

2023

ANNUAL REPORT



ABOUT OCUMEL CANADA

WHO WE ARE

Ocumel Canada (OC), an initiative of Save Your Skin Foundation, was formed to increase awareness, advance treatment options, and build a supportive community for those diagnosed with primary and/or metastatic ocular melanoma (OM).

Ocumel Canada is in close collaboration with a global Medical Advisory Board and partner patient representation organizations with the endeavour to build on international best practices to improve patient outcomes for Canadians touched by this disease.

This rare cancer is a challenge in so many ways. The small number of diagnoses in Canada does make it difficult for the mainstream Cancer Agencies to provide adequate services. In some provinces and territories, there are no services at all.

VISION

We envision a future when ocular melanoma will be a treatable and manageable disease and where patients in Canada can easily find support and courage after diagnosis.

Mandate: To propel ocular melanoma into a treatable realm through relentless advocacy, pioneering research, and unwavering support, ensuring that all diagnosed individuals in Canada find resilience and camaraderie in their journey.

OC VALUES & OBJECTIVES

1

Belief in Science: Enhance access to clinical trials by enabling enrollment in all four treatment centers.

Objective: Ocumel Canada's commitment to science is evident in its effort to broaden access to clinical trials across all four treatment centers. By facilitating enrollment, the organization emphasizes the importance of research collaboration and evidence-based treatments, ensuring that innovative therapies reach ocular melanoma patients nationwide.

2

Devotion to Improving Ocular Melanoma Patient Outcomes: Advocate for the establishment of a treatment center in the Atlantic provinces.

Objective: Ocumel Canada's dedication to enhancing ocular melanoma patient outcomes is exemplified by advocating for the establishment of a treatment center in the Atlantic provinces. This initiative reflects the organization's commitment to providing accessible, specialized care, and improving the lives of patients affected by this condition.

3

Compassion for Patients and Caregivers: Push for nationwide support, including travel and accommodation expenses, for out-of-province travel (considering patients often have no other option).

Objective: Demonstrating compassion for patients and caregivers, Ocumel Canada actively seeks nationwide support for covering travel and accommodation expenses for out-of-province travel. Recognizing that patients often lack alternative options, this initiative showcases the organization's empathy and commitment to easing the burdens faced by those affected by ocular melanoma.

4

Champion the cause for universal coverage of paid prognostic testing for OM patients.

To fervently champion the universal coverage of paid prognostic testing for ocular melanoma patients, advocating for equitable access to this critical diagnostic tool and ensuring that every individual affected by ocular melanoma can benefit from comprehensive and timely prognostic information.

CONFERENCES

- Attended 17th Annual Canadian Melanoma Conference (virtual & In-person)
- Attended ASCO Congress (In-person)
- Attended ESMO Congress (Virtual Sessions)
- Attended CureOM Global Science Meeting
- Attended Society for Melanoma Research Congress (Virtual)
- Attended CureOM Patient and Caregiver Symposium (In-person)



MEETINGS

- **Annual Ocular Melanoma Patient & Caregiver Symposium 2023:**
 - Successfully organized and hosted the inaugural Annual Ocular Melanoma Patient & Caregiver Symposium in 2023.
- **Ocular Melanoma Task Force Canada Meetings:**
 - Facilitated and hosted productive meetings as part of the Ocular Melanoma Task Force in Canada.
- **Global Vision Registry Collaboration with CureOM:**
 - Actively participated in meetings with CureOM to collaborate on the Global Vision Registry initiative.
- **Engagement with Physicians and Pharmaceutical Partners:**
 - Conducted strategic discussions with physicians and pharmaceutical partners regarding challenges and solutions for improving special access to treatment for ocular melanoma patients.
- **Presentation to MI-PAC Group and AIM at Melanoma:**
 - Represented Ocumel Canada by delivering a presentation to the MI-PAC group and AIM at Melanoma, showcasing our efforts and contributions.
- **Internal Strategic Meeting on Ocumel Canada & Marketing Campaign:**
 - Led an internal strategic meeting to delve into the development and enhancement of Ocumel Canada. Discussed and formulated a comprehensive marketing and social media campaign for effective outreach.

EDUCATION & AWARENESS

Education and Awareness Initiatives:

Collaborated with MI-PAC, MRF Global Coalition for Melanoma Patients Advocacy, actively contributing to the cause during May is Melanoma Month campaigns. The collaborative efforts focused on raising awareness about OM, providing support to patients, and advocating for critical issues related to melanoma care.

Hosted Webinar: Ocular Melanoma Patient & Caregiver Symposium 2023:

Organized and hosted an impactful webinar dedicated to the Ocular Melanoma community. The symposium served as a platform for patients, caregivers, and healthcare professionals to share insights, discuss challenges, and explore advancements in the field. This initiative aimed to enhance understanding, foster a sense of community, and empower individuals affected by ocular melanoma.

Move for Melanoma 2023:

Team Ocumel Canada was established to actively participate in the annual Save your Skin Move for Melanoma event. The dedicated efforts of our team resulted in a successful campaign that raised a total of \$13,000 to support OM patients and melanoma awareness.

Fireside Chat: Ocular/Uveal Melanoma and the Trials and Tribulations in the Canadian Landscape:

Conducted a thought-provoking fireside chat to delve into the specific challenges and experiences associated with Ocular/Uveal Melanoma in the Canadian context.

Continued Social Media Engagement:

Maintained an active presence on various social media platforms to keep the public informed about Ocumel Canada's mission and relevant news in both English and French. Regular updates were provided on the Ocular Melanoma Facebook page, fostering a sense of community and disseminating important information to a broader audience.

Monthly Newsletters:

Continued our monthly newsletter providing comprehensive updates on the Ocular/Uveal space. The newsletter served as a valuable resource, offering insights into the latest developments, research findings, and community events.

These initiatives collectively contributed to the overarching goal of enhancing education and awareness surrounding ocular melanoma, fostering a supportive community, and advocating for improved resources and care.

EARNED MEDIA



Nigel Deacon
Ocumel Canada



Candyce, Age 53
Uveal Melanoma Patient

METASTATIC UVEAL MELANOMA CANADIAN HEALTH & FAMILY EPISODE

Health & Family, October 18th, 2023

To watch the episode, please click [HERE](#)



5TH ANNUAL MOVE FOR MELANOMA AIMS TO RAISE \$75,000 TO HELP CANADIAN MELANOMA AND SKIN CANCER PATIENTS REACH TREATMENT

Yahoo Finance, June 22nd, 2023

To read the story, please click [HERE](#)

MEDIA ACROSS CANADA ON OUR SUNSCREEN DISPENSER INITIATIVE

Multiple sources, 2023

Check out all the coverage here:

[Castanet](#)

[Yahoo](#)

[Canadian Insider](#)

[Kamloops Now](#)

[The Canadian Business Journal](#)

[Montreal Times](#)

[Victoria Buzz](#)

[CTV News Atlantic](#)

[Global News](#)

[Richmond News](#)

[Times Colonist](#)

[Global News](#)

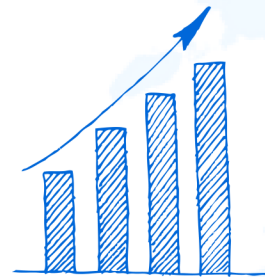


PATIENT COMMUNITY



Ocular Melanoma Connect/Connexion mélanome oculaire

Private group · 215 members



38%

Growth in 2023

NEW GROUP: OCULAR MELANOMA CONNECT-METS

This year, we decided to establish a new Facebook group for individuals coping with a diagnosis of metastatic ocular melanoma. The group was created in 2020 and is currently open to new members, providing them with a space to share their experiences, connect with others facing similar challenges, and become part of a supportive community that truly understands what they are going through.

THANK YOU!

We want to thank our Supporting Partners and Collaborators for all the success and impact they have helped create; without their valued support, our achievements would not have been possible.



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Save Your Skin Foundation
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