine van der Beek and Annemieke Littooij from the Princess Máxima Center for Pediatric Oncology in Utrecht. Participating countries are, based on long experience with MRI in the national reference radiology program, Germany, Spain, the UK, Italy and The Netherlands. To be able to use a case report form for tumor characteristics on an international level, an interrater agreement study is currently conducted online with anonymous data of tumors. Study data collection will continue in 2023.

Reference radiology in participating countries is organized by national groups in different ways in their own responsibility using the F2R forms of the Umbrella protocol and is still proceeding in 2022. F2R forms are used in ALEA and OPTIMA platforms. In Germany the mdpe-Server is working since 2022 for all participating German oncology centers and replaced the conventional reference radiology system completely.

Members of the panel are involved in clinical studies of the SIOP-RTSG panels. Carlo Morosi from Milano (Italy) is representative of our group in imaging questions to tumor relapse.
The radiology panel was involved in the HARMONICA project, especially in the conception of review articles of imaging protocols in COG and SIOP-RTSG protocols:


News from the Radiotherapy Panel
By Patrick Melchior and Geert Janssens

The radiotherapy panel represents all radiation oncologists with a special interest in paediatric renal tumors, who would like to be involved in SIOP-RTSG-related projects and/or stay informed of the latest developments.

In several virtual meetings in 2021 and 2022, our group has experienced a growing number of interested international radiotherapists. Under the direction of the past-chair Prof. Christian Rübe, on 17 March 2022, our panel organized its first election for the position of chair and co-chair of the radiotherapy panel for a period of three years. Unanimous support of the panel members was given to the nominated candidates Patrick Melchior (elected chair) and Geert Janssens (elected co-chair). The radiotherapy panel would like to thank Prof. Christian Rübe for successfully chairing the radiation oncology panel and his contribution to the field of paediatric renal tumors over the past decade.

For the next coming year, the radiotherapy panel will proceed with projects like international standardization of radiotherapy concepts in kidney tumors, collaboration with the COG (Harmonica), optimizing data collection and retrospective radiation-related analyses based on merged databases of recent SIOP studies (SIOP-2001, 93-01 and SIOP-UMBRELLA), as well as the integration of modern irradiation techniques safely into daily radiation practice. Modern irradiation techniques allow high-precision dose delivery to complex target volumes, while minimizing the risk of late sequelae to surrounding normal tissues especially if target volumes are reduced and focused on area at risk\(^1,2\). Based on the consensus guidelines for modern highly conformal flank irradiation, which take postoperative changes of the surgical retroperitoneal cavity and organ shift into account, a prospective European multicentre study is in a well advanced stage of implementation and will apply pre-treatment quality assurance in collaboration with SIOPe and EORTC. The primary aim of this non-randomized observational study comparing conventional and modern irradiation techniques will be to observe the pattern of relapse from target volume reduction. In addition, toxicity and interobserver target volume and treatment plan variation will be evaluated. All target volumes and treatment plans, uploaded by the participating centres, will be verified real time by one of the four panel experts via the international Radiation-Treatment-Quality-Assurance (RTQA)-Platform (QUARTET) before start of radiation treatment. All data collected via QUARTET will be preserved and facilitated for future clinical research of radiation-related questions. In July 2022, the QUARTET team of SIOP-RTSG were able to overcome last hurdles. The tripartite contract between the sponsor (University of Saarland), SIOPe and EORTC was signed. In the comment months, the QUARTET group of SIOP-RTSG will finalize the last administrative tasks and pursue to recruit their first patient early 2023.

Current active SIOP-RTSG core group members of the radiotherapy panel:

- Patrick Melchior (Chair, Germany)
- Christian Rübe (Germany)
- Daniel Saunders (United Kingdom)
- Emmanuel Jouglar (France)
- Geert Janssens (Co-Chair, The Netherlands)
- Davila Fajardo (The Netherlands)
- Xavier Muracciole (France)
- Karin Dieckmann (Vienna)

New interested members:

- Yasmin Lassen, Denmark
- Monika Ramos, Spain
- Alexopoulou, Aikaterini, Greece
- Sabina Vennarini, Italy
- Daiva Sendiuliene, Lithuania
- Stephane Supiot, France
- Henriette Magelssen, Norway
- Wen Shen Looi, Singapore
- Britta Weber, Denmark
- Eduardo Weltman, Brazil
- Agata, Szulc (Poland)
- Stephane Supiot, France
All radiation oncologists interested in paediatric renal tumours are very welcome to join the radiotherapy panel of SIOP-RTSG.

References:

News from the Surgical Panel

By Jan Godzinski

Dear Friends and Colleges,

Time runs fast. Pandemic seems over and normal life and normal activities are back. This year we had great annual SIOP RTSG Committee meeting in Sevilla (thanks a lot Gemal!) and fantastic SIOP Congress in Barcelona. Our group was transformed formally into the association. Surgeons developed new prospective projects like the use of tracers (ICG) and its prospective evaluation. Also older, and retrospective plans pending thus far due to the problems with data and statistical work-up finally look to get on the right way and it should be possible to work upon soon (thanks a lot Harm!).

But we are also making plans for future. The consultation platform of a new type is nearly ready. There will be a need for experienced surgeons but also younger colleges to observe and learn. Some candidates declared they wish to participate but the list is not closed of course. And we are planning our next committee meeting. I am more than happy that I can announce that this important event will be organized in my place and invite All of You more than cordially to Wroclaw, Poland in June 2023.

Prof. J. Godzinski MD PhD
jgodzin@wp.pl
Chair of the Surgical Panel of the SIOP RTSG (Renal Tumours Study Group)
Head of Dept. of Paed. Surgery, Marciniak Hospital,
Fielorfa 2, 54-049 Wroclaw, Poland
+48-71-3064389 (secr), +48-71-3064415 (direct)
The ECO group has successfully met online during the year. We continue to work together with the different sub-specialities to aim to inform ourselves further regarding the epidemiology of the renal tumours affecting children. Prakriti Roy has performed a retrospective study looking at the impact of COVID on presentation and stage of diagnosis and she is hoping to be able to publish this in 2023. There is to be an additional form adding to the end of treatment forms to allow us to register more information regarding both phenotype and genotype of children with renal cancers registered on UMBRELLA. This will help inform planned study looking at prevalence and associations with WT predisposition genes. We are in the early stages of planning a joint study between PANCARe SURFUp and SIOP RTSG looking at late mortality in children treated for Wilms tumour. Other upcoming projects are plans are roll out of study looking at route to diagnosis and how this relates to both tumour volume and stage. Please see attached article in JCO regarding the BENCHISTA project. There is also a plan to have joint working with bilateral group to look at epidemiology and outcomes of children with bilateral disease. There is also work around PPIE workshops with Angela Polanco.

There is ongoing discussion regarding engagement with the Datacommons project and members of the group have been involved with HARMONICA led collaboration producing special edition of PBC.

We are a new group and very enthusiastic and keen to have more members from all the subspecialities involved with children with renal tumours. I have taken over the chair from Professor Pritchard-Jones – please feel free to email me if interested in joining the group (catriona.duncan@gosh.nhs.uk). We aim to meet four times a year.
Information about the Association  
By Marry van den Heuvel-Eibrink and Arnauld Verschuur

On the 16 June 2021, the SIOP-RTSG Association was officially founded. In late 2021 membership recruitment started, and currently 148 full members have been registered and 10 Associate and Honorary members, from more than 30 countries.

The Executive Board has been established in 2022 and was approved by the General Assembly. This group includes (names and portfolio):

1. Prof. Dr. M.M. van den Heuvel-Eibrink, Chair
2. Prof. Dr. N. Graf, past chair SIOP-RTSG
3. Dr. A. Verschuur, Vice-Chair
4. Prof. Dr. F. Spreafico, Secretary General
5. Dr. H. van Tinteren, Treasurer and Database and Statistics
6. Prof. Dr. R. Furtwangler, Database and Datamanagement
7. Prof. Dr. M. Gessler, Research portfolio, Biology
8. Dr. T. Chowdhury, Research portfolio, Clinical

The EB has bi-weekly Zoom meetings and had 1 full-day brainstorming meeting in September 2022 and the following achievements have been made:

- The various functions within the EB have been defined with anticipated flexibility.
- Currently, the procedures and logistics for research proposal handling, are being reconsidered.
- The archiving structure of the Association is being built.
- To make the Association financially robust, activities are including grant applications as well as retrieval of donations through (charity and parent organizations) of individual countries. This will enable to recruit future professional personnel, to support the SIOP-RTSG’s organisation, activities, and scientific deliveries. As such, Mrs Reem Al-Saadi, Senior Translational Research Manager at GOSH (London), has been temporarily delegated to the SIOP RTSG Association to support the Research Coordination.
- Together with the Steering Committee (SC), the Executive Board (EB) also works on the design of an international consultation system (Dr J. Brok, Prof. Dr. J. Godzinski, Dr. G. Ramirez).
- Communication with SIOPe has started on more intensive collaboration with SIOP-RTSG.

The Steering Committee, as per the Bylaws of the Association, consists of all EB members as well the chairs of all SIOP RTSG subcommittees and panels. It is the ultimate decision-making organ of the Association (for major strategic and scientific decisions). The SC meets every 2-3 months and is updated in the meantime by the EB on major issues regarding the Association.

WE INVITE YOU ALL TO JOIN THE SIOP-RTSG ASSOCIATION
Application Forms are available on our website after registration for the Intranet:  
http://siop-rtsg.org/index.php/association
Update on: Engagement of young members of the paediatric oncology community in SIOP-RTSG
By Christa König, Jesper Brok and Filippo Spreafico

Since 2021, SIOP-RTSG has started the initiative to engage young investigators within SIOP-RTSG. The objective is to identify dedicated young investigators (YI) with a special interest in paediatric renal tumours and to engage them in the different panels of the SIOP Renal Tumour Study Group. A first call was launched in October 2021 and nine YIs could be recruited.

They have very different backgrounds (paediatric oncology, clinical genetics, radiology or paediatric surgery) and are coming from seven different countries (Croatia, France, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, United Kingdom and Switzerland).

Each YI was allocated to a mentor and/or a panel within SIOP-RTSG, where they now work on different projects. Some were also engaged in the Harmonica project.

The feedback concerning the initiative was very enthusiastic and several YIs approached the coordinators after presenting it at the SIOP-RTSG meeting in Seville. Therefore, a second call was launched 2022, again with the aim to have a formalized process and to give an equal chance to every YI interested to work with SIOP-RTSG.

So far, we are very positive and impressed by both, the effort of the YIs and the openness of SIOP-RTSG members to make this initiative fruitful.

We are seeking enthusiastic and committed young investigators (YIs) interested in renal tumours to get involved in the SIOP Renal Tumour Study Group (RTSG).

Requirements:
- Young investigator (e.g. ped. oncology, radiology or surgery fellow...)
- Enthusiastic, dynamic and keen to get involved
- Ideally interested in a longer commitment within the field of renal tumours
- Prior involvement in clinical or research projects is desirable but not mandatory

We will try to involve suitable candidates within the different panels of SIOP-RTSG. Application from all over the world are welcome.

Send your written application to: christa.koenig@insel.ch (YI-RTSG coordinator)

Application Deadline: 01.01.2023

08.11.2022
Lithuania

By Rolanda Nemaniene and Jelena Rascon

Vilnius University Hospital Santaros Klinikos, Children’s Hospital is one of the two University hospitals in Lithuania. The Children’s Hospital is located in Vilnius and provides comprehensive care for young patients ranging from infants to 18-year-olds.

The Centre for Pediatric Oncology and Hematology (CPOH) is the largest centre for pediatric oncological diseases in Lithuania where patients receive complex treatment (chemotherapy, surgery, radiotherapy, hematopoietic stem cell transplantation, immunotherapy). It is a specialized centre for childhood cancer and rare non-malignant blood diseases where children from Lithuania as well as from other countries (Latvia, Ukraine) receive professional medical care and treatment. Also, children with severe immune deficiencies and selected metabolic diseases are treated as well.

Every year our centre has 50-60 newly diagnosed patients with cancer. Most are being treated for blood cancer. The number of patients with solid tumours is low. We have 2-3 new patients with kidney cancer per year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treatment protocol</th>
<th>Total N</th>
<th>N of Events</th>
<th>Censored N</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SIOP 93-01/GPOH</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>76.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIOP 2001</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>90.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Umbrella</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>86.9%</td>
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Over the last three decades, we have used three different treatment protocols for Wilms tumours: SIOP 93-01/GPOH, SIOP 2001, and since 2019, Umbrella. The analysis of overall survival based on different treatment protocols showed a trend for improvement (shown in the figure).

Increased clinical experience, improved radiological and pathological diagnostics, newer treatment protocols and more accessible international collaboration were the main factors that influenced higher overall survival.

Since 2021, Vilnius University Hospital Santaros Klinikos (VUL SK) has acted as a coordinator of the TREL (Twinning in Research and Education to Improve Survival in Childhood Solid Tumours in Lithuania) project. The main coordinator of the TREL project is Professor Jelena Rascon.
This 3-year project aims to improve the treatment and survival of children with malignant tumours in Lithuania (renal tumours, brain tumours and neuroblastoma), actively initiating scientific activities and adopting the knowledge of more experienced partners.

Implementing the UMBRELLA protocol at VUL SK is one of the goals of the TREL project.

Thanks to the TREL project we have started:

- A radiology review for childhood renal tumours, to provide quality-assured tumour staging by radiologist Dr Annemieke Littooij (Princes Maxima Centrum, Utrecht, Netherlands);
- A central pathology review to optimize pathological diagnostics by pathologist Dr Ellen D’Hooghe (Oslo University Hospital, Rikshospitalet, Oslo, Norway);
- Biomaterial sample collection and storage according to Umbrella protocol guidelines; and
- Discussion of difficult clinical cases.

Also, our multidisciplinary team (paediatric oncologist, paediatric surgeon and radiotherapist) visited the Princes Maxima Centrum (PMC) in Utrecht, Netherlands. The secondment was focused on an order to take over the state-of-art practice in renal tumour management and on speeding up the integration of all members of the multidisciplinary team into the UMBRELLA study group.

The SIOP-RTSG Umbrella protocol is not open in Lithuania, but preliminaries are being completed prior to starting the site initiation visit. We are excited to be participating in the SIOP-RTSG Umbrella, which will help to improve short- and long-term outcomes for children with renal tumours.

**Peru**

*By Cynthia Gutierrez, Pediatric Oncologist, Coordinator for Pediatric Renal Tumors and Principal Investigator of SIOP Umbrella National Centre of Peru, Department of Pediatric Oncology at Instituto Nacional de Enfermedades Neoplasicas*

The Instituto Nacional de Enfermedades Neoplasicas (INEN) is one of the first specialized Institutes in the country with Category III-2, highlighting the efficiency and high specialization that is provided in the management of cancer prevention and treatment in Peru. It is located in the city of Lima and is the national reference centre for paediatric cancer patients. It attends an average of eight hundred new paediatric patients per year that include all types of cancer.

We only have three cancer centres outside Lima and they are located in cities like Arequipa, Huancayo and Trujillo. In Arequipa there is only one Paediatric Cancer Service, that is why our institute covers the largest number of patients in the entire country.

About 55% of patients with renal tumors came from outside Lima.

There is about thirty-eight cases of Wilms tumours per year, most of them in stages III and IV due to difficulties in accessing Lima due to geographic location, sociocultural level, and economic factors that delay diagnosis.
According to our Wilms Tumour data from 2017 to 2019 we have the following results: the peak age at diagnosis was 3.5 years (from 2 months to 10 years) with a female predominance (60% of cases), the percentage of cases according to stage was 13.8% in stage I, 22.3% in stage II, 21.3% in stage III, 35.1% in stage IV and 7.4% in stage V, and the overall survival per year was 86.35%.

The recurrence rate in our patients was 15.1% and the abandonment rate was 16.2% of the cases. These rates are our greatest challenge, and their reduction is our goal.

In our institution we have an established multidisciplinary team dedicated to paediatric renal tumours consisting of paediatric oncologists, radiologists, urologist surgeons, pathologists, biologists and radiation oncologists. Our multidisciplinary team discusses all the new cases of renal tumours and follow up at weekly tumour boards at our institution. We also discuss cases that are difficult to manage or cases that need a diagnostic approach or treatment once a week in international meetings.

We are very excited to be able to participate and join the SIOP Umbrella Study as representatives of our country Peru and contribute to better multidisciplinary management for our patients with renal tumours and improve their outcomes.

**Slovakia**

*By Ladislav Deak*

Slovakia has population of about 5.4 million. Approximately 7 to 8 children with a pathological diagnosis of renal tumour are treated annually in the Slovak hospital.

Children and adolescents treated at specialized children’s cancer centres, as opposed to local hospitals, have a better outcome. Specialized children’s cancer centres are hospitals (in Bratislava, Banska Bystrica and Kosice) with trained oncology healthcare teams that are dedicated to improving the diagnosis and treatment of child and adolescent cancers.

In these three specialized paediatric centers, a high-quality team to treat renal tumours is ensured in order to successfully recruit patients for UMBRELLA SIOP 2016 study.

There is a cooperation between these centres for surgery, pathology and data centre. The coordinating centre is situated Department of paediatric oncology and haematology in University Children’s Hospital in Kosice. Surgery will be done in two centres; all centres can do radiotherapy. Slovakia has a national biobank in National Cancer Institute in Bratislava for storing biological material. All the required samples will be collected, frozen and immediately sent to above-mentioned biobank. The central reference pathologist for Slovakia will be Prof. Gordan Vujanic in Qatar whom we thank for cooperation in advance.

The study is approved by multicentric ethics committee of DFN Kosice and this approval applies to all centres. All sites have been initiated. Currently the substantial amendment is in process, the newest version of Protocol with ICFs has to be accepted by EC.

The registration of the first patient is expected soon!
After the never-ending period of ‘closure’ and social isolation related to COVID-19 pandemic, we could get together in Seville on 26th and 27th of June 2022. The emotion of meeting and exchanging again face to face was the key element characterizing this meeting.

Overall, around 100 people met in person, and 85 additional people could attend online, and share the scientific agenda.

Among health care professionals attending the meeting, 43 were pediatric oncologists, 16 surgeons, 10 pathologists, 6 radiation therapists, 4 radiologists, 3 biologists and 15 colleagues from other areas. Most of the attendees were from Europe (with representatives from Spain, the most represented country, the Netherlands, UK, Germany, France, Italy, Slovakia, Portugal, Croatia, Latvia, Norway, Switzerland, Ireland, Czech Republic, Lithuania, Denmark, Austria, Sweden, Hungary) but also from Brazil, Mexico, Argentina and Qatar.

The scientific program covered all the activities of the Renal Tumor Study Group, with presentations from each panels and subcommittees, reporting on the progress of their activities. The program included also parallel sessions to focus on specific topics of each subgroup. Noteworthy, the presentation of ongoing research projects and new scientific initiatives have been mainly done by young colleagues. This was a unique opportunity for them to be actively involved in the life of our Association and engaged in responsibilities.

We should not forget that the social events, with a beautiful dinner and a wonderful Seville sightseeing, which unfortunately we missed so much during pandemic, were clue moments of the meeting. We could again realize how important is to networking in person as well, to exchange opinions while talking and looking at each other, to shake hands.
SIOP-RTSG Annual Meeting
Wroclaw, Poland, June 22-23, 2023
By Jan Godzinski

Jan Godzinski is more than happy to announce that SIOP-RTSG Annual Meeting will be organized at his place. He invites All of You more than cordially to Wroclaw, Poland in June 2023. The Wroclaw team paid careful attention to avoid any overlap with other oncological and surgical events and major national congresses. A draft programme is ready, but still can be widely modified. Any suggestion is welcome. He believes that of us can build a fascinating programme.

However, this annual meeting is open for all the colleges involved or interested in the SIOP RTSG studies, the new thing is that Members of Association SIOP RTSG will have the congress fee waived or markedly decreased. This way we would like to show one of the advantages of becoming a Member of our Association and encourage interested colleagues to join in.

Dear Friends, Below You will find the draft program and official email of the meeting chirurgia-dziecieca@onet.eu (already active).

Further information (registration, suggested hotels, touristic programme, practical points and travel advice) will follow, the web page will be open in January or early February. Do not worry about the travel – Wroclaw has a nice airport connected to Frankfurt, Munich, Paris, Copenhagen, Amsterdam, Warsaw and many other major EU airports.
June 2023, SIOP RTSG Annual Meeting (draft programme):

20th of June:
Marciniak Hospital
9-12.00 hands-in surgical course (the number of participants in OP the Theatre limited, for video transmission – no registration will be required)
14-18:00 half a day course on surgery for renal tumours (registration will be required)
20:00 “ad hoc” dinner

21st of June:
Steering Committee and Executive Board closed meetings
20:00 welcome diner (cruise on the riverboat) for people already present (registration will be required)

22nd of June:
Day 1 of the meeting: sub-committee and panel meetings, mainstream program t.b.d.
20:00 Official Congress Diner (registration will be required)

23rd of June:
Day 2 of the Meeting, mainstream program t.b.d.
20:00 Young Investigators’ organized event/dinner for all and everybody

24th of June: tour (registration will be required)
9:00 departure
10:00 pick-nick breakfast
12:00-14:00 visit of castle Książ
14:30 Lunch and return

Note, this is still a preliminary programme, and some details may change, but the main dates are set.

At the end, please accept my most sincere greetings
“Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year!”

Prof. J. Godzinski MD PhD
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With a two-year delay due to Covid-19, we could meet in person in Marseille from September 7-9, 2022, for the 11th Renal Tumor Biology Meeting. With over 90 registrations from 15 different countries, over 40 presentations and several posters, the meeting provided ample food for thought and exciting talks on new developments in many fields.

The program started with an introduction into the biology of renal tumors geared towards clinicians. The genetic principles of Wilms tumors were reviewed, followed by the explanation of sequencing and bioinformatics approaches, liquid biopsy analysis and drug screening/repurposing. This theme continued in the main session with an overview of the history of clinical Wilms tumor research and future challenges.

Three inspiring presentations by patient advocates provided additional motivation for integrating research efforts and to seek ways to involve advocacy groups in research planning and funding applications.

The main program over the following packed two days covered all areas of research that are currently in focus: the molecular biology of Wilms tumors, tumor heterogeneity and clinical genetics, novel diagnostics and relapse cases, Wilms tumor models and drug testing, non-Wilms tumors, new developments and clinical translational aspects.

Exciting main talks to introduce sessions were given by Taryn Treger (Cambridge) on large scale genome analysis of Wilms tumors and by Junne Kamihara (Boston) on new insights into cases with genetic predisposition and resulting clinical challenges. Kathy Pritchard-Jones (London) broadened the view in her keynote lecture on “Bridging biology and epidemiology to a global strategy for pediatric renal tumors”.

It would be difficult to list all the excellent presentations on new genetic findings, specifics of relapse, inter-ethnic variation, lessons learned using novel approaches or from trials on non-Wilms tumor entities. In particular, the final session with presentations on clinical trials and creative trial designs raised hopes that there may be new ways to facilitate the translation of novel findings from biology into clinical application.

The great meeting venue above the old harbor of Marseille undoubtedly provided an excellent setting for intensive discussion and exchange of ideas and it laid the foundation for new interactions and collaborative projects to come. Besides the scientific highlights and as a first face-to-face conference for many participants in a long time, the meeting will also be remembered for its great atmosphere with a dinner overlooking the harbor and a conclusion with sports – a game of petanque at sunset with a view of the Mediterranean Sea. A tough location to match for a future 12th IPRTB meeting.

We have to say a big THANK YOU to the local organizer Arnauld Verschuur and his team for their hospitality and the pleasant atmosphere in which they welcomed us.
SIOP-Europe Annual Meeting in Valencia, Spain, 2023
https://siopeurope.eu/

We are looking forward to meeting you in person in Valencia on 8-12 May 2023 for the 4th SIOP Europe Annual Meeting.

SIOP Europe Annual Meeting 2023 is a joint meeting of different European Clinical Trials Groups, Young Oncologists, SIOPE Groups and Parents & Survivors representatives.

This meeting aims to bring together the diverse stakeholders involved in facing key issues for children and adolescents with cancer. The successful partnership with CCI Europe and the European Clinical Trial Groups ensures the excellent representation and participation of childhood cancer parents and survivors and provides exceptional possibilities for collaboration across all stakeholders within the paediatric oncology community.

Registrations are now open! Please keep updated: www.siopeurope.eu
Access to the SIOP 2022 Congress (virtually)
https://2022.siop-congress.org/

The virtual platform will be still accessible ➔ https://2022.siop-congress.org/virtual-login/

SIOP Congress in Ottawa, 2023
https://siop-congress.org/

This congress will take place in presence! Follow: https://siop-congress.org/

SAVE THE DATE
October 11-14, 2023
See you in Ottawa, Canada

KEEP ME UPDATED ➔
Publications 2022

   Similarities and controversies in imaging of pediatric renal tumors: A SIOP-RTSG and COG collaboration.

   Imaging of pediatric renal tumors: A COG Diagnostic Imaging Committee/SPR Oncology Committee White Paper focused on Wilms tumor and nephrogenic rests.

   Harmonica consensus, controversies, and future directions in radiotherapy for pediatric Wilms tumors
   Pediatr Blood Cancer. 2022;e30090; DOI: 10.1002/pbc.30090 – published ahead of print; ->Abstract

4. Sabine Irtan, Aurore Coulomb-Lhermine, Camille Lanz, Marie-Dominique Tabone, Claudia Pasqualini, Benoit Dumont, Estelle Thebaud, Isabelle Guellec, Arnauld Verschuur
   Number of lymph nodes sampled in SFCE/SIOP 2001 patients with Wilms tumour: Is the goal of more than six achievable?

5. Amy B. Hont, Benoit Dumont, Kathryn S. Sutton, John Anderson, Alex Kentsis, Jarno Drost, Andrew L. Hong, Arnauld Verschuur
   The tumor microenvironment and immune targeting therapy in pediatric renal tumors.
   Pediatr Blood Cancer. 2022; e30110; doi: 10.1002/pbc.30110. published ahead of print -> Abstract

   Outcomes of patients with Wilms’ tumour stage III due to positive resection margins only: An analysis of patients treated on the SIOP-WT-2001 protocol in the UK-CCLG and GPOH studies.

7. Justine N. van der Beek, Maddy Artunduaga, Jens-Peter Schenk, Meryle J. Eklund, Ethan A. Smith, Henrique M. Lederman, Anne B. Warwick, Annemieke S. Littooij, Geetika Khanna
   Similarities and controversies in imaging of pediatric renal tumors: A SIOP-RTSG and COG collaboration.

   Progress by international collaboration for pediatric renal tumors by HARMONIzation and Collaboration: The HARMONICA initiative.
   Pediatr Blood Cancer 2022; e30082; doi: 10.1002/pbc.30082 – published ahead of print; ->Abstract

9. Nils Welter, Jack Brzezinski, Amy Treece, Murali Chintagumpala, Matthew D. Young, Daniela Perotti, Kathleen Kieran, Marjolijn C.J. Jongmans, Andrew J. Murphy
   The pathophysiology of bilateral and multifocal Wilms tumors: What we can learn from the study of predisposition syndromes.

    Surgical Factors Influencing Local Relapse and Outcome in the Treatment of Unilateral Nephroblastoma.
   *Direct correlation of MRI with histopathology in pediatric renal tumors through the use of a patient-specific 3-D-printed cutting guide: a feasibility study.*

12. Clemens-Magnus Meier, Rhoikos Furtwängler, Dietrich von Schweinitz, Raimund Stein, Nils Welter, Stefan Wagenpfel, Leo Kager, Jens-Peter Schenk, Christian Vokuhl, Patrick Melchior, Jörg Fuchs, Norbert Graf
   *Vena Cava Thrombus in Patients with Wilms Tumors.*
   Cancers 2022,14,3924; https://doi.org/10.3390/cancers14163924 ->Abstract

   *Tumorprädispositionssyndrome und Nephroblastom.*
   Radiologie 2022; https://doi.org/10.1007/s00117-022-01056-w ->Abstract


15. Jesper Sune Brok, Susan Shelmerdine, Frederikke Damsgaard, Anne Smets, Sabine Irtan, Sophie Swinson, Venus Hedayati, Joseph Jacob, Arjun Nair, Minou Oostvogel, Kathy Pritchard-Jones, Øystein Olsen
   *The clinical impact of observer variability in lung nodule classification in children with Wilms tumour.*

   *How we approach paediatric renal tumour core needle biopsy in the setting of preoperative chemotherapy: A Review from the SIOP Renal Tumour Study Group.*

   *International Comparisons of Clinical Demographics and Outcomes in the International Society of Pediatric Oncology Wilms Tumor 2001 Trial and Study.*
   JCO Global Oncology, 2022;e2100425; doi/10.1200/GO.21.00425 ->Abstract

   *The genomic landscape of pediatric renal cell carcinomas.*

   *White paper: Onco-fertility in pediatric patients with Wilms tumor.*
   Int J Cancer 2022;151:843-858; doi: 10.1002/ijc.34006 ->Abstract

   *MRI-characteristics of Pediatric Renal Tumors: a SIOP-RTSG Radiology panel Delphi Study.*
Surgical management, staging, and outcomes of Wilms tumours with intravascular extension: Results of the IMPORT study.

Renal cell carcinoma in children and adolescents: a retrospective study of a French-Italian series of 93 cases.
Histopathology 2022;80:928-945, doi: 10.1111/his.14634 -Abstract

23. Gordan M Vujanić, Lauren N Parsons, Ellen D’Hooghe, Amy L Treece, Paola Collini, Elizabeth J Perlman
Pathology of Wilms’ tumour in International Society of Paediatric Oncology (SIOP) and Children’s Oncology Group (COG) renal tumour studies: similarities and differences.

24. William Mifsud, Rhoikos Furtwängler, Christian Vokuhl, Ellen D’Hooghe, Kathy Pritchard-Jones, Norbert Graf, Gordan M. Vujanić
Treatment of patients with stage I focal anaplastic and diffuse anaplastic Wilms tumour: A report from the SIOP-WT-2001 GPOH and UK-CCLG studies.

Cardiovascular Health Status And Genetic Risk In Survivors of Childhood Neuroblastoma and Nephroblastoma Treated With Doxorubicin: Protocol of the Pharmacogenetic Part of the LESS-Anthra Cross-Sectional Cohort Study.
JMIR Res Protoc 2022;11:e27898; doi: 10.2196/27898 -Abstract

Cancer 2022; 128:1666-1675; doi: 10.1002/cncr.34107 -Abstract

Outcome of SIOP patients with low- or intermediate-risk Wilms tumor relapsing after initial vincristine and actinomycin-D therapy only - the SIOP 93-01 and 2001 protocols.

Our Website

Please visit our website. Members of SIOP-RTSG can create an account for the Intranet, where the UMBRELLA protocol, CRFs and other news are shared. We are updating the content regularly. ➔ https://siop-rtsg.org
## Upcoming Meetings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14th to 17th of March, 2023</td>
<td>Chicago, IL, United States</td>
<td>COG Spring Group Meeting (invitation only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14th to 19th of April 2023</td>
<td>Orlando, FL, United States</td>
<td>AACR Annual Meeting 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>8th to 9th of May 2023</td>
<td>Valencia, Spain</td>
<td>4th Annual SIOP Europe Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd to 6th of June 2023</td>
<td>Chicago, IL, United States</td>
<td>ASCO Annual Meeting 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>22th to 23th of June 2023</td>
<td>Wroclaw, Poland</td>
<td>SIOP-RTSG Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>5th to 8th of September 2023</td>
<td>Atlanta, GA, United States</td>
<td>COG Fall Group Meeting (invitation only)</td>
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<tr>
<td>20th to 24th of September 2023</td>
<td>Madrid, Spain</td>
<td>ESMO</td>
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<tr>
<td>11th to 15th October 2023</td>
<td>Ottawa, Canada</td>
<td>55th Congress of SIOP</td>
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**Impressum**

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