

ECCO - the European CanCer Organisation

Here we invite ECCO - The European CanCer Organisation, the 'New Face' of the Former FECS, to introduce itself to EACR members



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Officially announced at ECCO-14 last September, FECS (Federation of European Cancer Societies) was disbanded and replaced by a dynamic new entity: ECCO – the European CanCer Organisation.

Representing much more than a re-brand, it was a welcome turning of the tide for the European cancer community. While it has long since been accepted that the only way to operate within today's biomedical arena is from the multidisciplinary and collaborative perspective, the challenge of translating discovery into a reality at the 'bedside' still weighs heavy.

By interconnecting all stakeholders in the oncology field, actively contributing to the 'must have' conversation with policy makers, advancing education through the organisation of leading conferences and timely initiatives, ECCO has been successfully engineered to drive towards closing the 'bench to bedside' circle.

The ECCO Community:
No matter how well oiled the new

ECCO engine may be, it cannot hope to advance progress without the vital support and collaboration of its member societies; each of which represent the interests of their respective professions/groups from basic, applied and translational research to practice, treatment, care, prevention and advocacy.

As a Founding Member of ECCO, the EACR is a crucial component of ECCO's platform and educational scope. While 2008 celebrates EACR's 40th anniversary of outstanding contribution to the oncology field, it also brings new horizons through the introduction of additional ECCO initiatives, Programmes and Committees.

Centring the Patient Interest: ECCO follows the philosophy that every cancer patient deserves the best, the patient centred firmly at the core of all ECCO activities and educational programmes.

Emphasising this commitment to the patient interest, ECCO has recently launched its online Patient Information section. This resource

aims to offer a broad selection of innovative, reliable and up-to-date information on cancer related issues.

Conferences & Congresses:
ECCO organises multidisciplinary meetings on behalf of its member Organisations. To heighten quality, attendance and exposure, ECCO is committed to supporting these educational opportunities through the provision of additional organisational, communication and marketing expertise.

New Committees – Fresh Horizons:
To better respond to the needs of the European cancer community and cater to all stakeholders in oncology, ECCO is setting up dedicated focus groups in the form of officially appointed Committees. The recently established Patient Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Louis Denis will provide European patient organisations and bodies involved in patient care with greater opportunity to take significant steps forward and afford ECCO further insight into current issues and challenges faced by cancer patients.

Chaired by Dirk Schrijvers, the Education Committee organises and drives educational initiatives tailored to meet the scientific, educational and professional needs of oncology specialists. One such initiative is ECCO's eLEARNING programme to provide home learning and on-line continuing education courses to all oncology professionals.

ECCO is also in the process of setting up other key Committees including: the Nominations, Policy, Editorial, and Membership Committees as well as a Committee of Trustees to advise and guide the ECCO Board.

ECCO

EVENTS DIRECTORY 2008 – 2009

On behalf of its Member Organisations and in support of the European cancer community, ECCO – the European Cancer Organisation, organises multidisciplinary meetings of excellence. Driving education and ultimately advancing patient treatment and care, the forthcoming events for 2008-2009 will provide the platform for international dialogue, debate and information exchange:

| ORGANISATIONS | | SAVE THE DATE |
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|   <i>American Association for Cancer Research</i>  AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY | 10TH JOINT ECCO / AACR / ASCO WORKSHOP ON METHODS IN CLINICAL CANCER RESEARCH FLIMS, SWITZERLAND 21-27 JUNE 2008 | APPLICATIONS ARE NOW CLOSED |
|  20th Meeting of the EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR CANCER RESEARCH | 20TH MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR CANCER RESEARCH (EACR) LYON, FRANCE 5-8 JULY 2008 | LATE REGISTRATION CLOSURES: 2 JUNE 2008 |
|  | 14TH CONGRESS OF THE EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF SURGICAL ONCOLOGY (ESSO) THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS 10-12 SEPTEMBER 2008 | LAST CHANCE TO SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT: DEADLINE: 24 APRIL 2008 |
|  European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer  <i>American Association for Cancer Research</i>  | 20TH EORTC-NCI-AACR SYMPOSIUM ON MOLECULAR TARGETS AND CANCER THERAPEUTICS GENEVA, SWITZERLAND 21-24 OCTOBER 2008 | EARLY REGISTRATION CLOSURES: 16 MAY 2008 ABSTRACT SUBMISSION CLOSURES: 26 MAY 2008 |
|  EUROPEAN CANCER ORGANISATION | ECCO 15 - THE 15TH CONGRESS OF THE EUROPEAN CANCER ORGANISATION BERLIN, GERMANY 20-24 SEPTEMBER 2009 | BOOKMARK: www.ecco-org.eu FOR FORTHCOMING ANNOUNCEMENTS |

To discover more about ECCO, its mission, vision and values as well as ECCO educational opportunities for 2008 and beyond visit: www.ecco-org.eu