# Psychosocial training and research needs in oncology health care: a finger on the pulse

Véronique Gerits MA¹, Ellen Daly MA¹, Sabien Bauwens MA¹,², Wim Distelmans MD PhD¹,²,⁴, Eva Jacobs MA¹,⁴, Lieve Vanderlinden MA¹,³, Annelies Verachtert MA¹, Angelique Verzelen MA¹

- 1 Cédric Hèle instituut vzw, Bruul 52/4, 2800 Mechelen, Belgium
- 2 Universitair Ziekenhuis Brussel, Oncology Center, Laarbeeklaan 101, 1000 Brussel, Belgium
- 3 Kom op tegen Kanker, Koningsstraat 217, 1210 Brussel, Belgium
- 4 Forum Palliatieve Zorg, Jan Vander Vekenstraat 158, 1780 Wemmel, Belgium

### Purpose

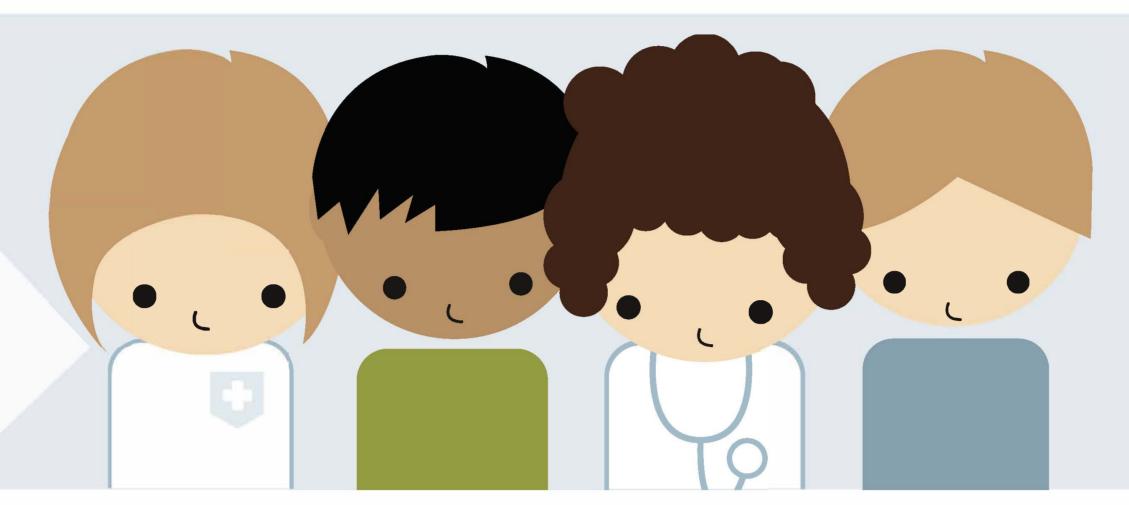
Exploratory research to gain insight in the needs and bottlenecks experienced by oncology health care professionals concerning education and research in psychosocial oncology.



O n = 201



the online CHi-community working in hospitals.



Respondents:

32% oncology nurses

28% psychologists

11% oncocoaches

10% others

8% social workers

4% medical doctors

4% pastoral workers

3% dietitians

### Most important results



Education wanted

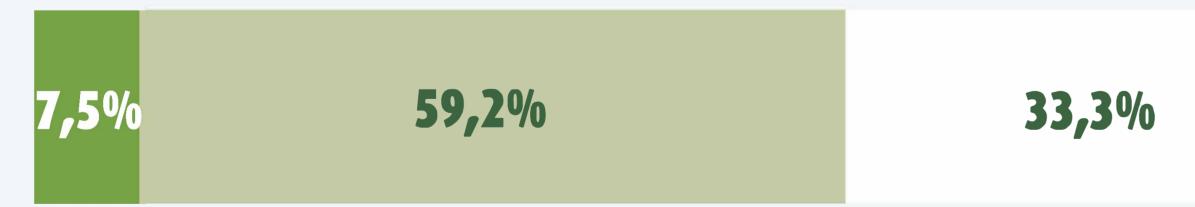
Side effects of the treatment Self care Grief and bereavement Communication End of life care with important others Fear of recurrence Intimacy and sexuality Communication Elderly and cancer Coping with patients Social aftercare Medical aspects



CASE DISCUSSION/PEER REVIEW and TESTIMONIALS from patients in courses.

We want to be able to SHARE PERSONAL EXPERIENCES, reflect on our own actions and LEARN FROM EACH OTHER.

# Awareness of scientific research in psychosocial oncology



aware to a limited extent aware

not aware

## Thresholds for applying scientific research in daily practice

61,1% indicates that it is not easy to translate scientific research results into daily practice.

38,9% indicates that guidelines are not specific enough for daily practice.

22,2% indicates that scientific research is not sufficiently in line with daily practice.

#### Conclusions

### Oncology health care professionals need:

- more practice-oriented education and research;
- self-care tools in order to prevent stress and burn-out;
- a good translation of scientific research into clear guidelines for daily practice;
- more focus on bridging the gap between research and clinical practice.



