



GPON NEWSLETTER



GPON 2026 Annual Conference: Save the date!

The date for GPON's free annual webinar will be held during **the first week of November 2026** at London Global Cancer Week. We are excited to share the experiences of nurse from around the world, particularly from low- and middle-income countries.

Check our website for further details and updates!

Newsletter highlights

- New publication by Julia Downing, RN, PhD on the Global Need for Palliative Care (page 2)
- Mariana Durañona and her team won the 2025 GPON team award for their contribution to nursing education in Latin America to improve oncology patient care through the TELEO Project (page 3)

Our GPON community aims to provide...

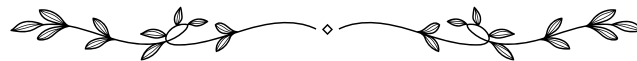
...a global forum for the recognition of the specialty of oncology nursing, to bridge the gap of disparities in cancer care, and to share oncology nurses' experiences, challenges, and successes. Our vision is to achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to safe, effective, quality essential healthcare services and access to safe, effective, quality, and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all, in the context of cancer care.





During 2025, as the GPON community, we worked together with nurses from all around the world on various topics to improve our professional practice as nurses, as well as our self-care and personal wellbeing. In addition, we have participated in different conferences as the GPON group, contributing our knowledge and experiences to oncology groups and teams worldwide.

In this way, members of the different committees that make up GPON have actively participated in various online and in-person initiatives to contribute to and support the work of nurses, promote continuous improvement, and support diverse projects that advance the development of oncology care in countries around the world.



Julia Downing, nurse and member of the GPON Steering Committee has recently published in the Lancet Child and Adolescent Health on the Global Need for Palliative Care

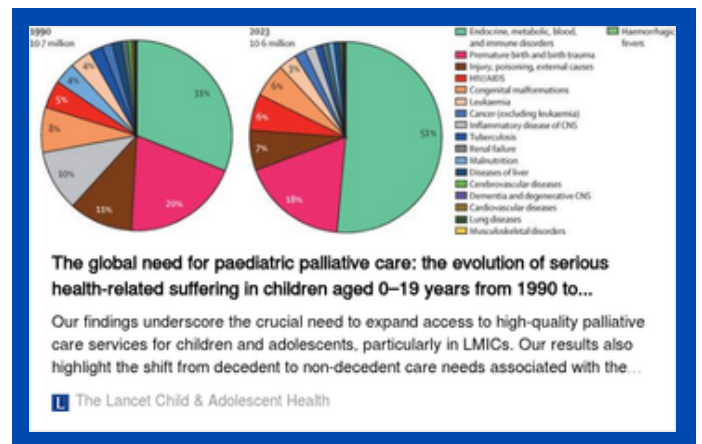
Jazmin Parada, Chile

Recently, the professor and nurse, Julia Downing, RN, PhD and member of the GPON Steering Committee, together with her team, published an important review in The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health (Volume 10, Issue 3, March 2026, Pages 167–178) covering more than 30 years on the need for palliative care in adolescents. The study aims to estimate the global burden of serious health-related suffering in children aged 0–19 from low- and middle-income countries with limited access to healthcare.

[https://doi.org/10.1016/S2352-4642\(25\)00338-4](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2352-4642(25)00338-4)



Chief Executive International Children’s Palliative Care Network (ICPCN) and Honorary Professor Makerere University, Uganda





Mariana Durañona, director and founder of TELEO Pediatric oncology nurse specialist, a leader in nursing education and professional development in Latin America. Hospital Austral, Argentina.

Mariana Durañona (Argentina) and her team won the 2025 GPON Team Award for international work at TELEO, a virtual community and free educational platform for tele-education in pediatric oncology for healthcare professionals in Latin America created by Hospital Sant Joan de Déu and its partners. Mariana shared her experience with us:

Working at TELEO has been a deeply meaningful experience. From the beginning, the TELEO project was born out of the commitment and vocation of nursing professionals. Over time, it has grown, bringing in more professionals and taking on new educational challenges for those working in oncology in Latin America and the rest of the world. The GPON award and recognition help consolidate the work, commitment, and generosity of all the professionals who support us and share their knowledge.

On a personal level, Mariana says, *this recognition moves me deeply and confirms that the path we have been building together truly has meaning.* For more information: <https://programateleo.org/>

Introduction of safe handling of systemic anti-cancer therapy (SACT) and cytotoxic drugs

Kay Bell

The ISOPP (The International Society of Oncology Pharmacy Practitioners) Safe Handling Task Force has been established to develop educational, clinical, and practical resources aimed at improving the safe handling of systemic anti-cancer therapies (SACT) and cytotoxic drugs globally, with a strong emphasis on supporting low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). GPON is a partner in this work. The project focuses on creating accessible training materials, standardised protocols, safety tools, and patient education resources to ensure healthcare workers, institutions, and families can manage hazardous drugs safely and consistently across the globe.



<https://www.isopp.org/>

Upcoming Conferences 2026

- 15 Sep Joint conference of the International Society of Paediatric Oncology and the Sociedad Latinoamericana de Oncología Pediátrica (SIOP/SLAOP)
- 18 Sep European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO)
- First week Nov Global Power Oncology of Nursing (GPON)
- 13-14 Nov. UK Oncology Nursing Society (UKONS)

Jazmin Parada



From the Archive

2025 Cancer Awareness Week Celebration in London

GPON Global Conference

“We’re Still Here, We Still Care: Prioritising Oncology Nurse Wellbeing”



In 2025, the annual GPON conference “We are still here, we still care: prioritising oncology nurse wellbeing” was held online. It mainly focused on the well-being and self-care of nurses worldwide. We had international guests who spoke to us and presented various research related to the topic, as well as highlighting the importance of self-care and how it can influence patient care.

We were also able to see patients’ perceptions of the care provided by nurses, emphasizing how important kind treatment and empathy from nursing staff are to them.

Additionally, it recognized and rewarded the work of nurses worldwide in relation to their roles in healthcare delivery, health promotion, and disease prevention, as well as their contribution to the education and training of nurses.

The GPON conferences, held annually and offered virtually and free of charge, always strive to stay at the forefront of topics of interest to nurses and oncology, as well as to contribute to the development and growth of nursing worldwide.

- Jazmin Parada and Kay Bell

