

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

The EBMT is launching the 1st Pharmacist Day, a unique initiative in Europe

Barcelona, 24 March 2016 - Key leaders in the field of haematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT) will highlight the challenges faced by clinical oncology pharmacists involved in Stem Cell Transplantation and haematology in general. This day-long session will take place on Tuesday 5 April on the occasion of the 42nd Annual Meeting of the European Society for Blood and Marrow Transplantation that will welcome more than 4,500 delegates in the host city of Valencia, Spain.

Close co-operation and the increasing integration of experienced pharmacist in HSCT unit ensure all transplant patients receive high-quality pharmaceutical care and patient satisfaction. As an example, the pharmacist ensures the clinical appropriateness and safety of all medications, including chemotherapy orders, performing medication reconciliation, educating patients on their medications and monitoring toxicities and patient results. The clinical oncology pharmacist also works with the SCT unit on updating standards of practice of the SCT program.

Dr. Miguel Ángel Sanz, the EBMT Congress President, highlights that: "The EBMT has decided to include the pharmacist in the scientific programme of the Annual Meeting as a response of pharmacists' demands and as recognition of their increasing patient-centered care. Dr. Sanz adds: "The EBMT recognises the pharmacist as an integral member of the multidisciplinary SCT team who provides a variety of pharmacy and educational services to both the healthcare team and the patient."

This original cutting-edge program includes sessions that will cover topics such as: how clinical oncology pharmacists participate in Stem Cell Transplantation; perspectives in SCT; drug dosing and monitoring; side effects of novel therapies and promote general learning.

The Spanish Society of Hospital Pharmacy (SEFH) and its oncology pharmacist group (GEDEFO) have been working together with the EBMT in the development of this event. "Pharmacists involved in Stem Cell Transplantation and haematology are very enthusiastic and motivated professionals looking for increasing their expertise. We are delighted to welcome them to what promises to be a highly educational and successful initiative." says Dra. Irene Mangues, National Coordinator of GEDEFO.

For further information about the 1st Pharmacist Day, please visit the EBMT Annual Meeting website: www.ebmt2016.org and view the online programme: <https://b-com.mci-group.com/EventProgramme/EBMT2016.aspx>

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About the European society for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (EBMT)

The EBMT is a not-for-profit medical and scientific organisation established in 1974. It is dedicated to fighting life-threatening blood cancers and diseases and improving patients' lives. The EBMT Members - more than 4,000 physicians, nurses, scientists and other healthcare professionals - participate in a unique collaborative network of peers involved in haematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT) and cellular therapy research. The membership encompasses at least 600 centres who are performing or are involved in HSCT in more than 60 countries. The EBMT holds a central role in performing co-operative studies and disseminating state-of-the-art knowledge aimed at increasing survival rates and enhancing the quality of life of patients with life-threatening blood cancers and diseases.

For further information about the EBMT, please visit the website: www.ebmt.org and follow us on Twitter: @TheEBMT

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