April 2013 Newsletter

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

April is turning out to be quite a busy month for advocates in the Oncofertility network. Throughout the country, events are being held to raise cancer awareness with the biggest one for young adults being held in Las Vegas at the end of this month - OMG 2013: Cancer Summit for Young Adults. Please take a look at our calendar of events and see how you can get involved!

In this issue, we'll tell you about an upcoming Virtual Grand Rounds with Dana Gossett, MD, share some exciting updates about the 2013 Oncofertility Conference, and ask you to learn more about a bill recently introduced in California which would mandate fertility preservation coverage in insurance plans when a medical treatment may directly or indirectly cause infertility.

Sincerely,

The Oncofertility Consortium

In the Spotlight...

Virtual Grand Rounds with Dana Gossett, MD, on Thursday, April 25th at 2 PM Central Time

Be sure to join the next Virtual Grand Rounds session, April 25th, with Dana Gossett, MD, leading a discussion entitled, "Management of Abnormal Uterine Bleeding During Cancer Treatment."

The Oncofertility Consortium is offering
Recent Advances in Ovarian Tissue Cryopreservation

Follow Us:

Recent Advances in Ovarian Tissue Cryopreservation

free CME credits for our 2012-2013 Virtual Grands Rounds sessions and 2012 Oncofertility Conference for your online participation. Receive CME credits by watching a LIVE broadcast of the session or by watching a recording of the broadcast after we have uploaded and archived the presentation onto our website. Learn more about our upcoming Virtual Grand Rounds and how you can participate!

Join Us! 2013 Oncofertility Conference

We are very excited to announce that the 2013 Oncofertility Conference: Oncofertility Around the Globe is set for September 9th and 10th, in Chicago, IL, at Prentice Women’s Hospital. Please visit the conference webpage to view the preliminary agenda, speaker biographies, and to book your accommodations. Registration will be open shortly so please be sure to check back regularly as the conference fills up quickly.

This year's highlights will include; small group courses on oncofertility lab and clinical tools, insights from the International Society for Fertility Preservation, mitigating fertility loss in cancer patients, and a new fertility preservation decision tool for young patients. We look forward to seeing you this September!

Mandated Fertility Preservation Coverage

The Oncofertility Consortium recently gave their support to a newly introduced bill in California, AB 912, requiring insurance companies to provide coverage for medically necessary expenses for standard fertility preservation services when a medical treatment may directly or indirectly cause infertility.

While the numbers of people who will need these services is likely to be small, for those people facing a life-altering disease which could require chemotherapy and/or radiation with a high potential for causing infertility after treatment, this coverage could make all the difference. People who have the option for these services score much higher on quality of life measures after treatment. More importantly, by providing this
coverage the patient is able to keep focus on what would be the best therapy for their disease, without having to worry about the effect on their future fertility.

We encourage the Oncofertility community to learn more about the positive implications of California bill AB 912. Please visit our blog for more information or contact your state representative to see how you can help get this bill passed!

Oncofertility Online Accreditation Statement

Accreditation Statement: The Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Credit Designation Statement: The Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 14.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

The American Nurses Credentialing Center, American Academy of Nurse Practitioners and American Academy of Physicians Assistants accepts AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™ from organizations accredited by the ACCME.

The presenter has no relevant financial relationships with commercial interests that will bias the content of the program.

Audience and Learning Objectives

Oncofertility Online brings together researchers, health care providers, and administrators to discuss current updates in fertility preservation and how to incorporate these advances into clinical practice. At the end of the sessions, attendees will be able to:

- Discuss the multiple patient factors that health care providers should understand when treating young fertility preservation patients, including age, legal, ethical, and financial considerations.
- Identify key research goals for established and experimental fertility preservation techniques including embryo, oocyte, and ovarian tissue cryopreservation.
- Gain an understanding of how select fertility preservation
programs ensure a continuum of care between the patient's disease and fertility preservation treatment.
- Identify advances in emerging fertility preservation techniques over the past five years and discuss the significance and barriers to implementation in a clinical setting.
- Discuss the endocrine, gynecological, psychological, and sexual health considerations for female cancer survivors.

Oncofertility Online Support

Oncofertility Online is funded by the NIH (Grant 5UL1DE019587), and an unrestricted educational grant from Friends of Prentice and Ferring Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Thank you for reading our latest newsletter! Please contact Program Manager, Angie Krausfeldt, at a-krausfeldt@northwestern.edu with any suggestions, comments or if you are interested in contributing to our blog.