

# Welcome to Cancer Control 2022

Much of 2022 has been dominated by the conflict in Ukraine, which has brought uncertainty and economic difficulty to the world. For the cancer community in Ukraine, the impact has been devastating. Cancer patients undergoing treatment have had to flee to the western Ukrainian cities or be treated in shelters and cellars, buildings have been destroyed by missiles and medical staff have been placed under unimaginable stresses and pressures. We are fortunate to have a first-hand account from Dr Oleksandr Stakhovskyi, a Senior Research Officer from the Department of Uro-Oncology at the National Cancer Institute in Kyiv. His account not only describes how cancer services were impacted by the Russian invasion in February 2022, but also how the cancer medics reacted to a changing and dangerous situation. He reports how one of his colleagues, Dr Oksana Leontieva (pictured), a haematologist in the Bone Marrow Transplant Department of Ohmadyt Hospital in Kyiv, was killed in a missile attack on 10 October 2022, while on her way to work, depriving her son of a mother and her beleaguered hospital of her skills. Out of respect for her, we would like to dedicate this 2022 edition of *Cancer Control* to her.



This year's *Cancer Control* survey also focuses on global difficulties and asks the question: "How have the current global difficulties affected your institution's support for cancer care projects in poorer-resourced settings?" Thirteen international health-care organizations from the public and private sectors give their answers. This theme is also touched on in our wide-ranging and thought-provoking interview with Dr Rifat Atun, Professor of Global Health Systems at Harvard University.

Several of the respondents mentioned finance and for the first time we have a section on cancer care finance with an article from the Union for International Cancer Control and the Health Finance Institute on strengthening financial capacity for cancer care in low-resource countries. The City-Cancer Challenge considers the role of Public-Private Partnerships and what is needed for good partnerships. Finally, the International Atomic Energy Authority explains their innovative "Rays of Hope" initiative for improving the financing of radiology and so widening access to cancer care for many in the LMICs.

Another section looks at two new projects in women's cancers which are underway at the moment. The SUCCESS project in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guatemala and the Philippines aims to help eliminate cervical cancer through an innovative bend of approaches. The Every Woman Study™

has already been successful in high-income countries, but a new LMIC edition is being spearheaded by the World Ovarian Cancer Coalition. The Commonwealth also reports on its cervical cancer progress.

Finally, we have two research projects, one on oral cancer screening in rural India from the Two Worlds Cancer Collaboration Foundation, working in close cooperation with institutions on the ground. The second comes from the International Society of Paediatric Oncology and looks at how best to grow research and development infrastructure for paediatric cancer through encouraging investment. This links back to our previous theme of cancer care finance, which seems to be a constant in *Cancer Control 2022*; a theme that we will have to take forward.

We would be delighted to have your feedback at [cancercontrol@globalhealthdynamics.co.uk](mailto:cancercontrol@globalhealthdynamics.co.uk). Please visit our website [www.cancercontrol.info](http://www.cancercontrol.info) for updates and to find out more information about INCTR and its programmes. ■

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