

# WCX Quarterly



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## Upcoming Events

**2025 Cancer Cachexia Conference**

Abstract deadline

**Until June 13, 2025**

Early-bird registration

**Until June 30, 2025**

**REGISTER NOW!**






The abstract submission deadline is quickly approaching for the 2025 Cancer Cachexia Conference in Turin, Italy! [Submit your abstract and secure your spot.](#)



## 1<sup>st</sup> Cancer Cachexia Awareness Day

**Friday**  
**September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

Sponsored by the Cancer Cachexia Society 501(c)3

CCS is launching the first ever **Cancer Cachexia Awareness Day**, which will be the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of September !



## Celebrating your recent achievements

### Publications



- **Dr. Rima Nasrah**, a Registered Dietitian at Jewish General Hospital in Montreal, Quebec, Canada was 1<sup>st</sup> author on a [recent publication in Journal of Cachexia, Sarcopenia and Muscle](#). They found that a dietary intervention was sufficient to diversify the gut microbiome in, and characteristics of the microbiome could be used as a diagnostic tool for, patients with cancer-related weight loss. Congratulations, Rima!
- **Drs. Aneesha Dasgupta and Jason Doles** published a [thought-provoking article in Medical Science Educator](#) providing a framework for reverse mentoring to promote academic leadership capacity. Cheers, Aneesha and Jason!

- **Ms. Megan Bowers**, PhD Student at King's College London was 1<sup>st</sup> author on a [systematic review assessing multicomponent interventions for adults with cancer cachexia](#), published in *Journal of Cachexia, Sarcopenia and Muscle*. Way to go, Megan!
- **Dr. Teresa Zimmers**, Professor at Oregon Health & Science University School of Medicine [published the results of a randomized phase II study](#) comparing the efficacy of gemcitabine/nab-paclitaxel with anti-interleukin-6 receptor antibody tocilizumab for patients with advanced pancreatic cancer, in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*. Congratulations Teresa and team for the completion of this important clinical study!

### Spotlight: Ms. Megan Bowers



Ms. Bowers is a third-year PhD Student at King's College London, where her research explores the connections between, and effects of interventions on, quality of life and physical function among individuals with cancer cachexia.

[Read her insightful full interview here.](#)

### Some highlights from our interview with Ms. Bowers:

#### *What made you decide to study cancer cachexia?*

*"I first learned about cachexia during my master's degree and was struck by how under-researched it is, despite being so prevalent among people with cancer and having such a profound impact on people's lives. I was drawn to the topic because it brings together both my biomedical and nutrition backgrounds, but also because it's an area where research has the potential to make a real, tangible difference to peoples' quality of life."*

*Megan is inspired by the many successful scientists at Cicely Saunders Institute of Palliative Care at King's College London who are women/gender minorities. She is particularly inspired by her PhD supervisor Professor Irene Higginson, a leader in the field of palliative care and one of the most highly cited women researchers.*

### In the News



#### *Preventing bad behavior in academia*

*'We gave young scientists this prompt: Describe one change to scientific policy or culture that would substantially decrease incidents of scientific misconduct or other unethical behavior.'*

[Read the article in Science](#)

Image: Da Cruz Albino et al., *Science* 2024

## Did You Know?



**Alice Ball** (1892 - 1916) was a chemist who very early in her career pioneered a treatment for Hansen's Disease, known also as leprosy, which became known as the 'Ball Method.' It was the only working treatment until antibiotics were invented. During her time studying in Hawaii she worked on chaulmoogra oil and its chemical properties. At the time, this type of oil was the only treatment for Hansen's Disease but it was almost impossible to use effectively. Through her work, Ball found a way to create a water-soluble solution of the oil's active compounds that could be safely injected with minimal side effects.

Source: Natural History Museum, University of Oxford

## Important Links & Resources

### Upcoming meetings:

[8<sup>th</sup> Cancer Cachexia Conference](#), September 25-27



**WCX members:** [Submit your recent achievements to be highlighted in our next newsletter](#)

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