

NZHPA Cancer Pharmacy Education Grant

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Conference: Australian New Zealand Children's Haematology Oncology Group (ANZCHOG) Annual Scientific Meeting 2025

Dates: 30th July 2025 to 1st August 2025

Location: Brisbane, Australia

Purpose of Grant and Event Overview

With the support of the NZHPA Cancer Pharmacy Education Grant, I was able to attend the Australian and New Zealand Children's Haematology/Oncology Group (ANZCHOG) Scientific Meeting, at Brisbane, Australia in July/August of this year. The annual meeting of ANZCHOG is open to all health professionals involved in care and treatment of children with cancer in Australia and New Zealand.

On the day prior to the start of the Scientific Meeting, I was able to attend the ANZCHOG TACTIC Group Meeting. A forum where paediatric stem cell transplant clinicians around Australia and New Zealand were able to meet and discuss clinical care within the transplant setting. This was achieved by case presentations and discussions of challenging transplant patients.

A pharmacy pre-conference workshop enabled paediatric haematology and oncology pharmacists from Australia and New Zealand to meet and discuss research and clinical practice exemplars within their respective centres. This was a great opportunity to understand clinical practice within various centres, and the relationships built further enabled information sharing and the ability to adapt and adopt practice based on institutional experiences.

There were a number of concurrent sessions in the program that I was able to attend for my professional development and would add value to the clinical work I do at Te Toka Tumai. The "Paediatric Oncology in Developing Countries" session was of interest as Starship works closely with the NCCN clinicians to support the provision of cancer care to children in Samoan, Tongan and Vanuatu. The conference had a number of interesting biology sessions related to precision medicine which contributed to my further understanding of the cancer genomics and the use of new and novel agents being introduced to the market and used in our patients.

I was also able to attend a number of sessions relating to the diagnosis and management of hepatic veno-occlusive disease (VOD), a critical complication of haematopoietic stem cell transplants. These sessions further enhanced my knowledge of the management of VOD and allowed me to reflect on my clinical practice.

A key interest at the conference is the session hosted by Dr Lee Dupuis, a pharmacist researcher based at Sick Kids Toronto, Canada. She is a prolific researcher and publisher relating to the management of chemotherapy induced nausea and vomiting (CINV). Having done my masters research in the evaluating CINV and co-leading the Nausea and Vomiting ANZCHOG Special Interest Group, meeting and attending Dr Dupuis sessions was enlightening and invaluable.

Acknowledgements

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