

# NETworks

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## Celebrating our Successes! • Dr. Arminee Kazanjian, CIHR Cross Cultural Palliative NET Co Principal Investigator



**A** Sociologist by training, Dr. Kazanjian was a founding Director of the British Columbia Office of Health Technology Assessment at UBC (1991-2002), served as Director of the Health Human Resources Unit at UBC from 1988 to 2002 and an Associate Director at the UBC Centre for Health Services & Policy Research, 1988-2002. Currently, she is a Professor of Population and Public Health, Faculty of Medicine at the University of British Colum-

bia (UBC) and an Associate of the Sociobehavioural Research Centre, BC Cancer Agency as well as the Co-Principal Investigator with Richard Doll of the CIHR-funded Cross-Cultural Palliative NET.

**T**his month, Dr. Kazanjian gives an update on one of her CIHR funded studies titled “Who Will Care in the End: A Pan-Canadian study of palliative care providers” with Dr. Susan Cadell from the Paediatric Palliative NET.

## Deliverables: Research Informing Practice

According to Dr. Kazanjian, the objective of her pioneer study titled “WHO WILL CARE IN THE END: A PAN-CANADIAN STUDY OF PALLIATIVE CARE PROVIDERS” is to increase the knowledge and understanding of palliative care and its providers across Canada. The results will not only have the potential to guide and/or influence how palliative care can best be delivered as well as the health of its providers, but also improve the quality of life and end of life experience of the recipients of palliative care services.

The multi disciplinary team is conducting a national survey of palliative care professionals and volunteers to describe the demographic and employment profile of this multidisciplinary group and examine contributing factors and prevalence of work-related compassion satisfaction (CS) and compassion fatigue (CF). To date, these constructs have seldom been applied to palliative care settings. Through focus groups that have engaged health care professionals involved in the field, a survey instrument will explore the cultural contexts that foster the positive elements of these constructs as they apply in palliative care settings. Individual (ethnicity), professional (physician, social worker, etc) and organizational (corporate) cultures will be explored as they relate to, and impact upon, CS and CF.

Because no single source or registry exists to identify the professionals and volunteers currently

working in palliative care, organizations and agencies involved in the provision of palliative care are currently being contacted based on their membership in the Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association. These entities will receive electronic survey packages describing the research and asked to provide assistance in compiling a roster of the palliative care workforce population. Once the participants are finalized, the survey will be directly administered to individual palliative care providers, professionals, and volunteers.

For more information about the project, we encourage you to contact Lars Apland, Project Manager, School of Public and Population Health, UBC (Tel. 604.822.5586 or email: [lars.apland@ubc.ca](mailto:lars.apland@ubc.ca)) or the Principal Investigator, Dr. Arminée Kazanjian, School of Public and Population Health, UBC (Tel. 604.822.4618

### Upcoming Events: News you can use!

17th International Congress on Care of the Terminally Ill  
Sept. 23-26th, 2008 Montreal, QB.  
<http://www.pal2008.com/index.html>

ANTEA Worldwide Palliative Care Conference  
November 12-15, 2008 Rome, Italy.  
<http://www.anteaconference2008.com/>

BC Cancer Agency 2008 Annual Cancer Care Conference: November 20-22 2008 Westin Bayshore Resort and Marina, Vancouver, BC.  
<http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/HPI/ACC2008/default.htm>

Canadian Association of Psychosocial Oncology Annual Conference 2009. Vancouver - April 1 - 4. Survivorship: Transitions and Transformations.  
<http://www.capo.ca/eng/index.asp>

American Psychosocial Oncology Society (APOS) 6th Annual Conference: February 5-8 2009 Charlotte, NC, USA.  
<http://www.apos-society.org>

**Next Meeting:** Let's get together.

Meeting request forthcoming for a face-to-face meeting in October.

### We want to hear from you

Absence does not make the heart grow fonder – the [CIHR Cross Cultural Palliative NET](#) wants to hear from you as much as possible. We encourage you to let us know when you have or, better still, are close to publishing the results of research funded by the [CIHR Cross Cultural Palliative NET](#). Please drop us a line at [pweaver@bccancer.bc.ca](mailto:pweaver@bccancer.bc.ca)

### On the web.

Visit our website to find some of the [CIHR Cross-Cultural Palliative Care NET](#) deliverables to-date:

<http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/RES/ResearchPrograms/NET/Trainees.htm#3>

**To submit an article, posting, let us know about an upcoming event, or for more information, please contact:**

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