

3rd International Conference on Cardiology and Cardiovascular Innovations July 21-22, 2026 | Vienna, Austria



Anecita Fadol, Geraldine Lee, Valerie Shelton,
Kelly C Schadler, Asma Mohammed Younus,
Mary Stuart, Lisa Nodzon and Edith Pituskin,
Reehal, Priya

IWK Health Centre, Canada

Nursing knowledge in cardio-oncology: results of an international learning needs-assessment survey

Intro

With early detection and improvements in systemic and local therapies, millions of people are surviving cancer, but for some at a high cost. In some cancer types, cardiovascular disease now competes with recurrent cancer as the cause of death. Traditional care models, in which the cardiologist or oncologist assess patients individually, do not address complex cancer and cardiovascular needs. Nursing disciplines should be an integral part of holistic assessment in cardio-oncology care. To learn what educational needs nurses perceive important for provision of competent cardio-oncology nursing care, we undertook an international survey, aiming to understand their learning needs and preferred learning modalities.

Methods

A cross-sectional survey was developed by members of the International Cardio-Oncology Society (IC-OS) Nursing Research group. The survey was in English and consisted of 23 questions which include demographic information, clinical specialty (oncology, cardiology, or cardio-oncology), multiple-choice questions related to clinical topics that nurses might be interested in learning, and preferred methods of instruction.

Results

Three hundred and twenty-nine responses were received. The majority expressed interest in learning more about cardio-oncology related topics, primarily via pre-recorded webinars (n = 206, 67%) and live virtual meetings (n = 192, 63%). Formal programs leading to certification were highly endorsed (n = 247, 80%). In relation to specific cardio-oncology topics, there was a strong interest in learning more about specific cardiovascular toxicities, and their monitoring and management (n = 205, 66%).



3rd International Conference on Cardiology and Cardiovascular Innovations July 21-22, 2026 | Vienna, Austria

Conclusion

Cardio-oncology is a new field of expertise requiring competent nurses with current knowledge incorporating both specialties. The survey we conducted described the sample's characteristics, identified cardio-oncology learning needs and preferred methods of delivery. A cardio-oncology core curriculum based on the survey responses can offer convenient, accessible and learner-directed education for nurses worldwide. Ultimately, development of cardio-oncology nursing expertise will benefit cancer patients and survivors worldwide. The curriculum has been created and is available for health care providers.

Biography

Mary Stuart is a Nurse Practitioner at IWK Health Centre in Halifax, Canada. She has more than 20 years of experience in Medical Oncology and Hematology, having worked at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. For the past six years, she has specialized in cancer survivorship and pediatric late effects, working across both adult and pediatric settings at Princess Margaret Cancer Centre and the Hospital for Sick Children.

Mary is currently based at IWK Health Centre in Halifax, where she is working to develop an Adolescent and Young Adult (AYA) survivorship program for pediatric cancer survivors in Nova Scotia. Her professional interests include long-term cancer survivorship, the management of late effects following childhood cancer treatment, and improving care pathways and support for adolescents and young adults transitioning from pediatric to adult healthcare services.