



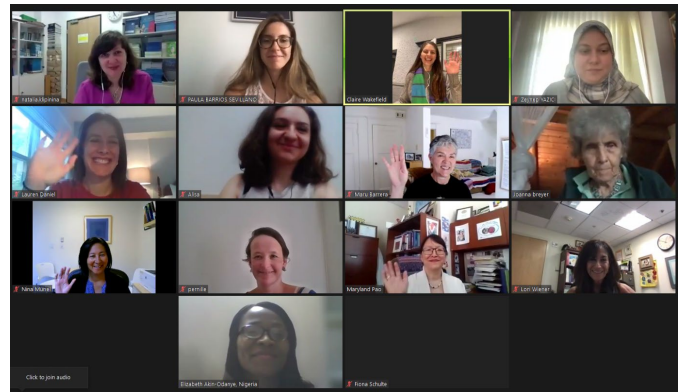
## Pediatric Psycho-Oncology Special Interest Group

Co-Chairs: Professors Claire Wakefield and Fiona Schulte

### 1. Breakdown of 2021 activities, goals and results

#### a) Continued meetings of the Pediatric SIG

Progress: The IPOS Pediatrics SIG met online on the 28<sup>th</sup> July 2021 to reconnect, build collaborations and discuss opportunities for new projects focused on the psychosocial aspects of childhood cancer. We discussed common areas of interest, upcoming special issues in journals of relevance to our work, preparations for Gold September, two ideas for collaborative projects, and goals for 2022. 19 members attended the meeting, with minutes shared with all members after the event.

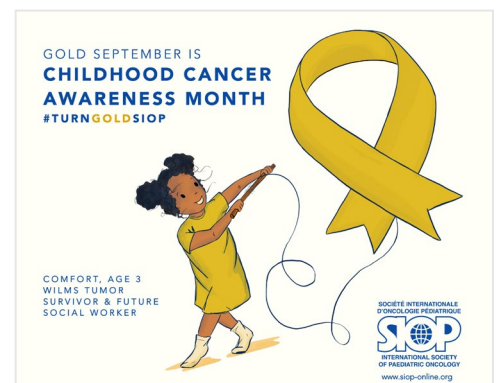


#### b) Continued IPOS Pediatrics SIG representation in major global projects

Progress: Prof Wakefield continues to serve on multiple committees and projects for the WHO Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer (GICC). Prof Wakefield is serving as a chief investigator on a new project supported by WHO and the American Childhood Cancer Organisation investigating the lived experience of cancer survivors around the world, led by Dr Julie Cayrol. Prof Wakefield most recently represented IPOS on projects to support families of children with cancer evacuated from Ukraine, focusing on developing professional education resources for staff caring for displaced families, establishing a staff peer support program, and developing family resources. She also represented IPOS at the first SAFER Conversations webinar, co-hosted by St Jude and the International Pediatric Oncology Society (SIOP), which focused on meeting the psychosocial needs of displaced children with cancer and their families.

#### c) Continued promotion of pediatric psycho-oncology as a discipline on social media

Progress: Many of the IPOS Pediatric SIG members promote their research and the discipline on Twitter and through their respective institutions. On Twitter, the group reaches over 18000 followers, further amplified through sharing by their institutions and other organisations they are involved in. A key achievement in 2021 was the SIG's support of Gold September (the childhood cancer awareness month). Co-chairs Prof Schulte and Wakefield worked





together to promote psychosocial content throughout the month, with support from IPOS, achieving significant reach (>43,000 impressions and >1800 engagements on Twitter alone).

- d) *Continued promotion of the IPOS Pediatrics SIG to IPOS members, particularly through the POPPI newsletter.*

Progress: The POPPI newsletter continues to be a successful tool to exchange information, promote research and extend networks in the pediatric psycho-oncology field. It is now in its 8<sup>th</sup> issue and reaches over 1000 pediatric psycho-oncology professionals with overwhelmingly positive feedback from our recipients and colleagues.

- e) *COVID and Childhood Cancer research project*

Progress: Prof Fiona Schulte led a global research team investigating “*COVID-19 and childhood cancer survivorship: Investigating the health beliefs and psychosocial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on survivors of childhood cancer*” out of the University of Calgary. The study explored the health beliefs and perceived psychological impact of COVID-19 among survivors of childhood cancer amid the pandemic.

- f) *Distribution and support of IPOS members’ projects*

Progress: The SIG distributed and supported several projects led by our members throughout 2021.

### **3. Description of issues/challenges experienced in 2021**

The IPOS Pediatrics SIG has continued to work together and focus on its goals. Like all SIGs, the COVID-19 pandemic has limited opportunity for face to face meetings and collaborations, however considering the challenges of this year, we believe we have managed well.

### **4. Any special requests/needs for the next 12 months**

None

### **5. Goals for the next 12 months**

- a) Continue to meet as a SIG to identify opportunities for collaboration
- b) Continue to ensure IPOS Pediatrics SIG representation on major global projects, including those led by WHO, the International Society for Pediatric Oncology (SIOP) and St Jude.
- c) Continue to promote pediatric psycho-oncology as a discipline on social media.
- d) Continue to promote the IPOS Pediatrics SIG to IPOS members, particularly through the POPPI newsletter.



e) Continue to distribute and support of IPOS members' pediatric projects.

**List of current committee/SIG members**

NAME	COUNTRY
Alina Khain	Russia
Alisa Kamalyan	Armenia
Amanda Thompson	US
Amanda Wurz	Canada
Benedict Akimana	Uganda
Brindha Sitaram	India
Brittany McGill	Australia
Brooke Russell	Canada
Caitlin Forbes	Canada
Caridad R. Moreno	US
Christina Signorelli	Australia
Claire Wakefield	Australia
Eden Robertson	Australia
Ekaterina Shutkova	Russia
Elisa Maria Perina	Brasil
Elizabeth Akin-Odanye	Nigeria
Fiona Schulte	Canada
Hailey Zwicker	Canada
Hanan El Malla	Egypt
Hanin Salem	Denmark



Heather Chambliss	US
Jenny Hoag	US
Joanna Breyer	US
Juanita Rojas Restrepo	Columbia
Kristin Bingen	US
Lauren Heathcote	US
Lauren Kelada	Australia
Lori Wiener	US
Malin Ander	Sweden
Martha Grootenhuis	The Netherlands
Maru Barrera	Canada
Mary Jo Kupst	US
Mehak Sandhu	Canada
Michaela Patton	Canada
Michelle Peate	Australia
Nadine Kasparian	US
Natalia Klipinina	Russia
Natalia Nikolskaya	Russia
Nicole Englebert	US
Pamela Mosher	Canada
Pernille Envold Bidstrup	Denmark
Raphaele van Litsenburg	The Netherlands
Sokhna Ndiaye	Canada



Tatiane Riabova	Russia
Ursula Sansom-Daly	Australia
Valerie Crabtree	US
Zeynep Yazici	Turkey