

# PREVALENCE AND PREVENTION OF BURNOUT IN YOUNG ONCOLOGISTS

**Dr Susana Banerjee MA MBBS PhD FRCP**

Consultant Medical Oncologist The Royal Marsden, London UK

Team Leader, Institute of Cancer Research, London UK

ESMO Executive Board Member, ex- ESMO Young Oncologists' Committee Member

**YO Burnout Brunch**

## DISCLOSURE SLIDE

- None

# BACKGROUND - 'MEDICAL BURNOUT'- THE PROBLEM

- Oncology is a rewarding profession but caring for patients with cancer can also be demanding and stressful

## Potential Factors

Constantly facing patient life/death decisions, delivering bad news

Supervising toxic therapies

Limited ability to prolong life substantially for many patients

Keeping up at the forefront of rapid scientific and treatment advances

Increased workload, administrative requirement, medicolegal issues, reduced resources

## Potential Consequences

Negatively impact quality of care

Substance abuse

Increase medical errors

Depression

Leave profession/early retirement

Suicide

## Burnout and Career Satisfaction Among US Oncologists

*Tait D. Shanafelt, William J. Gradishar, Michael Kosty, Daniel Satele, Helen Chew, Leora Horn, Ben Ckin Amy E. Hanley, Quyen Chu, John Phippen, Jeff Sloan, and Marilyn Raymond*

44.7% US oncologists were 'burned out

Hours per week devoted to direct patient care predicted burnout

\*63/1117 participants  $\leq 40$

## Satisfaction With Work-Life Balance and the Career and Retirement Plans of US Oncologists

*Tait D. Shanafelt, Marilyn Raymond, Michael Kosty, Daniel Satele, Leora Horn, John Phippen, Quyen Chu, Helen Chew, William Benton Clark, Amy E. Hanley, Jeff Sloan, and William J. Gradishar*

Over 25% reported a moderate or higher likelihood of reducing their clinical work hours in the next 12 months

Over 30% indicated a moderate or higher likelihood of leaving their current position within 24 months

Around 30% planned to retire before 65 years of age

## Oncology Fellows' Career Plans, Expectations, and Well-Being: Do Fellows Know What They Are Getting Into?

*Tait D. Shanafelt, Marilyn Raymond, Leora Horn, Tim Moynihan, Frances Collichio, Helen Chew, Michael P. Kosty, Daniel Satele, Jeff Sloan, and William J. Gradishar*

Fellows' expectations regarding future work hours were 5 to 6 hours per week fewer than oncologists' actual reported work hours.

# ESMO 2014 Press Release: More Than 70% of Young Oncologists in Europe Suffer Symptoms of Burnout

## Cancer doctors 'facing burn-out': More than 50% of British oncologists aged under 40 struggle to cope with demands of job

- More than 70% of oncologists under 40 are showing signs of burnout
- Burnout can lead to anxiety, depression, substance abuse and suicide
- The lowest rates of burnout were found in the UK at 52 per cent

By DAILY MAIL REPORTER

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**DDN**  
delhidailynews.com

MEDPAGE TODAY\*

Medscape Medical News > Conference News

### Young European Oncologists Report High Levels of Burnout

Rosanne Nelson  
September 26, 2014

Medscape Oncology > Viewpoints

### Oncology's Unrecognized Crisis

Lidia Schapira, MD, Susana Banerjee, MBBCh, MRCP, PhD | Disclosures  
November 24, 2014

4 comments



Print

#### EDITORS' RECOMMENDATIONS



Young European Oncologists Report High Levels of Burnout



Burnout and Unrealistic Views of 'Budding Oncologists'

Dr Schapira: What did your study identify as the primary stressors in burnout?

Dr Banerjee: Oncologists who have a poor work-life balance are 3.6 times more likely to experience burnout. Other factors were inadequate vacation time and longer time to travel to work. There are a number of other personal factors, including not being in a relationship, living alone, and not having children. Hospital factors that affect burnout include fewer oncologists

## Oncology in Practice: Burnout 'Across the Pond'

— MADRID — Burnout knows no borders, according to a report from European oncologists.

EJC News Focus – December 2014



Why are young oncologists burning out?

## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

# Professional burnout in European young oncologists: results of the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) Young Oncologists Committee Burnout Survey

S. Banerjee<sup>1,\*</sup>, R. Califano<sup>2</sup>, J. Corral<sup>3</sup>, E. de Azambuja<sup>4</sup>, L. De Mattos-Arruda<sup>5</sup>, V. Guarneri<sup>6</sup>, M. Hutka<sup>7</sup>, K. Jordan<sup>8</sup>, E. Martinelli<sup>9</sup>, G. Mountzios<sup>10</sup>, M. A. Ozturk<sup>11</sup>, M. Petrova<sup>12</sup>, S. Postel-Vinay<sup>13</sup>, M. Preusser<sup>14</sup>, C. Qvortrup<sup>15</sup>, M. N. M. Volkov<sup>16</sup>, J. Tabernero<sup>5</sup>, D. Olmos<sup>17,18</sup> & M. H. Strijbos<sup>19</sup>

# AIM: To investigate the burnout prevalence, work and lifestyle factors amongst European oncologists $\leq 40$ (YOs)

Online survey available on ESMO website January 2013- 2014, Targeted promotion to European YOs via YO Corner on esmo.org, YO E-news, via national YO group representatives and YOC members to use national network of YOs

**MBI is the most widely used tool to measure burnout**

**22 Questions:**

## **Emotional exhaustion $\geq 27$ high**

- measures feelings of being emotionally overextended and exhausted by one's work

## **Depersonalisation $\geq 10$ high**

- measures an unfeeling and impersonal response toward recipients of one's service, care treatment, or instruction

## **Personal accomplishment $< 33$ low**

- measures feelings of competence and successful achievement in one's work

Additional questions exploring work/ lifestyle factors

**Table 1. Participant demographics**

	Number (%)
<b>Gender</b>	
Male	225 (38)
Female	370 (62)
<b>Region</b>	
Eastern Europe	74 (12)
Southeastern Europe	76 (13)
Central Europe	95 (16)
Western Europe	93 (16)
Northern Europe and British Isles	128 (22)
Southwestern Europe	129 (22)
<b>Trainee</b>	
Yes	308 (52)
No	287 (48)
<b>ESMO Member</b>	
Yes	289 (49)
No	306 (51)
<b>Hospital type</b>	
University hospital	295 (50)
Cancer centre	185 (31)
General hospital	90 (15)
Private clinic	21 (4)
Other	4 (1)

**Table 2. Lifestyle and work factors**

	Number (%)
<b>Currently in a relationship</b>	
Yes	483 (81%)
No	112 (19%)
<b>Has children</b>	
Yes	256 (43%)
No	339 (57%)
<b>Good work-life balance</b>	
Yes	223 (37%)
No	373 (63%)
<b>Lives alone</b>	
Yes	135 (23%)
No	460 (77%)
<b>Adequate vacation time</b>	
Yes	240 (40%)
No	355 (60%)
<b>Hospital offers support services</b>	
Yes	156 (26%)
No	439 (74%)
<b>Time to work (min)</b>	
0–15	158 (27%)
15–30	208 (35%)
30–45	115 (19%)
45–60	72 (12%)
60–90	31 (5%)
90–120	8 (1%)
>120	3 (1%)





**Figure 1.** Burnout scores in European regions. Burnout rate defines as high score EE, DEP and/or low PA.

**Table 4. Multivariable linear regression analysis of overall burnout scores and subscale (EE, DEP and PA) scores**

Variable	Coefficient (95% CI); P-value			
	Burnout score	EE score	DEP score	PA score
No access to support services	3.32 (0.53–6.12) <i>P</i> <0.0020	2.86 (1.01–4.71) <i>P</i> =0.002	NS	NS
No good work-life balance	9.70 (7.15–12.23) <i>P</i> <0.0001	9.50 (7.80–11.20) <i>P</i> <0.0001	2.55 (1.55–3.55) <i>P</i> <0.0001	2.62 (1.62–3.62) <i>P</i> <0.0001
Not living alone	−3.17 (−5.92 to −0.42) <i>P</i> =0.024	−2.30 (−4.50 to 0.11) <i>P</i> =0.040	NS	–
No adequate vacation	4.01 (1.49–6.64) <i>P</i> <0.002	3.40 (1.70–5.10) <i>P</i> <0.0001	NS	NS
<b>Region</b>				
Southeastern Europe	NS	NS	3.24 (1.49–4.99) <i>P</i> <0.0001	3.44 (1.78–5.11) <i>P</i> <0.0001
Central Europe	NS	NS	2.29 (0.74–3.84) <i>P</i> =0.004	2.48 (0.94–4.02) <i>P</i> =0.002
Western Europe	−6.62 (−10.39 to −2.85) <i>P</i> =0.001	−4.13 (−6.64 to −1.62) <i>P</i> =0.001	NS	NS
Eastern Europe	NS	NS	2.33 (0.67–3.99) <i>P</i> =0.006	2.48 (0.81–4.41) <i>P</i> =0.004
Southwestern Europe	−5.83 (−9.44 to 2.21) <i>P</i> =0.001	−2.47 (4.95–0.12) <i>P</i> =0.051	NS	NS

Factors that were significant for at least one of the scores are shown.  
NS, non-significant. Reference region—Northern Europe and British Isles.

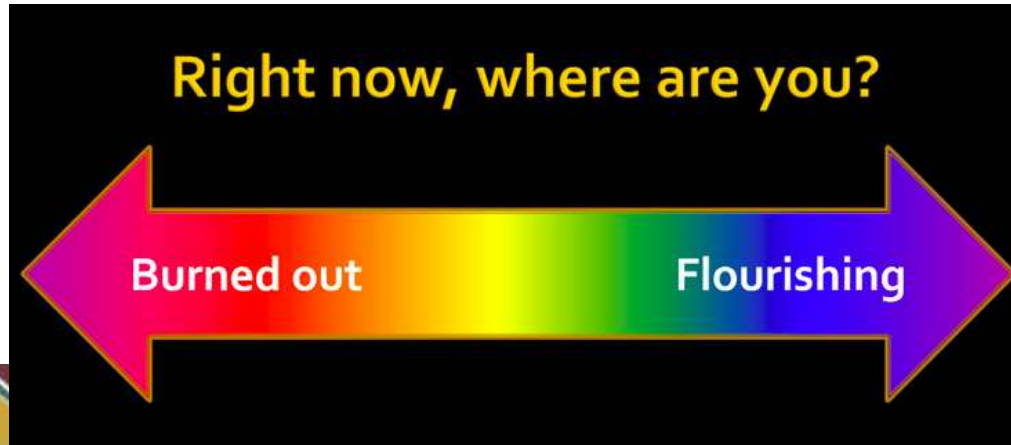
# ANTIDOTE TO BURNOUT: RESILIENCE?

Fay Hlubocky at 2017 and Ronald Epstein ASCO 2017 Annual Meeting

- Vitality, engagement and self-efficacy
- Talk to colleagues (peer support)
- Mediate
- Minimise administrative work
- Reengage in clinical work (self-reflection)
- Breathe!

What 3 things went well today?

Set boundaries



# What institutions should do

- Value the formation of people, not just the production of “products”
- Increase clinicians’ sense of autonomy and control
- Promote a culture of respect
- Reduce real and perceived sense of isolation
- Articulate a (caring) mission and keep to it
- Develop and reward deep and appreciative listening
- Focus on enhancing the positive, not just solving problems
- Share stories, not just strategies

Presented By Ronald Epstein at 2017 ASCO Annual Meeting



# Institutional strategies: what works

- Values-driven leadership
- Clinician well-being as a quality metric
- Cognitive ergonomics and human factors design in EHRs
- Work hours
- Lower regulatory burden
- Centers for professional well-being
- Discussion groups
- Skills training -- mindful practice, communication, stress management, conflict management
- Team training
- Peer coaching
- Behavioral/disciplinary interventions for outliers

*West CP 2016 Lancet; Epstein RM 2016 Lancet*

# ONCOLOGIST RESILIENCY

Fay Hlubocky at 2017 and Ronald Epstein ASCO 2017 Annual Meeting

## **SIDEBAR 2. Three Components of Resilience**

1. Strength of the individual
2. Rise above adversity
3. Positive adaptation

## **SIDEBAR 6. Nine Principles of Organizational Leadership That Can Promote Clinician Resilience and Well-Being (adapted from Shanafelt and Noseworthy<sup>70</sup>)**

1. Acknowledging and assessing the problem
2. Recognizing the behaviors of leaders that can increase or decrease burnout
3. Using a systems approach to develop targeted interventions to improve efficiency and reduce clerical work
4. Cultivating community at work
5. Using rewards and incentives strategically
6. Assessing whether the organizations actions are aligned with the stated values and mission
7. Implementing organizational practices and policies that promote flexibility and work-life balance
8. Providing resources to help individuals promote self-care
9. Supporting organizational science (study the factors in your own institution that contribute to the problem, and invest in solutions)

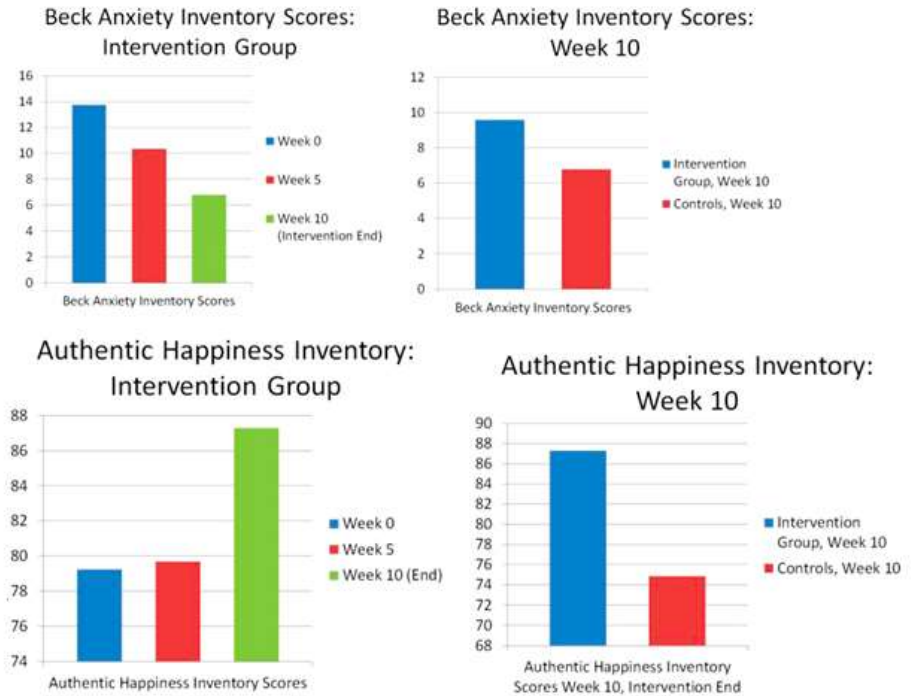
## The Joy Initiative Michigan State University

Resident physicians created and taught 60-minute weekly classes for 10 weeks

Mindfulness and Cognitive Behavioural Therapy

Miko Rose ASCO 2017

**FIGURE 1.**  
Joy Initiative Participant Outcomes for Anxiety and Happiness



Outset, midpoint, and termination of the 10-week intervention compared with control group.

## DISCUSSION

- Burnout is common amongst YOs and rates vary across Europe
- European region, work/life balance and vacation time were independent factors
- Achieving a good work/life balance and adequate vacation time may reduce burnout levels
- Raising burnout awareness, support for oncologists and interventional research and measures are needed
- **Discussion- How to prevent burnout?**

