


SCAPHON

Southern California Association of

Newsletter
 Of the
 Association of
 Pediatric/Hematology Oncology Nurses
 Southern California Chapter



SCAPHON SCOOP

"Try to be a rainbow in someone's cloud." Maya Angelou

As we approach the holiday season, one that may look very different this year compared to other years, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for everything you do for all of our patients and families, this most vulnerable population that we serve. When I was meditating recently, I came across this quote from Maya Angelou. It really resonated: our SCAPHON members are the "Rainbow" in so many of our patients' and families' "clouds." Despite the challenges of this past year, your continued exceptional care, your commitment to your patients and families, your willingness to go above and beyond, fills me with gratitude. It is an honor and privilege to serve with so many incredible nurses who continue to minister to our patients with cancer and blood disorders. While this past year has been filled with challenges, from an ongoing pandemic, unprecedented wildfires, political unrest, record unemployment, social isolation contributing to increased mental health issues, you as nurses are showing up and doing the work of heroes.

Rainbows have always been very meaningful to me. They can represent a bridge, hope, a new beginning. That is what we as nurses are for many of our patients and families. We are frequently a light on their journey, color that can break through the clouds. As fall comes to an end and it is the season to give thanks, I try to consciously find daily instances to practice gratitude. I feel blessed to be your SCAPHON president. I am grateful for our strong local chapter that is SCAPHON. I am grateful that so many families and patients benefit from our caring and compassionate nursing. I am grateful that we were able to reschedule our annual conference without penalty at the same venue. We are looking forward to being able to meet June 3rd and 4th, 2021, at Las Palmas Resort and Spa, hopefully in person. We have been communicating with the hotel to determine options if restrictions are in place at that time. We have also explored a virtual option if we need to pursue that route. I am grateful that we were able to sponsor our first virtual Quarterly meeting and that it was well attended.

We hope that in some small way, SCAPHON is a rainbow in your clouds. We pledge to continue to provide our members with opportunities for education, networking, support, and ability to develop a strong professional community, even if we must currently meet virtually. I look forward to the time when we will once again be able to meet in person.

Until then, be safe, be well, and be The Rainbow in Someone's Clouds.

Sincerely,
 Lynn Schubert, BSN, RNC, CPON
 President



Opportunities for Professional Growth



NEW NCCN GUIDELINES FOR PEDIATRIC CANCERS: A WEBINAR SERIES

The NCCN Pediatric Webinar Series provides a forum for a multidisciplinary team of experts to review the clinical considerations and patient circumstances that influence how to effectively apply appropriate standard of care and specific recommendations in the NCCN Guidelines to optimize management of pediatric patients with various cancer types.

Key Considerations for the Management of Pediatric Hodgkin Lymphoma

Monday, December 21, 2020 • 2:30 – 3:30 PM EST

Advancements in the Management of Pediatric Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia

Friday, January 22, 2021 • 2:00 – 3:00 PM EST

Management of Pediatric Aggressive Mature B-Cell Lymphoma

Wednesday, February 3, 2021 • 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM EST

Multidisciplinary Management of Wilms Tumor (Nephroblastoma)

Time, date, and faculty TBD

Visit NCCN Site to Register

<https://education.nccn.org/pediatric-cancers#group>



Make sure you are up-to-date on trends and best practices to help your patients and their families.

- 10 CNE per year (Included in APHON Membership)
- Self-Paced Online Courses
- Online Journal Articles
- Live Events (Webinars, Virtual Conferences)
- Educational Activities
- Maintained Transcripts of All Learning Activities
- Exams and Evaluations to Earn CNE
- Catalog of Educational Content
- Quickly Access CNE Certificates
- One Convenient Location

Visit APHON's ACE Center for Continuing Education

<https://aphon.org/education/pediatric-hematology-oncology-education>

SCAPHON Website On-Line!

Our website address is:

www.scaphon.org

The SCAPHON website features Information about:

- ❖ Quarterly Meetings
- ❖ Conferences
- ❖ Scholarships
- ❖ Board Members
- ❖ Downloadable copy of our newsletter
- ❖ Quarterly Dinner Meeting Flyer
- ❖ And now the conference brochure!

Contact:

Anne Nord @ website@SCAPHON.org



Association of Pediatric
Hematology/Oncology Nurses
44th Annual Conference & Exhibit:
A Virtual Experience

Educational content will be accessible on-
demand through

December 31, 2020

<http://conference.aphon.org/>

The SCAPHON SCOOP

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**The Association of
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Southern California Chapter**

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Education Corner

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Utilizing a Unique Monoclonal Antibody, Tocilizumab in Children, Adolescents and Young Adults with Castleman Disease or Severe Cytokine Release Syndrome (CRS) from Blinatumomab and CAR T-cell Therapy

Tocilizumab is a monoclonal antibody that blocks the action of IL-6 by binding to its receptor on lymphocytes. This agent is used to treat severe rheumatoid arthritis in children and adults. This agent is now being utilized to treat Multicentric Castleman Disease in both children and adults. **This agent is also FDA approved for treating severe cytokine release syndrome symptoms produced by some monoclonal antibodies and CAR T-cell therapy.**

Tocilizumab is given intravenously over 1 hour. The usual dose for this agent is 8 mg/kg/dose given every 2 weeks. **NOTE:** If a patient has an infusion reaction or hypersensitivity reaction, **although extremely rare for this agent**, appropriate emergency medications will need to be administered as per physician order.

Common Side Effects of Tocilizumab:

- Infections
- Hypertension during the infusion
- Headache
- Mild stomach cramps
- Increase Liver Function Tests (ALT/AST)
- Increase in Blood Cholesterol Levels
- Thrombocytopenia
- Neutropenia
- **Rare side effects:** Infusion reactions or allergic reactions, serious or opportunistic infections, gastrointestinal perforations

Special Considerations and Monitoring Required:

- Obtain baseline vital signs immediately prior to administration and every 15 minutes during the infusion. Monitoring closely for hypertension. Infusion and hypersensitivity reactions although rare for this agent should also be closely monitored and administer emergency medications as ordered if patient experiences an infusion or hypersensitivity reaction.
- Monitor CBC with diff and platelet counts for neutropenia and thrombocytopenia.
- Monitor lipid panel-observing for increased blood cholesterol levels-encourage; may need to consult with dietitian to encourage appropriate diet restrictions as necessary.
- Monitor Chem panel for increased liver function tests which may require holding the administration of this agent
- Monitor patient for symptoms of gastrointestinal perforation: severe abdominal pain, fever, nausea and vomiting, blood in stools.
- Monitor patient closely for signs and symptoms of infection during therapy with this agent. These patients have an increased risk for developing serious infections.

From the SCAPHON 2021 Conference Planning Chair...
Alison Bell

Save the Date!

SCAPHON Annual Conference
June 3 & 4, 2021
Omni Rancho Las Palmas Resort & Spa
Rancho Mirage, CA



**Southern California Association of
Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses**

It's time to renew your Annual Membership!

The SCAPHON board is working to ensure that we are able to safely host quarterly dinners in person or via zoom.

Don't forget that your membership includes:

- 3 Quarterly Educational Dinners (1.0 CEU each)
- Discounted Conference Registration
- The SCAPHON SCOOP
- The ability to vote for our board.

Please see the link below to complete your registration

<http://www.scaphon.org/membership/>

Please contact **Christine Yun** @cyun@choc.org if you have any questions

From the Scholarship Chair...
Barbara Buchbinder

In light of the current pandemic, our SCAPHON Chapter had to postpone our annual conference this year. As a chapter, we decided to honor our Hematology/Oncology Survivor Scholarships this year as it is an important and rewarding part of our annual conference. I want to thank our wonderful chapter for all its continued support which gives us this opportunity to support our survivors in their future endeavors.

This year we received 15 scholarship applications from a variety of institutions.

The winners are:

Andrew Panosian

Winner, Denisse Heard Childhood Cancer Survivor Scholarship
Treated at CHLA; Currently attends Glendale Community College

Courtney Gronbach

Winner, Amy Nishimura Memorial Education Scholarship
Treated at Miller Children's Hospital; Accepted at UCI and University of Boulder

Lisa Lopez

Winner, Gloria Velasquez Memorial Childhood Cancer Survivor Scholarship
Treated at CHLA; Currently attends LA Tech Trade

Veronica Larson

Winner, Fight to Victory Childhood Cancer Survivor Scholarship
Treated at CHOC; Accepted to the University of California, Los Angeles

Giselle Padilla

Winner, Eric-Stig Engblom Memorial Childhood Cancer Survivor Scholarship
Treated at CHLA; Accepted to California State University, Los Angeles

Angela Prince

Winner, The SCAPHON Childhood Hematology Survivor Scholarship
Treated at City of Hope; Currently enrolled at the University of California, Los Angeles

Please remember to encourage your patients and families to apply. We have an electronic application process, scholarship applications can be submitted year-round on www.scaphon.org, and April 1st is the 2021 deadline for applications. Winners will be announced at the 2021 SCAPHON conference.

Nancy Jopes Scholarship Winners – selected at our quarterly meetings*

October – Katy Smith

December – Kathleen Corcoran

March – Erin Morris

*With the cancellation of this year's annual conference, the winners of the Nancy Jopes Scholarships will be honored at next year's SCAPHON Annual Conference.

The Kathy Ruccione Award for Nursing Excellence will not be awarded this year due to the cancellation of our annual conference. Please continue to nominate you exceptional coworkers for the Kathy Ruccione Award for Nursing Excellence!

Community Service Project 2020
Danielle Mucker, Chair



The 2020 Holiday Season is officially upon us! This year has been declared the year of the nurse by the World Health Organization and there is not a more fitting year. In light of this being the year of the nurse, we would like to select 1-2 nurses and their families to support by giving needed items, gifts and gift cards for the holiday season. These nurses do not need to be directly impacted by COVID-19 but can be nurses that we work side-by-side with each day who are experiencing a hard time due to other circumstances. We know that these nurses will not be easy to find, so we are looking to each of you to nominate a nurse and their family for us to support during the holiday season. All applications will be reviewed, and we will select 1 -2 nurses depending on the needs and sizes of each family.

If you would like to nominate a nurse please send the information below in an email to dmucker@choc.org by November 13, 2020.

Name of Nominator, hospital and contact information

Name of Nominee, hospital and contact information

Reason for nomination

Number of family members and age of each member

We will coordinate with the Nominator to organize follow up with the selected Nominees to get more information on the details of needed items that will then be listed on an Amazon wish list.

Thank you for all of your help.

**Stay tuned for more information via email and
the SCAPHON Instagram @socalaphon.**



SCAPHON

Southern California Association of
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*Association of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses
Southern California Chapter*

Quarterly Dinner Meeting and Educational Forum

***Join us for a VIRTUAL Educational Forum
December 8, 2020
6:30 pm***

TOPIC :



Sponsored by Novartis Pharmaceuticals

ADAKVEO® (crizanlizumab-tmca) is indicated to reduce the frequency of vaso-occlusive crises (VOCs) in adults and pediatric patients, aged 16 years and older, with sickle cell disease.

Online Registration

<http://www.scaphon.org/quarterly-lecture/>

For more information visit

SCAPHON.ORG or

contact

Ashley Villalobos @ Ashley.villalobos@choc.org