

## **ESMO (European Society for Medical Oncology) Breaks Records for Attendance and the Quality of Science Presented**

Save Your Skin Foundation attends ESMO 2016 in Copenhagen, Denmark, taking part in the annual congress impacting the practice of oncology across the globe

**VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA (October 12, 2016)** – ESMO 2016 has broken records, not only of attendance, but in terms of the quality science being presented, that will impact the practice of oncology,” said Professor Andrés Cervantes, Scientific Chair of the ESMO 2016 Congress at the closing press conference today.

Save Your Skin Foundation attended this year’s Congress in Copenhagen, Denmark, where there was a reported 20,522 participants. Key points during the Congress were focused around the area of immunotherapy, in particular in the way that it has changed the oncology landscape as well as targeted therapies and personalized medicine in general. The use of biomarkers for predicting response and outcomes is of huge benefit to patients.

“Another very exciting focus of the Congress was the emphasis on patients”, explained Save Your Skin Foundation’s Kathleen Barnard. “A study on quality of life, beyond survival, was included in a Presidential Symposium. There was also a hugely successful Patient Advocacy Track and a published guidelines for cancer patients.”

There were over 1,640 studies presented at ESMO 2016, including 47 late breaking trials and over 1500 quality posters. A record number of research presented at ESMO 2016 was published in major medical journals such as the *New England Journal of Medicine* (NEJM), *The Lancet Oncology* and *JAMA Oncology*. Some of the practice changing studies with good news for physicians and patients, presented at ESMO 2016 include:

- ENGOT-OV16/NOVA concerning landmark study for patients with recurrent ovarian cancer
- Keynote-024 and Keynote-021 presenting new immunotherapeutic options for advanced lung cancer
- Monaleesa 2 with good news for patients with HER2 negative advanced breast cancer
- EORTC 18071 with good survival results for patients with stage III melanoma
- Checkmate 141 study of patient reported outcomes in head and neck cancers

Kathleen Barnard summarized by saying: “ESMO brought the Foundation a lot of information in terms greater data knowledge, science and best patient practices and we will be busy in the coming months finding ways to integrate this new knowledge into our patient support practice and information sharing.”

**More about the European Society for Medical Oncology can be found [here](#).**

### **About the Save Your Skin Foundation**

The Save Your Skin Foundation is a Canadian registered not-for-profit that supports those touched by skin cancer by helping patients to navigate their journey through informed, compassionate care and personalized support to those touched by melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancers. Through programs and outreach, we support education and ongoing awareness about skin cancer, from prevention to survivorship. The foundation



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Media Contact:  
Karran Finlay  
T: 778-988-8194  
karran@saveyourskin.ca

also acts as a conduit for health care professionals and patients in the Canadian health technology assessment and reimbursement landscape.

Please visit [www.saveyourskin.ca](http://www.saveyourskin.ca) for more information.

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Media Contact:  
Karran Finlay, Save Your Skin Foundation  
778-988-8194  
karran@saveyourskin.ca  
[www.saveyourskin.ca](http://www.saveyourskin.ca)