



## Research Committee

### Annual Report 2022

Submitted by: Associate Professor Joanne Shaw

#### The Research Committee's (RC) mission is to:

- a. Facilitate research activities by IPOS members, particularly those that have international significance, address cross cultural differences or address issues of importance to developing countries;
- b. Act as a clearing house for, or develop, resources to support Psycho-Oncology researchers;
- c. Provide advice to IPOS member organisations on research standards when necessary; and,
- d. Identify strategies to promote research training and development in psycho-oncology, in collaboration with the IPOS Education Committee.

**Committee Members:** Joanne Shaw (Chair), Sylvie Lambert (Deputy Chair), Nick Hulbert-Williams (Immediate Past Chair), Gill Hubbard, Melissa Henry, Maiko Fujimori, Saskia Duijts, Csaba Degi, Pandora Patterson, Sophie Lebel, Michelle Peate, Lisa Beatty, Lauren Matheson, Tihana Gašpert

#### 1. Breakdown of 2022 activities and goals, objectives and results for 2022

The RC undertook three main activities in 2022:

##### Facilitating Research

The peer review process continued to be offered to IPOS members in 2022. This review process provides a formal review process for members who wish to seek support of IPOS in advertising and recruiting to research studies or as a review of grant submissions relevant to IPOS committees or international collaborations between IPOS members.

In 2022 the RC provided peer review support to the:

- IPOS survivorship SIG for their international study: *An international survey of psychosocial care for cancer survivors: Exploring current practice, barriers, facilitators and examples of best practice*



- Grant review/support to an IPOS member for submission to the Canadian Institute of Health Research

### **Providing Support to the IPOS Office**

Additionally, the RC provided feedback to the IPOS Office on suitability of requests for advertising studies to the IPOS membership.

### **Liaison with other IPOS committees:**

#### **Collaboration with Survivorship SIG.**

The RC has continued to support the survivorship SIG during 2022, attending SIG meetings and providing research advice on the SIG's research activities as required. In December 2022 RC Chair Jo Shaw met with the survivorship Chair Michael Jefford to explore opportunities for joint initiatives and feedback on activities the RC could undertake that would support the membership more broadly. Ideas canvassed included:

- Conduct a delphi consensus study to identify international psycho-oncology research priorities
- Explore opportunities to provide support for translation of research programs that have demonstrated efficacy in one country across countries. This support could be umbrella protocols, standardised measures overseen by the RC.
- Replicate the audit conducted by the survivorship SIG of IPOS world congress abstracts for psycho-oncology more broadly to establish gaps in research focus

#### **Collaboration with LMIC SIG**

The RC has continued to support the LMIC SIG and met with Melissa Henry to discuss how the RC could support educational activities planned by the LMIC. The RC provided advice on the research process of conducting the research needs survey in 2018 as the LMIC were considering a similar study targeting LMIC members.

#### **Consultation with IPOS Board**

In November 2022 RC Chair Jo Shaw met with the IPOS Board to better understand the Board's strategic vision for the RC. Although no specific direction was articulated the Board provided a number of suggestions for the RC to explore:

Building research expertise among LMIC members through:

- building collaborations between LMIC members and the wider IPOS membership, guided by the RC. The RC role would include developing the skill set of LMIC members and oversee the collaborations; provide LMIC workshops on research methodology and grant writing.
- provide/co-ordinate a research mentoring model– support members by facilitating invitations to join existing research teams and/or facilitate a research mentoring program
- Assistance/advice to members on grant writing



- Potential activities the RC could undertake include (i) workshop to update on cutting edge analytical approaches; (ii) facilitate collection of existing data from members that can be pooled into a dataset to address key questions in psycho-oncology
- Support the e-health SIG with their research activities
- Host an ECR research showcase

### **Engagement with CAPO Research Committee**

Explored Opportunity for Joint CAPO/ IPOS Research Committee Workshop for the 2022 World Congress. A number of workshop ideas were proposed but no agreement could be found.

### **2. Description of issues/challenges experienced in 2022**

The inability to hold a RC AGM virtually at the IPOS World Congress limited the Committee's ability to re-engage members and plan activities.

### **3. Goals for the next 12 months (2023)**

The RC will :

- conduct a strategic planning meeting in first quarter 2023 to present the suggestions from the Board and establish the priorities for 2023.
- Engage with the Editors of the Journal of Psychosocial Oncology Research and Practice to facilitate greater alignment with IPOS

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

nil