



In this issue of *Current Oncology*

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Although multiple myeloma remains incurable, control of the disease has been significantly advanced with the introduction of novel therapies—including thalidomide. The efficacy and survival benefit of this drug in multiple myeloma has been understood for 10 years. And while thalidomide is available worldwide, it is not available in Canada, apparently leading to illegal importation. Concern over this situation is felt by hematologists Canada-wide, and the results of a poll on the relevant issues by Dr. Leonard Minuk and colleagues from the London Health Sciences Centre are reported in this issue. The currently available special access mechanism is felt by most clinicians to be not only excessively onerous, but also an invasion of patient privacy.

Surely this situation needs to be addressed urgently by Health Canada.

The current issue of the journal is our largest to date, with some 17 peer-reviewed manuscripts, and it is pleasing to see contributions within the relatively new sections on Biomarkers, Psychosocial Oncology, and Biomedical Ethics. This range of articles truly reflects the comprehensive nature of the journal.

Continuing use of the hybrid format—most manuscripts are now appearing in full online, with an extended abstract in hard copy—has allowed us to make considerable inroads into our backlog despite the increase in workload for all of our hardworking editorial staff! Their hours of labour in bringing *Current Oncology* to you, in this dual format, is greatly appreciated.