

**V INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF
YOUNG ONCOLOGIST CLUB BULGARIA**



МладОнколог



**New Aspects in the Treatment of
Breast Cancer and Prostate Cancer**

Plovdiv, 15-17 May 2015



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PROGRAMME

15 May

12.30 - 13.30	Registration
14.30 - 17.30	Ultrasound for Oncologists School – J. Genov, R. Mitova, R. Krasteva, E. Paskalev
17.30 - 18.10	Astellas Symposium – Treat What Matters in mCRPC– A Multidisciplinary Approach in the Treatment of Prostate Cancer – R. Krasteva, MBAL Serdica
	When Cancer Becomes mCRPC, the Only Thing to Change is Patient Treatment – K. Koinov
18.10 - 18.30	Merck Presentation – Modern Treatment of Metastatic Colorectal Cancer - Focusing on Details – R. Krasteva
18.30 - 18.50	Novartis in Oncology
18.50 - 19.10	Miscellaneous
20.00 - 22.00	Dinner

16 May

08.00 - 08.15	Official Opening
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Breast Cancer Session

Moderators: A. Konsoulova, S. Valev, J. Arabadjiev

08.30 - 09.00	Beyond BRCA testing in the Oncology Clinic – J. Mackey
09.00 - 09.30	EndoPredict – 2 nd Generation Gene Expression Analysis: Combining a Tumor's "Finger Print" with Tumor Pathology – Chr. Petry
09.30 - 09.50	PET-CT in Breast Cancer: Diagnosis, Staging and Follow-up – J. Mihailovic
09.50 - 10.05	The Role of SPECT-CT for the Diagnosis and Differential Diagnosis of Tumor – induced Bone Disease in Breast Cancer and Prostate Cancer – S. Sergieva
10.05 - 10.45	Prophylactic mastectomy: an appraisal – G. Zografos, Controversies in reconstruction – Breast conservative treatment (BCT) – E. Vassilev, Ml. Mladenov
10.45 - 11.10	Radiotherapy for Breast Cancer – L. Marinova, I. Mihailova, Z. Zahariev, N. Velikova
11.10 - 11.20	Coffee break
11.20 - 11.45	Hormone Therapy Controversies, Hormone-resistant Breast Cancer - K. Timcheva
11.45 - 12.05	The Antiestrogens – New Aspects in the Advanced Breast Cancer Treatment – A. Tomova, a lecture of Astra Zeneca
12.05 - 12.25	Breast Cancer During Pregnancy: the Oncologist Perspective – F. Zagouri
12.25 - 13.00	Management of Target Therapy in Breast Cancer - Denozumab – T. Brodovich
13.00 - 13.40	Scientific presentations sponsored by Roche
13.40 - 14.30	Lunch

Prostate Cancer Session

Moderators: R. Krasteva, N. Chilingirova

14.30 - 15.00	OncoDEEP / OncoTRACE: A Combination of Expertises to Identify Actionable Targets in the Tumor, Choose Treatment and Monitor its Response from a Simple Non-invasive Liquid Biopsy – S. Sauvage
15.00 - 15.20	Preoperative and Final Histopathological Diagnosis of Prostate Cancer - Are There Any Stage Changes? – Y. Semerdjiev
15.20 - 15.40	PET-CT in Prostate Cancer: Diagnosis, Staging and Follow-up – P. Castellucci
15.40 - 16.15	Modern Surgical Methods for Treating Prostate Cancer – Kr. Yanev
16.15 - 16.45	Radiotherapy – What Do We Achieve with the New Options – R. Lazarov / N. Bildirev
16.45 - 17.10	Radionuclide Therapy of Symptomatic Metastases in Patients with Prostatic Cancer – G. Wiseman
17.10 - 17.40	Metastatic Castrate – Hormone-resistant Prostate Cancer /mCRPC/ – What We Do Not Know about Hormonal Therapy for Prostate Cancer – K. Koinov
17.40 - 18.00	Survival Optimization in the Advanced Prostate Cancer Treatment – A. Tomova, a lecture of Sanofi Aventis
18.00 - 18.15	Coffee Break
18.15 - 19.15	Case Studies for Breast Cancer – J. Arabadjiev, Sn. Nedeva, V. Petrova, D. Petkova, V. Megdanova, J. Mihaylova; Case Studies for Prostate Cancer – N. Chilingirova, Hr. Spasov, R. Dzhupanova
20.00 -	Gala dinner





Dr. Rossitza Krasteva

**Welcome to the
V INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF
YOUNG ONCOLOGIST CLUB Bulgaria 2015**

DEAR COLLEAGUES,

On behalf of the Board of Young Oncologist Club Bulgaria, I am pleased to welcome you to the Vth International Meeting - New Aspects in the Treatment of Breast Cancer and Prostate Cancer.

Understanding cancer biology and the development of specific immunological and targeted therapy are revolutionary in the history of cancer treatment. To optimize the use of these therapeutic options, there is a clear need for a more precise definition of the disease in each patient.

This event will try to find answers to questions about

the parameters relevant for the assessment of patient prognosis and the prediction of treatment efficacy. The speakers will present new methods / options for diagnosis and identification of therapeutic behavior, what this information gives us today and what it will bring tomorrow.

The Vth International Meeting of the club promises to continue the tradition of excellence and to stimulate the interest of the participants. I hope that it will be an important and most memorable scientific meeting.



Dr. Jordan Genov

Dr. Jordan Genov has graduated the Medical University in Sofia in 1991 and got his Internal Diseases specialty in 1998 and the one in Gastroenterology in 2005. He also acquired a PhD degree in 2008. Meanwhile, Dr. Genov carried out 2 specializations - in Gastroenterology, at the Dutch Association of Hepatogastroenterology, The Netherlands (1995) and in Hepatology at the University Hospital Paul Brusse, Paris, France (2010).

Dr. Genov has worked at the hospital in Kostenec at the beginning of his career, after which he has dedicated more than 20 years to the Clinic of Gastroenterology at the University Hospital Queen Yoanna – ISUL, where he first worked as an assistant professor (1994), and then as an associate professor (2010). Since 2010, Dr. Genov is the Head of the Department of Hepatology in the mentioned Clinic of Gastroenterology.

Professional and scientific interests of Dr. Genov are in the field of chronic viral hepatitis, liver tumors, liver diseases and liver transplantation, management of portal hypertension, intrahepatic cholestasis, US-guided interventional procedures, chronic and acute pancreatitis, and pancreatic tumors. Dr. Jordan Genov has 147 scientific publications and has attended 94 local and international congresses.

Dr. Jordan Genov is a Member of the Board of Directors of Bulgarian Society of Gastroenterology, a Secretary of Bulgarian Association for The Study of The Liver, a Chief of the Advisory Board of Bulgarian Association for Ultrasound in Medicine. He is also a member of European Association for Study of the Liver (EASL), the European Federation of Societies for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (EFSUMB), the Australoasian Society for Ultrasound in Medicine (ASUM), as well as a Member of Local Ethical Commission in University Hospital Tsaritsa Yoanna - ISUL.

Dr. Romyana Mitova

Dr. Romyana Mitova has graduated the 114 English Language School in Sofia (1976) and the Medical University in Sofia in 1982. She got her Internal Diseases specialty in 1988 and the one in Gastroenterology in 1990. At the start of her career, Dr. Mitova has worked at the regional hospital in Blagoevgrad for 1 year, before moving to the Clinic of Gastroenterology at the University Hospital Queen Yoanna – ISUL, in which she has worked as a Chief assistant for 30 years.

Professional and scientific interests of Dr. Mitova are in the field of gastro-duodenal, pancreatic and hepatobiliary pathology. Dr. Romyana Mitova has 73 scientific journal publications and has attended 49 local and international congresses. She has also participated in 10 different phase II and III clinical trials on duodenal ulcer, hepatic cirrhosis, chronic hepatitis and chronic pancreatitis.

Dr. Romyana Mitova is a Secretary and a member of Bulgarian Association of Ultrasound in Medicine, a member of the Board of European Federation of Ultrasound in Medicine, and a member of Bulgarian Society of Gastroenterology.



Dr. Rossitza Krasteva

Modern treatment of metastatic colon cancer – focusing on details

Early tumor shrinkage (ETS) is associated with long-term outcome in patients with chemo-refractory metastatic colorectal cancer (mCRC) receiving cetuximab. This association was investigated in the first-line setting in the randomized mCRC trials, after controlling for KRAS tumor mutation status.

Radiologic assessments at week 8 were used to calculate the relative change in the sum of the longest diameters of the target lesions. Time-dependent receiver operating characteristics provided C_t-indices (time-dependent c-index). Cox regression models and sub-population treatment effect pattern plot analysis investigated associations between ETS (radiologic tumor size decrease at week 8) and survival and progression-free survival (PFS). ETS was significantly associated with long-term outcome in patients with KRAS wild-type mCRC treated first-line with chemotherapy plus cetuximab.

A multidisciplinary approach in the treatment of prostate cancer

The prostate cancer is a complex pathology involving oncological, functional and psycho-social items. The multidisciplinary team in Hospital Doverie - Sofia harmonizes the know-how of pathologists, urologists, oncologists, radiotherapists and clinical nurses to offer a global management to patients attempts by prostate cancer, from diagnosis to therapy and follow-up.

Dr. Rossitza Krasteva Ruseva, the Chairman of Club Young Oncologist, is one of the leading specialists in medical oncology in Bulgaria. She has graduated the Medical University in Sofia in September 1994 and did two specializations after that - Internal Medicine (2001) and Oncology (2005). She also won a number of fellowships for further training in Bulgaria and abroad, as well as attended specialized courses in university hospital in Italy, Greece, Germany and Switzerland.

All of Dr. Krasteva's professional and scientific interests are in the field of medical oncology. Her career as a medical oncologist includes working at the Clinic of Medical Oncology at the University Hospital Queen Yoanna – ISUL, the International Oncology Consulting Center and Serdika Hospital in Sofia. She has been a Principal Investigator and a sub-researcher in several phase II and III clinical trials for adjuvant treatment and treatment of metastatic disease in solid tumors.

Dr. Krasteva is a member of Bulgarian Cancer Society, Bulgarian Association of Medical Oncology, The Balkan Union of Oncology, ESMO and ASCO. She was elected the first Chairman of Club Young Oncologist.

Dr. Krasteva speaks 2 foreign languages - English and Russian.



Dr. Krasimir Koinov

Metastatic Castrate – Hormone-resistant Prostate Cancer /mCRPC/ – What We Do Not Know about Hormonal Therapy for Prostate Cancer

During the last few years a significant progress in the treatment of metastatic castration resistant prostate cancer has been achieved. Androgen deprivation therapy is the standard initial treatment for patients with metastatic prostate cancer. Despite an initial objective response of 80%-90%, nearly all patients eventually develop progressive disease. Prostate cancer loses its sensitivity to castration therapy and therefore is referred to as castrate-resistant tumor. Research in the last years has demonstrated that androgen-based pathways continue to have a clinically significant role in the progression of castrate-resistant prostate cancer. Enzymes involved in the synthesis of testosterone and dehydrotestosterone, including cytochrome P450 17 alpha-hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase (CYP17), are highly expressed in tumor tissue. Some ligand-dependent and ligand-independent mechanisms, including up-regulation of androgen receptor expression through amplification of the androgen receptor gene, increased sensitivity of androgen receptor via over-expression of nuclear co-activators, splice variant mutations of the receptor, activation of different signal transduction pathways in tumor cell or induction of bypass pathways independent of androgen receptor, that can overcome apoptosis induced by androgen-deprivation therapy, have been proposed to exist.

These findings change our understanding of the disease as it was considered for a long time as a pure “endocrine”, now it can be considered as a disease dependent on “autocrine / paracrine” signaling that leads to tumor progression. The new understanding of the biology of castration-resistant prostate cancer has led to the development of drugs that act by inhibition of the enzymes responsible for androgen production as well as drugs that inhibit androgen receptor. Abiraterone acetate and enzalutamide are such drugs that have been already registered and are now available in the treatment of patients with metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer.

There are some questions concerning the role and place of the new therapies and especially the sequence of administration of the new drugs that, up to now, are with no answers. Analysis of the results, obtained in the current and future clinical trials will probably give the answers of these important questions, related to clinical and medical oncology.

Dr. Krasimir Dimitrov Koinov was born on August 31, 1953 in Samokov. He graduated from the Medical Faculty at the Medical University of Sofia in 1980, mastered in Internal Medicine in 1987 and mastered in Oncology in 2005. His professional practice began in 1980 as a physician in the Department of Internal Medicine in Aitos. Between 1982 and 1991 he was assistant in the Department of Chemotherapy, National Cancer Center, and in 1992 became chief assistant in the same clinic. From 1993 till 2012, Dr. Koinov worked as an assistant professor at the Oncology Clinic at Queen Joanna University Hospital - ISUL, Sofia. As of 2012, he is the Head of the Department of Medical Oncology in Hospital Serdica, Sofia.

Dr. Koinov delivers lectures to students and organizes training courses. He has taken part in many scientific events and has published over 50 scientific articles. Dr. Koinov has participated in more than 50 clinical trials as co-researcher. He is also a Member of Bulgarian Society for the Treatment of Cancer, Bulgarian Association for Clinical Research, Balkan Union of Oncology, ASCO and ESMO.



Dr. Assia Konsoulova

Dr. Assia Konsoulova is a medical oncologist in training, working at the Introduction to the Internal Diseases Department in the Medical University in Varna, Bulgaria. Dr. Konsoulova graduated the Medical University in Varna in 2003 and later specialized in Internal Medicine (2011). She has won internships and attended more than 10 educational courses in Belgium, Italy, Switzerland, Slovenia, Croatia and Germany. She has 14 scientific publications on various topics in oncology and she is currently a member of 4 research projects focusing on the diagnosis and treatment of breast and pulmonary cancer. Apart from being the responsible for ENTYAC (European network for teenagers and young adults with cancer) and for the European Initiative in Quality Management in Lung Cancer Care for Bulgaria, Dr. Assia Konsoulova is also a member of the National expert council for Medical Oncology at the Health ministry, the ethical committee at the Society of the Young oncologists in Bulgaria, and the Union of the Quality specialists in Bulgaria. She is the founder and a member of the board of the National Scientific Society for Medical Oncology. Dr. Konsoulova is also a member of ESMO, ASCO, ECCO, Bulgarian Oncology Society, and the Society of the Young Oncologists in Bulgaria. She has been a member of the scientific research commission the Medical University in Varna since 2004 and a secretary of the first board for neuroendocrine tumors at that university since 2011.

Dr. Assia Konsoulova speaks 4 foreign languages - English, French, Russian and German.



Dr. Spartak Valev

Dr. Spartak Valev was born in Sofia and graduated the English Class of the Foreign Language School Boyan Penev 1998. Being a member of the Junior Branch of the Bulgarian Red Cross, he naturally became a medical student and graduated the Medical University in Sofia in 2004. In January 2005, he became an assistant in the Laboratory of Cytogenetics and Molecular Biology at the National Center of Hematology and Transfusiology, Sofia. Dr. Spartak Valev became a PhD fellow at the Chemotherapy Clinic of the National Oncology Center in 2005, and as of February 2009, started working as an assistant in the same clinic. Since May 2014, Dr. Valev is a resident of Medical Oncology at the National Oncology Hospital in Sofia. Currently, Dr. Valev is a part of the oncology team at Nadejda Hospital in Sofia, where actually he is one of the co-founders. All of Dr. Valev's professional and scientific interests are in the field of medical oncology. He has won many grants and awards and has participated in a number of local and international events. Dr. Valev is a member of Bulgarian Cancer Society, Young Oncologist Club, and ESMO, and was a co-founder of the Residents' Association in Bulgaria – Bulgarian Doctors for European Standards in Specialization, BDESS as well as a member of the Executive Board until 2014. Valev has 12 scientific publications in Bulgarian language and is a co-author of the first edition of Bulgarian textbook on Medical Oncology (2013), and of the "Cancer – Bulgaria and the World" report, analyzing data on cancer incidence, mortality rates and trends in Bulgaria compared to other European countries and the US. Dr. Valev speaks 3 foreign languages – English, German and Russian.



Dr. Jeliazgo Arabadjiev



Dr. Jeliazgo Iliev Arabadjiev is a medical oncologist working in the Clinic of Medical Oncology at National Oncology Hospital (SBALO) in Sofia, Bulgaria. He has graduated the Medical University in Varna in 1997 and got a second Master degree in Public Administration - Health Management from the University of National and World Economy, Sofia in 2012. He also specialized in Oncology (2014).

Dr. Arabadjiev's professional and scientific interests are in the field of system treatment of early and metastatic breast cancer, uro-genital cancers, immunological response to tumors and immunotherapy of solid malignancies, as well as in clinical trial design and optimization of conduct of a clinical trial in a research site. He has 4 publications in Bulgarian and 2 in English.

Dr. Arabadjiev's professional experience includes working as a general practitioner in Varna, as a Medical representative for 3 years, then as a Clinical and a Senior Research Associate for 7 years, before doing a residency in Oncology from 2009 to 2014. In 2013, He started a job as an Assistant Professor and a specialist in Medical Oncology at the Clinic of Medical Oncology at the National Oncology Hospital in Sofia.

Dr. Jeliazgo Arabadjiev is a member of Bulgarian Cancer Society, the Bulgarian Association of Clinical Research, Bulgarian Doctors Union ESMO and ASCO. He is also an Executive Board member of Club Young Oncologist, a registered oncologist within the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom, and Since March 2015 – a National representative of Bulgaria in European Society of Medical Oncology (ESMO).

Dr. Arabadjiev speaks 3 foreign languages – English, Italian and Russian.

Dr. James Mackey

Dr. James Mackey is a Clinical Genetic Oncology Consultant at The London Oncology Clinic, The London Clinic, The London Breast Clinic, The Princess Grace Hospital, and Parkside Hospital and The Cancer Centre London. He is also an Honorary Senior Lecturer at the Research Department of Genetics, Evolution and Environment in the University College, London.

Dr. Mackey got his MA degree at Trinity College, University of Cambridge in 1984 and graduated the University of Edinburgh Medical School as a medical doctor (MD) in 1989. He is also an FRCPE (The Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh - 1999) and an FRCP (The Royal College of Physicians of London - 2000). Dr. James Mackey is an accredited medical oncologist since 1995 and has a tremendous experience in setting up and running clinical cancer genetics services, including first remote real-time Cancer Genetics Clinic in the world (2001-2006). He has also worked as a Clinical Adviser to the Cancer Division of the MRC Clinical Trials Unit (2003-2012).

Dr. Mackey is known to have participated as a principal investigator in a number of major trials, as well as a clinical lead in London Genetics Ltd, CLEF services, and Project OPERA. He has more than 20 peer reviewed scientific publications on various topics in oncology.

Dr. Mackey has been a Chair of the Great Ormond Street Hospital e-medicine committee (2004-2006) and a Member of the NCRI Breast Cancer Clinical Studies Group (2002-2007), as well as an ESMO Faculty Coordinator for the Cancer Genetics Faculty Group (2006-2012). He is currently a Member of the Educational Faculty of the European Society of Medical Oncology, a Genetic Expert Advisor to Ovacome, the Ovarian Cancer Charity, an Expert Clinical Advisor to Breakthrough Breast Cancer, a Member of the National Clinical Advisory Board of Maggie's Caring Cancer Centre, a Member of the Council of the Independent Doctors Forum, and a Member of the Steering group of the Trinity Medical Association.



Dr. Christoph Petry

EndoPredict - 2nd Generation Gene Expression Analysis: Combining a Tumor's "Finger Print" with Tumor Pathology

Patients with Estrogen-receptor-positive and HER2-negative (ER-pos./Her2-neg.) breast cancer who are in the intermediate risk group according to established clinical guidelines can be treated with or without chemotherapy. Deciding for or against chemotherapy in this patient subgroup has been one of the most difficult decision in clinical breast oncology. About a decade ago, gene expression tests started to move into clinical routine to address this problem. The first class of such tests was based on the analysis of RNA expression of tumor cells. 2nd generation gene expression also employs information on nodal status and tumor size in addition to RNA expression data.

EndoPredict is a newly developed gene expression test based on the analysis of the RNA expression of 11 genes combined with nodal status and tumor size. The tests allows to precisely determine the risk of metastasis of patients with ER-pos./Her2-neg. breast cancer patients under endocrine therapy without chemotherapy. According to an international consensus, patients with a 10-years risk of metastasis of less than 10% under endocrine therapy alone should normally not receive chemotherapy: for them the likely benefit from chemotherapy in terms of preventing future metastasis is smaller than the number of lethal side effects caused by chemotherapy. By determining the risk of metastasis under endocrine therapy EndoPredict can thus route patients to an optimal treatment minimizing accidental over- and under-treatment.

EndoPredict has been developed to avoid key weaknesses of older gene expression tests. Most notably, EndoPredict can clearly distinguish between high- and low risk of metastasis avoiding grey zones. This allows for a clear decision for or against chemotherapy. EndoPredict can also foretell late metastasis, earlier genes expression tests are blind to. EndoPredict was developed in a clean cohort only comprising ER-positive/HER2-neg patients so the test could be specifically optimized to the relevant patient cohort to thus yield improved diagnostic performance.

Similar to established clinical guidelines EndoPredict is able to identify a subgroup of patients with excellent metastasis-free survival. The metastasis rate of patients with a low risk according to EndoPredict is 4% within 10 years without the use of chemotherapy – similar to the metastasis risk in the low risk group according to established clinical guidelines. While the size of this low risk group according to the St. Gallen classification, the German S3 guideline or similar national consensus rules is smaller than 20%, EndoPredict classifies about 65% of the patients as low risk. Accordingly, EndoPredict can safely help spare about three times more patients from chemotherapy than conventional guidelines can do.

In addition to helping to improve the quality of breast cancer patient management EndoPredict also contributes to reduce the total costs of treatment. The reason for this dominant health economic effect is that EndoPredict reduces the use of chemotherapy by about 30%. With the cost of chemotherapy by far exceeding the costs of EndoPredict the total costs of breast cancer management decrease by more than € 3000.- per EndoPredict test employed.

CHEMIST

- 1993: Doctoral degree from the Max Planck Institute for Medical Research in Heidelberg
- 1993 – 2006: various positions at Bayer in Germany and in the United States in research and development, among other things as a Department Head in the Central Research Division and as Head of Diagnostics Research Germany
- Since acquisition of the diagnostics division of Bayer by Siemens as «Head Molecular Research Germany» responsible for the development of biomarkers in oncology and new analytical methods for nucleic acid diagnostics
- Until mid-2010 site manager with staff responsibility for Siemens as authorized signatory
- Since 07/2010: Founder, CEO and Managing Director of Sividon Diagnostics GmbH



Prof. Jasna Mihailovic

The ^{18}F -Fluorodeoxyglucose Positron Emission Tomography/Computed Tomography (^{18}F -FDG PET/CT) Imaging in Breast Cancer



Department of Nuclear Medicine, Oncology Institute of Vojvodina, Sr. Kamenica, Serbia

Nowadays, breast cancer is the most frequently diagnosed cancer and the most common cause of death among female malignancies worldwide. In 2013, 250.000 new cases of breast cancer were expected in the US and 40.000 patients were estimated to die from this neoplasm. The ^{18}F -fluorodeoxyglucose positron emission tomography/computed tomography (^{18}F -FDG PET/CT) has neither a role in detecting primary breast cancer, nor in the axillary staging in newly diagnosed early-stage breast cancer. However, the ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT is useful for staging of recurrent or metastatic breast cancer and for evaluating the treatment response of locally advanced and metastatic breast cancer. Currently, these indications for FDG PET/CT in breast cancer are the only ones that are routinely reimbursed by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). In fact, ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT is able to detect local or distant nodal involvement which is omitted by other imaging studies. Moreover, ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT can provide additional information for staging or restaging if conventional imaging shows equivocal or conflicting findings. ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT is complementary to bone scintigraphy, which remains the standard imaging procedure for surveying the skeleton for metastatic involvement. ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT is superior to bone scintigraphy in detecting lytic and intramedullary metastases. However, in clinical practice, the combination of bone scintigraphy and CT remains the standard imaging combination for staging breast cancer. In the future, other PET agent, fluorine-18 fluoride PET/CT, may offer improved bone metastasis detection compared to It has been demonstrated that ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT alters therapy options in up to 44% of patients with suspected locoregional recurrence and bone scintigraphy. ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT can be particularly useful to evaluate the response of metastatic breast cancer after neoadjuvant therapy. ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT that is performed early or at mid-therapy is predictive of the complete response. Changes in FDG metabolism often precede the morphologic changes in the tumor and therefore ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT can demonstrate a response sooner than the conventional imaging techniques. ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT may also be helpful as an early marker for resistance to therapy. ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT imaging after the completion of the therapy allows for confirmation of the residual disease but does not allow for the exclusion of the residual microscopic malignancy. It has been reported that ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT alters the treatment strategy in up to 44% of the patients with suspected loco-regional recurrence. Conclusion: The current clinical indications for ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT that are routinely reimbursed by the CMS include staging recurrent or metastatic breast cancer and evaluating the treatment response of locally advanced and metastatic breast cancer.

Prof. Jasna Mihailovic, MD, PhD has been employed at the Institute of Oncology in Sremska Kamenica as a director of the Institute of Nuclear Medicine. As a senior research associate she is lecturing, teaching and mentoring at postgraduate studies of the Medical Faculty in Novi Sad. She is an Associate Professor at the Technical Faculty "Mihajlo Pupin", Zrenjanin, University of Novi Sad. She has published several monographs in Serbian and one in English and is the author of a number of chapters in monographs published in Serbia and abroad as well as a number of scientific papers in national and international journals. She has won several awards in her country and abroad. She has participated in several research projects some of which she has instituted. She has organized several accredited professional courses and international symposia. During her professional career she has studied molecular imaging in the leading institutions in the world and more recently in the United States.



Assoc. Prof. Sonya Sergieva

Role of SPECT-CT bone scan for diagnosis and differential diagnosis of tumor-induced bone disease in prostate cancer and breast cancer

Department of Nuclear Medicine, Sofia Cancer Center

Metastatic involvement is a common occurrence in patients with breast cancer (75%), prostate cancer (70%) and lung cancer (40%). Skeletal metastases are clinically important because of associated symptoms and complications leading to tumor-induced bone disease. The frequency with which metastases are detected varies considerably with the methodology utilized for detection. Whole body bone scintigraphy (WBBS) is the most sensitive method for early detection of secondary skeletal lesions; it is positive with infiltration of 5-15 % of the trabeculae. The specificity of this technique, however, is low due to the fact that increased mineral metabolism is observed in a number of benign diseases of degenerative, inflammatory or traumatic character. The combined application of baseline WBBS, followed by more specific techniques such as SPECT-CT fusion is an advanced approach for diagnosis and staging of osseous metastases. The most important clinical application of bone SPECT-CT imaging is for differential diagnosis between degenerative and metastatic foci with abnormal tracer uptake and similar scintigraphic appearance on the WBBS. SPECT-CT allows a significant increase in diagnostic accuracy, mainly because of the improvement in specificity determined by CT, having capability to describe as definitely benign or definitely malignant more than 90% of the findings, which had been classified as indeterminate on planar scans. CT is a valuable method for characterizing destruction of the bone spongy lesions, their consolidation or calcium accumulation. This fact allows differentiation of the osteolytic metastases from the sclerotic and mixed ones. This is possible because of the good differentiating ability of CT. It has direct relation to the therapeutic approach of tumor-induced bone disease by determining the necessity of prescribing a diphosphonate medication, metabolic radiotherapy or external beam radiotherapy. Hybrid SPECT-CT technique may also improve WBBS sensitivity because of the possibility to detect "cold" osteolytic lesions with soft-tissue component, usually not showing tracer uptake on the bone scintigraphy. WBBS followed by SPECT-CT is a very effective diagnostic approach to follow up patients with osseous metastatic lesions after complex therapy in order to obtain therapeutic response.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sonya Borisova Sergieva is a nuclear medicine specialist who works in Sofia City Oncology Dispensary and as of 2013 is an Associate Professor at the Specialized Hospital for Treating Oncology Diseases in Sofia.

Dr. Sergieva graduated the Medical Academy in Sofia in 1990 and specialized Nuclear Medicine in the National Oncology Center and Alexandrovska Hospital in Sofia in the period 1991-1994. After getting her nuclear medicine diploma in 1994, she moved on specializing in oncology and finished her second specialization in 1998.

Dr. Sonya Sergieva started her career in the National Oncology Centre in Sofia where she worked from 1991 till 2002. Later on, she moved to the Department of Nuclear Medicine in Sofia City Oncology Dispensary, which she headed for 10 years from 2003 till 2012.

Assoc. Prof. Sergieva has a lot of experience in the field of clinical trials being a coinvestigator, and has participated in 8 scientific projects, half of them international. She is currently a member of Bulgarian Association of Nuclear Medicine, Bulgarian Scientific Oncology Society, the European Association of Nuclear Medicine (EANM) and BUON.

Dr. Sergieva has 84 publications in both Bulgarian and international scientific magazines and is an author of more than 130 reports and resumes delivered at local and international scientific events. Her dissertation topic is about the diagnosis and differential diagnosis of malignant melanoma using radio-marked monoclonal antibodies.

Assoc. Prof. Sonya Sergieva speaks Russian and English as foreign languages.



George C. Zografos, MD, PhD, Professor

Prophylactic mastectomy: an appraisal

Vice Dean of the University of Athens

The main indication of prophylactic mastectomy pertains to BRCA1 or BRCA2 mutation carriers. It may also have a possible role in selected cases of patients. Prophylactic mastectomy includes the simple method and the subcutaneous method. Both methods can be followed by breast plastic reconstruction either at the same time or later. Optimal utilization of genetic testing to guide surgical decision making, appropriate surgical technique and careful pathology examination of prophylactic mastectomy specimens, are important issues to consider prior to prophylactic mastectomy in women at high familial risk of breast cancer. The decision for prophylactic mastectomy could be taken within the context of a family cancer clinic while the final decision must be considered by a multi-disciplinary team which might, encompass geneticist, general and plastic surgeon, radiologist, gynaecologist, oncologist, specially trained nurse, psychologist and pathologist specialized in the breast together with the patient. This talk examines key issues regarding prophylactic mastectomy: the selection of patients, its effectiveness, its limitations, convergence / divergence in existing guidelines and future perspectives.

Prof. George Zografos is a Professor in Surgery, Director of the 1st Propaedeutic Department of Surgery, Hippocratio General Hospital, Medical School, University of Athens, Greece, and as of 2014 - a Vice Dean of the University of Athens, Athens, Greece.

Prof. Zografos graduated the High School of Plaka, Athens, Greece in 1974, and later the Medical School of University of Athens in 1980. Upon completion of military service (1983), he started a specialty and got a title in General Surgery (1986). In 1988, Prof. Zografos got his PhD in Medicine from the University of Athens with a dissertation - Radioisotope angiography with $^{99m}\text{TcO}_4\text{Na}$ in the study of vascular diseases.

He has enormous clinical experience as a Resident in General Surgery in the period 1982-1990. Prof. Zografos has won numerous fellowships - Registrar & Honorary Registrar in Queen's Medical Centre, Nottingham, UK and Royal Postgraduate Medical School-Hammersmith Hospital, London UK (1988-1990); Surgical Oncology Unit, Roswell Park Memorial Institute Buffalo, New York, USA (1991); GI Surgery Unit, St James Hospital, London UK; GI Surgery Unit, Birmingham General Hospital, UK; Leeds Institute for Minimally Invasive Therapy of Leeds General Infirmary.

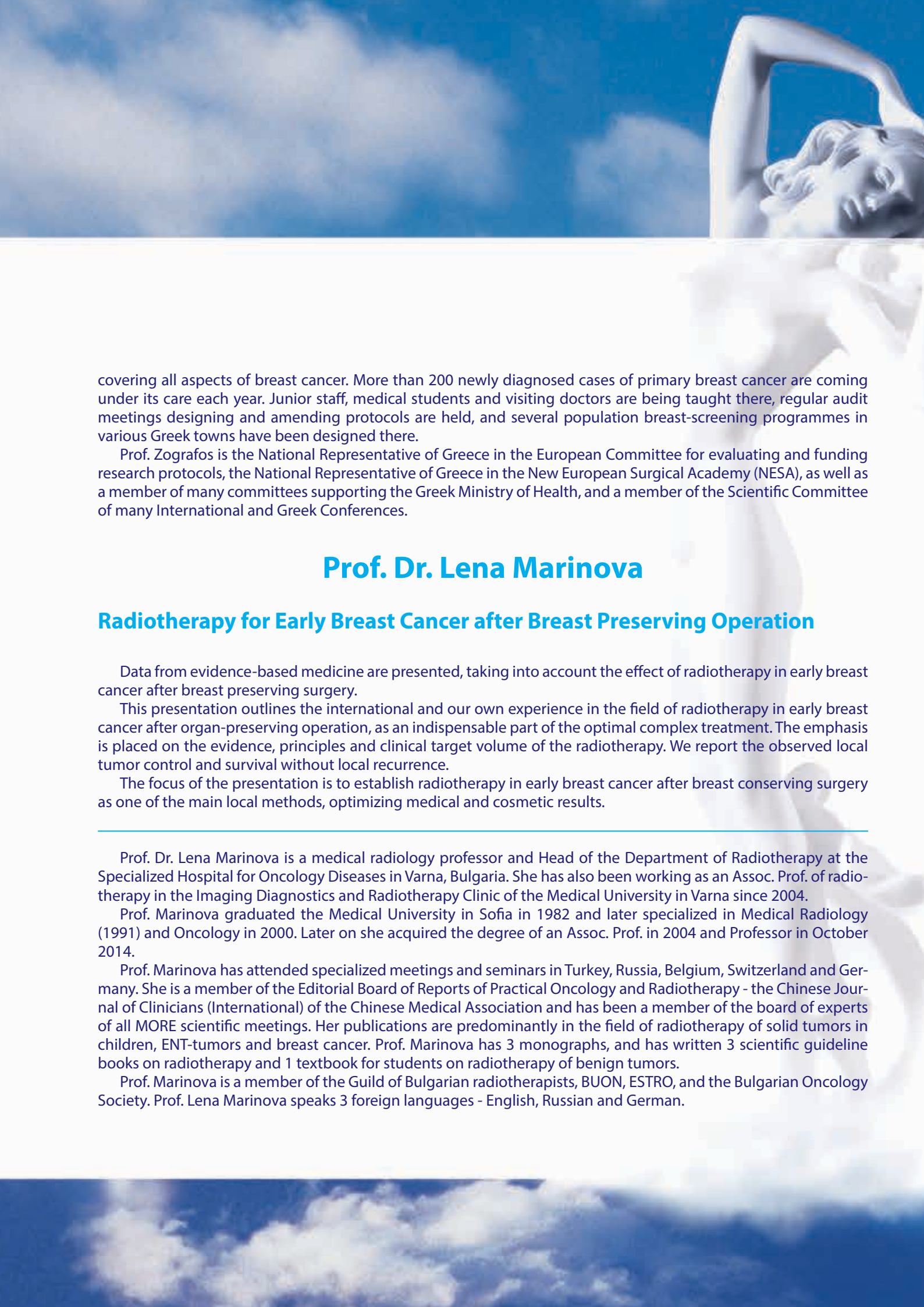
Prof. Zografos has attended numerous postgraduate courses in UK, Greece, Germany and the USA on the topics of Therapeutic applications of lasers, Head and Neck Surgery, Advanced Trauma Life Support, the Sentinel Node Course, Surgical Oncology, Breast Cancer and Minimal invasive breast biopsy.

He has been awarded a scholarship from the Onassis Foundation for training in breast and endocrine surgery (1988) in the Queen's Medical Centre, Nottingham, UK, and a National Institute of Health Grant for training in Surgical Oncology, Roswell Park Memorial Institute Buffalo, New York, USA (1991).

Prof. George Zografos has had the positions of a consultant in General Surgery and a Lecturer in General Surgery at the Medical School of University of Athens (1992), and an Assistant Professor in General Surgery, Medical School, University of Athens (1996).

Apart from being a reviewer in 10 international scientific journals, Prof. George Zografos has 250 papers published in peer-review journals. He has been cited 850 times, and has also held 28 oral and 78 poster presentations at international congresses, together with 190 oral and 194 poster presentations at local Greek conferences. He has participated in 15 clinical trials, and has written 5 chapters in international and 11 chapters in Greek medical books.

Prof. George Zografos has established a European accredited Breast Unit in the 1st Propaedeutic Department of Surgery in Hippocratio General Hospital in Athens, which includes the participation of specialists of all disciplines,



covering all aspects of breast cancer. More than 200 newly diagnosed cases of primary breast cancer are coming under its care each year. Junior staff, medical students and visiting doctors are being taught there, regular audit meetings designing and amending protocols are held, and several population breast-screening programmes in various Greek towns have been designed there.

Prof. Zografos is the National Representative of Greece in the European Committee for evaluating and funding research protocols, the National Representative of Greece in the New European Surgical Academy (NESA), as well as a member of many committees supporting the Greek Ministry of Health, and a member of the Scientific Committee of many International and Greek Conferences.

Prof. Dr. Lena Marinova

Radiotherapy for Early Breast Cancer after Breast Preserving Operation

Data from evidence-based medicine are presented, taking into account the effect of radiotherapy in early breast cancer after breast preserving surgery.

This presentation outlines the international and our own experience in the field of radiotherapy in early breast cancer after organ-preserving operation, as an indispensable part of the optimal complex treatment. The emphasis is placed on the evidence, principles and clinical target volume of the radiotherapy. We report the observed local tumor control and survival without local recurrence.

The focus of the presentation is to establish radiotherapy in early breast cancer after breast conserving surgery as one of the main local methods, optimizing medical and cosmetic results.

Prof. Dr. Lena Marinova is a medical radiology professor and Head of the Department of Radiotherapy at the Specialized Hospital for Oncology Diseases in Varna, Bulgaria. She has also been working as an Assoc. Prof. of radiotherapy in the Imaging Diagnostics and Radiotherapy Clinic of the Medical University in Varna since 2004.

Prof. Marinova graduated the Medical University in Sofia in 1982 and later specialized in Medical Radiology (1991) and Oncology in 2000. Later on she acquired the degree of an Assoc. Prof. in 2004 and Professor in October 2014.

Prof. Marinova has attended specialized meetings and seminars in Turkey, Russia, Belgium, Switzerland and Germany. She is a member of the Editorial Board of Reports of Practical Oncology and Radiotherapy - the Chinese Journal of Clinicians (International) of the Chinese Medical Association and has been a member of the board of experts of all MORE scientific meetings. Her publications are predominantly in the field of radiotherapy of solid tumors in children, ENT-tumors and breast cancer. Prof. Marinova has 3 monographs, and has written 3 scientific guideline books on radiotherapy and 1 textbook for students on radiotherapy of benign tumors.

Prof. Marinova is a member of the Guild of Bulgarian radiotherapists, BUON, ESTRO, and the Bulgarian Oncology Society. Prof. Lena Marinova speaks 3 foreign languages - English, Russian and German.



Dr. Iglia Mihaylova



Dr. Iglia Mihaylova is a Bulgarian oncologist working at the Oncology Hospital in Sofia. She graduated the Medical University in Pleven, Bulgaria in 1995, got her first specialty degree in Radiotherapy in 2002, and her second one in Oncology in 2005. She also holds a Master degree in Health Management from Sofia Medical University (2013). Further to that Dr. Mihaylova has participated in numerous specialized courses in the fields of radiotherapy, radiobiology, brachytherapy and oncology at medical centers in France, Russia, Slovakia, Greece, Poland, Serbia and the Check Republic.

Dr. Mihaylova's professional experience includes working as a doctor at the Radiology department of Oncology center in Pleven (1997 - 2001) and as a radiotherapist at the Oncology Hospital in Sofia since 2002.

Dr. Iglia Mihaylova is a member of the following therapeutic and diagnostic Committees at Oncology Hospital, Sofia: Radiotherapy, Lungs, Chemotherapy, Oncogynecology, and Abdominal Surgery. She is also a member of the Oncology commissions in the hospitals of Kyustendil, Sofia Med and St. Sofia.

The research interest of Dr. Mihaylova lies in the fields of radiation-chemical treatment, the HDR – brachytherapy, the radiotherapy for tumors, and the new planning techniques in radiation therapy - IMRT, IGRT, and radio-surgery. She has had over 110 scientific participation in congresses and conferences at home and abroad, as well as 26 journal publications in the field of radiation therapy in different cancer sites. In 2013 she wrote a dissertation on the topic of Preoperative Radiotherapy in Locally Advanced Rectal Cancer - Alone or Together with Chemotherapy.

Dr. Mihaylova used to be a lecturer at Higher Medical College Jordanka Filaretova, Sofia, and is by now teaching doctors specializing in Radiotherapy. She is currently a member of Bulgarian Medical Association, Bulgarian National Association of Oncology, Bulgarian Cancer Society, the Guild of radiotherapists in Bulgaria and the European Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology (ESTRO).

Dr. Iglia Mihaylova speaks English and Russian as foreign languages.

Dr. Evgeniy Vassilev

Dr. Evgeniy Vassilev is a gynecologist and a medical oncologists working in the Breast Surgery Clinic of St. Sofia Obstetrics and Gynecology Hospital in Sofia, Bulgaria.

Dr. Vassilev has graduated the Medical University in Sofia in 1992. After spending a couple of years as a general practitioner, he moved to St. Sofia Hospital in 1995. Dr. Vassilev specialized in Obstetrics and Gynecology (1999) and completed a full specialty course in Oncology in the period 2005 - 2008. Further to that, he has participated in different specialized courses in diagnostic ultrasound in obstetrics and gynecology and of the breast, as well as 3 courses in surgical treatment of breast diseases, plastic surgery of the breast, and onco-reconstructive surgery of the mammary glands.

Dr. Evgeniy Vassilev is a breast-disease consultant for VITA Hospital in Sofia, Medico-21 Health Insurance Fund, and St. Petka Medical Centre. Dr. Vassilev is a member of Bulgarian Oncogynecology Association and the Bulgarian Association of Obstetrics and Gynecology.



Dr. Zahari Zahariev

Dr. Zahari Zahariev is a radiotherapist and an Assistant Professor in the Department of Radiotherapy at Queen Giovanna University Hospital in Sofia, Bulgaria. Dr. Zahariev is a distinguished 1987 graduate of the German Language School in Montana, Bulgaria. He has also graduated the Medical University in Sofia in 1996 and later on specialized in Radiation Oncology (2001) and Clinical Oncology (2004).

Dr. Zahari Zahariev has attended numerous meetings and congresses around the world. He has 12 publications and has delivered 12 presentations as an invited speaker at Bulgarian National and also at International Congresses and Conventions. His main areas of interest are breast cancer after mastectomy, early breast cancer after organ-sparing surgery, and the unconventional RT for advanced head and neck cancer.

Dr. Zahariev is a fellow of the Bulgarian Guild of Radiotherapy, ESMO, ESTRO, and PRiME.

Dr. Zahari Zahariev speaks 3 foreign languages - English, Russian and German.



Dr. Antoaneta Tomova

Survival Optimization in the Advanced Prostate Cancer Treatment

Several new medicines for the treatment of patients with advanced prostate cancer, particularly those with metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer – mCRPC, came out in the last few years.

The availability of new medicines increased the complexity in conducting treatment for mCRPC patients. In fact, the optimal sequence of these treatments is unknown and varies in individual patients, reflecting the heterogeneity of the disease. In addition to that, there is an increasing risk of cross-resistance between different treatments for mCRPC.

Oncologists accept the challenge to integrate these new therapeutic options rationally in their daily practice, in order to optimize the therapeutic response and the benefits for each individual patient.

Dr. Antoaneta Tomova is a specialist in medical oncology from Plovdiv, Bulgaria. She is currently the Head of the First Chemotherapy Department of Plovdiv Complex Oncology Centre.

Dr. Tomova has graduated the Medical University in Sofia in 1985. She has dedicated more than 25 years to medical oncology and chemotherapy. Her main areas of expertise are in the fields of medical oncology, palliative care, pain management, and symptom control.

Dr. Tomova has attended more than 60 specialized courses abroad so far. She is a member of Bulgarian Cancer Society, BUON, UICC, ESMO and ASCO, where she has presented a poster. She was named Doctor of the Year in 2009 from the National Association of Patient with Oncology Diseases, and was voted The Doctor Whom Patients Trust in 2012.

Dr. Tomova speaks 2 foreign languages - English and Russian.



Dr. Nedyalka Velikova

Hypofractionation in radiotherapy for early stage breast cancer: whole breast irradiation (WBI), accelerated partial breast irradiation (APBI) and intraoperative radiotherapy (IORT)

Breast cancer is the most common cancer affecting women. Breast-conserving therapy (BCT) is generally recommended as the primary treatment for most patients with early breast cancer. Breast irradiation after this type of surgery reduces local recurrence and has similar survival to total mastectomy. The most frequently used regime worldwide involves whole breast radiation to a dose of 45–50 Gy over 5 weeks, usually followed by a boost to the primary site to a dose of 10–16 Gy over 1–1.5 weeks, given in daily 1.8–2 Gy fractions, five times a week. Nowadays, many studies have explored the alternative schedules based on a lower total dose delivered in fewer larger fractions (hypo-fractionation) and suggest that different fractionation radiation schemes will lead to minimum outcome differences for patients with invasive early breast cancer. 10 year follow up of two randomized controlled UK trials (START A and START B) and the Canadian trial confirm that appropriately dosed hypofractionated whole breast radiotherapy is not inferior to standard radiation treatment and is safe and effective for patients with early breast cancer.

At least five prospective randomized trials compared the outcome of patients with lumpectomy alone or followed by WBI. In all of these trials, the majority of recurrences in the breasts of patients who did not receive radiotherapy occurred at or in the area of the tumor bed. Based on that data numerous groups studied the efficacy of PBI in the treatment of early stage breast cancer after BCT using interstitial multi-catheter brachytherapy, MammoSite balloon catheter, 3D external beam radiotherapy and IORT. Results from these trials have been very encouraging and the techniques have been shown to be safe, tolerable and highly reproducible.

Hypo-fractionation is convenient for patients, because it reduces the number of visits to radiotherapy departments and waiting lists in several cancer centers but much longer follow-up of randomized trials is needed to become a part of daily practice.

Dr. Nedyalka Velikova is a 2003 graduate of St. Kliment Ohridski Mathematics School in the town of Montana. She has also graduated Medical Faculty - Sofia as a doctor in 2009. Later on, she acquired a specialty of Radiotherapy in 2014 and continued to work as an assistant in the Department of Percutaneous radiotherapy in the Specialized Hospital for Active Treatment of Oncology - Sofia.

During his specialization she attended several trainings at ESTRO, IAEA and Prime Oncology in Slovakia, Greece, Slovenia and Spain. She has participated in numerous conferences as a lecturer and in 2011 won the prize for best performance of the Eighth National Congress of Oncology, Boyana Residence, Sofia. She won an international scholarship of the Avon Foundation for Women in 2014 and became one of the 23 experts from all around the world working in the field of breast cancer selected to study in the US. Dr. Velikova visited the ASCO Annual Meeting in Chicago and spent two months in New York Presbyterian Hospital / Columbia Medical Center, New York working with some internationally recognized experts in the field of hypo-fractionated and intra-operative radiotherapy.

Dr. Nedyalka Velikova is a member of Bulgarian Guild of Radiotherapy, Bulgarian Association of Radiology, Bulgarian Cancer Society, the Young Oncologist Club, the Association of graduate students in Bulgaria, the European Association of radiotherapy (ESTRO), and the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO).

Dr. Velikova's areas of interest are breast cancer, tumors of the female reproductive system, the interstitial and intra-cavitary high dose rate brachytherapy, and the CNS tumors.



Prof. Constanta Timcheva

Contemporary State of the Hormonal Therapy in Breast Cancer. Hormone Resistance and Opportunities to Overcome It

Nearly 3.8 million women in Europe suffer from breast cancer. The number of cases is increasing due to early diagnosis and the aging population. Although it is the leading cause of death in women, breast cancer, and especially its hormone-sensitive version, is increasingly becoming a chronic disease with favourable prognosis. The reasons for this are both the better diagnosis and the early detection, and the successes in therapy.

Individualizing cancer treatment is of key importance to improving the therapeutic results. This fact is valid for breast cancer as well. Thanks to the success of molecular medicine, we already distinguish several types of this disease with typical molecular biological characteristics and an individualized approach to treatment.

The increasing percentage of young women with breast cancer is an alarming fact. Furthermore, there are factors which determine the greater aggressiveness of the disease in these cases. Combined analysis of two clinical studies with premenopausal patients gave a new direction for their endocrine therapy, namely the application of a combination of an aromatase inhibitor (exemestane) together with LH-RH analogue in premenopausal patients with high risk of recurrence and metastasis.

Regardless of the hormone sensitivity, the application of the drug-induced ovarian suppression ensures largely the storing of the ovarian function in premenopausal patients.

The efficiency of the classical treatment with aromatase inhibitors can be enhanced by combination with medicinal products that have an effect on one or the other signal pathways in cells: inhibition of PI3K, CDK 4/6.

How long must the hormonal therapy treatment be? Should we alternate medicinal products with a different mechanism of action?

The guidelines of the last conference for the treatment of early breast cancer answered most of these questions.

Prof. Dr. Constanta Timcheva has been working as the Head of the Medical Oncology Clinic in Multiprofile Hospital for Active Treatment Nadezhda in Sofia, Bulgaria since 2014. Prior to that, she served as the Head of the Medical Oncology Clinic in the National Oncology Hospital for 12 years.

Prof. Timcheva graduated the Medical University in Sofia in 1975 and got a PhD degree in Moscow in 1982. Later on, she specialized in Internal Medicine (1987), Oncology (1994) and Medical Oncology (ESMO Certificate 2003). Since 1997, right after she acquired the degree of an Assoc. Prof., Dr. Timcheva has been a frequent speaker during scientific meetings and postgraduate courses in Bulgaria and abroad, teaching students and doctors in clinical and medical oncology. The interests of Prof. Timcheva are in the fields of the hormonal and chemotherapy of solid tumors, targeted therapy, multidrug resistance modulation, and the biology of metastatic disease. Dr. Timcheva has been a Principal Investigator in more than 40 randomized clinical trials on solid tumors. She has more than 50 scientific publications, including five monographs.

Dr. Timcheva used to be the Representative of Bulgaria in the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) from 1999 until 2008. She is also a full member of ESMO, EACR, Lung Cancer Group of EORTC, BCIRG, BUON, and currently acts as the Head of the Bulgarian Association of Medical Oncology. Professor Constanta Timcheva speaks English, Russian and French as foreign languages.



Flora Zagouri, MD, Ph. D



Breast cancer during pregnancy: the oncologist perspective

The optimal management of pregnant women with breast cancer is challenging and not well established; the main concern is the effect of the drugs on the developing fetus and long-term complications after in utero exposure to anti-cancer drugs. Surgical resection is the mainstay of treatment for early breast cancer diagnosed during pregnancy. Modified radical mastectomy is standard of care in first trimester, whereas breast-conserving surgery (lumpectomy with lymph node dissection) can be performed preferably in the second and third trimester. Of note, breast-conserving surgery is not contraindicated per se during the first trimester, but owing to the potential impact of delaying radiotherapy. Radiation therapy is not favored during pregnancy. Moreover, tamoxifen is contraindicated during pregnancy; the agent has been associated with birth defects in up to 20% of exposures. Chemotherapy is generally contraindicated during the first trimester because of the possible damage to organogenesis. Anthracyclines-based regimens are the most widely used in breast cancer treatment and were been shown to be associated with favourable safety profile when administered during pregnancy. As for taxanes, more limited data is available. The use of trastuzumab is contraindicated during pregnancy, given the apparent risk of oligo- and/or anhydramnios as well as the unknown long-term sequelae on the fetus. It is obvious that, diagnosis of breast cancer during pregnancy adds complexity to cancer treatment recommendations. In all cases, a multidisciplinary therapeutic approach among obstetricians, gynaecologists, surgical oncologists, radiation oncologists, medical oncologists, pediatricians and hematologists is clearly warranted.

Dr. Flora Zagouri is a medical oncologist at Alexandra Hospital, Department of Clinical and Therapeutics, University of Athens, Greece.

Dr. Zagouri graduated the Greek-French High school Jeanne d' Arc in 1996, and later the Medical School of University of Athens, where she got her Medical Degree in 2003. In 2008, after 3 years residency in Internal medicine, she started a residency in Medical Oncology and finished her specialization in 2011. Meanwhile, in 2010, she got a Doctorate degree in Medicine with a work on the topic of evaluation of molecular markers in patients with pre-invasive breast lesions excised via vacuum-assisted breast biopsy. In the period 2011-2013, Dr. Zagouri has been a research-clinical breast fellow at the comprehensive Cancer Center Vienna/ AKH, Medical School, University of Vienna, Austria.

Apart from being three-time winner of chess tournaments, and further to winning several state excellence certificates and scholarships, Dr. Zagouri has been awarded best poster at the 34th Annual Pan-Hellenic Medical Conference, Athens (2008), and at the 8th Congress on Women's Health and diseases, Kos island, Greece (2011), as well as an award (2010) and a fellowship (2011) from the Hellenic Cooperative Oncology Group.

Dr. Zagouri has 157 papers published in journals, cited in PubMed, 4 not cited, 61 oral presentations at international congresses and 62 at local congresses (16 of them cited in PubMed), 5 papers published in local journals, 39 round table presentations/discussions at local congresses and 9 at international ones. She has been a part of the Organizing Committees of 8 Congresses and has participated in 10 clinical trials.

Dr. Flora Zagouri speaks English and French as foreign languages



Prof. Thomas Brodowicz

Thomas Brodowicz is Associate Professor of Hematology and Oncology, Senior Consultant and Program Director of Bone- and Soft Tissue Sarcomas at the Clinical Division of Oncology, Department of Medicine 1, Medical University Vienna, Austria. In addition he serves as Director of the Central European Cooperative Oncology Group (CECOG, www.cecog.org).

Thomas Brodowicz completed his medical training at the University Hospital Vienna. His recent clinical research activities cover a wide range of cancer therapies, with particular focus on management of clinical trials in breast cancer, colorectal cancer, NSCLC, GIST, soft tissue sarcoma, prostate cancer and gastric cancer

Thomas Brodowicz is a member of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO). He has published 73 scientific papers and 138 abstracts.



Nataliya Chilingirova

SCLC treatment: Therapeutic Challenge – a Single Institution Experience

Dr Chilingirova is a medical oncologist in training at the Specialized Hospital for Active Treatment in Oncology (National Oncology Center), Sofia with interests in lung cancer treatment, preparing a PhD on lung cancer. She graduated the Medical University in Sofia, did a part of her medical training at the University Hospital in Zurich, Medical Oncology Clinic and the Oncology Clinic, Wilhelminenspital in Vienna and participated at several certified courses of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. A member of the European Society of Medical Oncology (ESMO), the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) and since 2011 member of the executive board of Young Oncologist Club, Bulgaria. Born in Kazanlak in 1986, graduated the Foreign Language School "Romain Rolland" in Stara Zagora, Bulgaria.



Dr. Roumen Lazarov

Radiotherapy - What We Achieve with the New Options

Prostate cancer treatment is an example of a multidisciplinary approach towards the treatment of oncology diseases.

The purpose of this presentation is to demonstrate the modern concepts of the role and place of percutaneous radiotherapy in the complex treatment of prostate cancer. This presentation reviews the target volumes and the needed focal doses, depending on the stage of the disease. It also reviews some specific details about the stages of preparation, development and deployment of the radiotherapy plan.

Dr. Lazarov is the Head of the Department of Radiotherapy in Tokuda Hospital in Sofia, Bulgaria. He is a specialist with over 20 years experience in the field of radiotherapy and oncology. He has also headed the Department of radiotherapy planning in the National Oncology Hospital. He has been teaching radiographers at the Medical College Y.Filaretova for 15 years. His professional interests are in the field of modern treatment of onco-haematological diseases, lung cancer, tumours of the head and neck.

Dr. Sébastien Sauvage

OncoDEEP / OncoTRACE : a combination of expertises to identify actionable targets in the tumor, choose treatment and monitor its response from a simple non-invasive liquid biopsy

In routine, when cancer is diagnosed it is usually classified according to the gross morphological appearance of the cells and surrounding tissues. This classification is limited by a number of factors. First, it relies on a subjective review of the tissue that is dependent on the knowledge and experience of a pathologist, and therefore may not be reproducible. The classification is discrete, rather than continuous, meaning that patients are classified into broad treatment groups (e.g., low, medium, or high probability of recurrence) with limited ability to determine the individual recurrence risk. Nowadays with the blooming of the NGS technologies, and additional molecular pathway analyses (at the protein level), strengths and weaknesses of the tumor can be identified with more and more accuracy to establish complex strategies to cure or at least stabilize cancers. In the following presentation, I will show a summary of the “state of the art” of this new paradigm and its implications in cancer patient management.

IMMUNOHISTOCHEMISTRY ANALYSES MANAGER

ONCODNA (From April 2014 – Present)

He is in charge of the molecular pathology and more exactly the analysis and the development of the Package Plus of OncoDEEP test. These Packages Plus are based on molecular tests like IHCs, PCR, FISH, Methylation, etc.

CMMI-DIAPath (From January 2012 – April 2014)

Lab manager of the laboratory, he was in charge of the research, development and quantification of biomarkers. He was also in charge of the quality system of the laboratory which become ISO15189 certified at the end of 2014.

Anatomo-pathology of Erasme Hospital (From February 2009- January 2012)

He was in charge of the scientific research in collaboration with the MD of the Anatomo-pathology department of the Erasme Hospital (Brussels).

Unibioscreen (From June 2006 – February 2009)

Junior project manager in Unibioscreen (oncology discovery & development specialized company). He was in charge of a research project on drug discovery in some cancer mouse models.

EDUCATION: Master degree in chemistry at the UMon and a DEA in molecular biology in the same university



Dr. Yavor Semerdjiev

Dr. Yavor Semerdjiev is an urologist, who is currently the Head of the Department of Urology in Doverie Hospital, Sofia, Bulgaria.

Dr. Semerdjiev graduated the Medical University in Sofia in 1996 and later on specialized in General Surgery (1999) and Urology (2004). He also holds a Master Degree in Healthcare Management (2010) from the University of National and World Economy. Further to the above, Dr. Semerdjiev has numerous specializations in urology held at Lund University Hospital, Sweden (2003), in endourology at the Long Island Jewish Medical Center, New York, USA, in laparoscopic treatment of renal cancer at IRCAD-EITS-Louis Pasteur University, Strasbourg, France, in urogenital laparoscopy at the University of Leipzig, Germany, in flexible uretheroscopy in Rome, Italy, and in brachytherapy of prostate cancer in Lisbon, Portugal. He has also attended a dedicated course in Ultrasound of the Pelvis in Glasgow, UK.

The scientific career of Dr. Semerdjiev includes working as an assistant in the Urology Clinic of Sofia Medical University for 7 years.

Dr. Semerdjiev is a member of Bulgarian Doctors' Union, Bulgarian Society of Urology, European Association of Urology, and the Endourological Society.

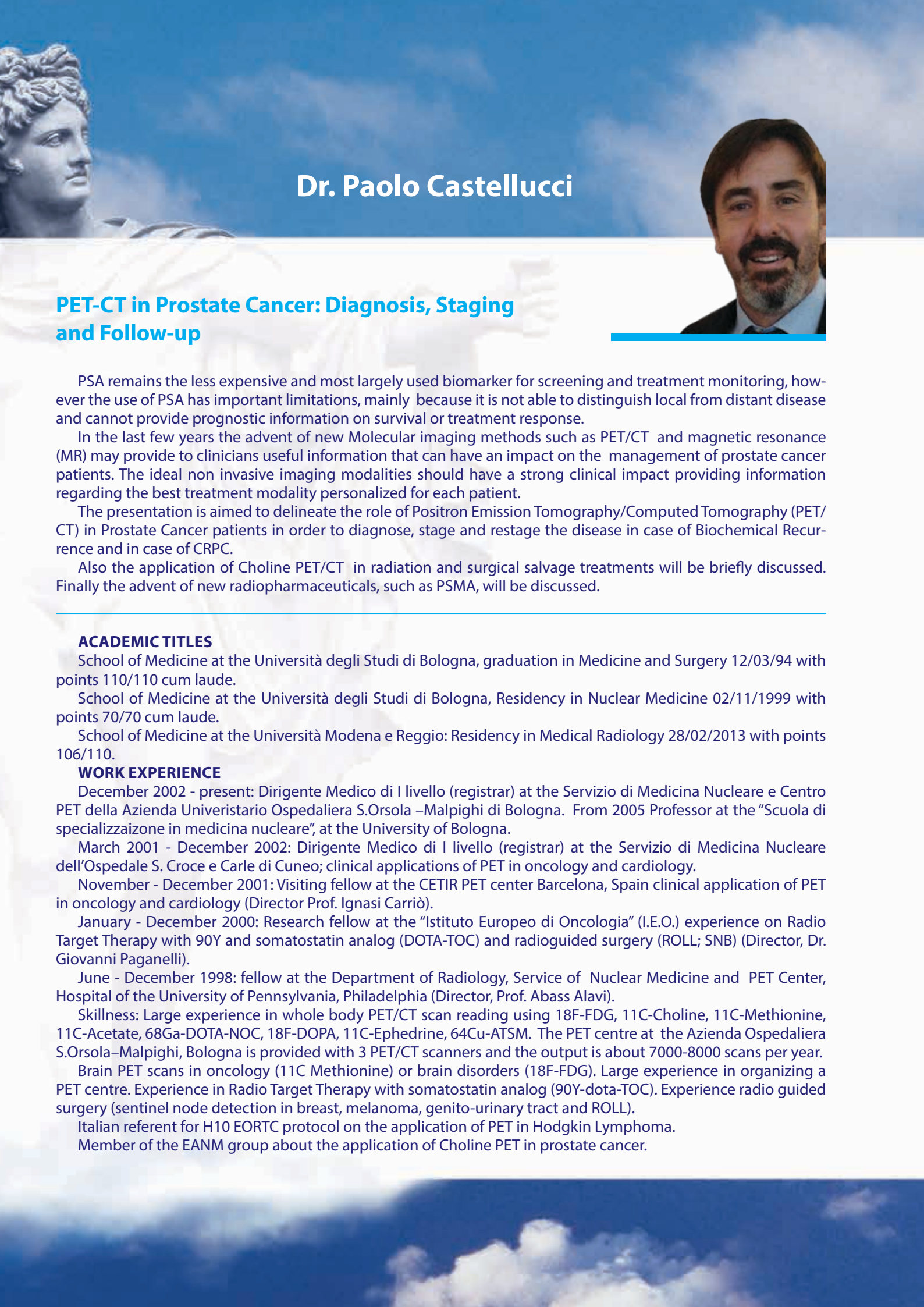
Dr. Yavor Semerdjiev speaks English as a foreign language.

Dr. Nikola Bildirev

Dr. Nikola Nikolaev Bildirev is a radiotherapist a medical oncologist working in the Complex Oncology Centre in the town of Rouse, Bulgaria. He has graduated the Medical University in Sofia in 1986 and later on specialized in Radiotherapy (1993) and Oncology (2003). She also attended specialized trainings on working with the systems of Varian and Electa in the period 2010-2014.

Dr. Bildirev started his professional career as a general practitioner in the hospital in Kyustendil before moving to the Clinic of Radiotherapy at the University Hospital Queen Yoanna – ISUL, where he worked for 23 years until 2011. He used to be a member of the Oncology Committees at Sofia Regional Oncology Center and Pirogov Emergency Care University Hospital. He has a long history of teaching students and interns in radiotherapy at Sofia Medical University and St. Kliment Ohridsky University

Dr. Bildirev has been a member of Bulgarian Association of Radiology since 1994, of BUON since 1997, and of ESTRO since 2013. He has 21 scientific publications and more than 15 participations in local and international congresses with posters and reports.



Dr. Paolo Castellucci

PET-CT in Prostate Cancer: Diagnosis, Staging and Follow-up

PSA remains the less expensive and most largely used biomarker for screening and treatment monitoring, however the use of PSA has important limitations, mainly because it is not able to distinguish local from distant disease and cannot provide prognostic information on survival or treatment response.

In the last few years the advent of new Molecular imaging methods such as PET/CT and magnetic resonance (MR) may provide to clinicians useful information that can have an impact on the management of prostate cancer patients. The ideal non invasive imaging modalities should have a strong clinical impact providing information regarding the best treatment modality personalized for each patient.

The presentation is aimed to delineate the role of Positron Emission Tomography/Computed Tomography (PET/CT) in Prostate Cancer patients in order to diagnose, stage and restage the disease in case of Biochemical Recurrence and in case of CRPC.

Also the application of Choline PET/CT in radiation and surgical salvage treatments will be briefly discussed. Finally the advent of new radiopharmaceuticals, such as PSMA, will be discussed.

ACADEMIC TITLES

School of Medicine at the Università degli Studi di Bologna, graduation in Medicine and Surgery 12/03/94 with points 110/110 cum laude.

School of Medicine at the Università degli Studi di Bologna, Residency in Nuclear Medicine 02/11/1999 with points 70/70 cum laude.

School of Medicine at the Università Modena e Reggio: Residency in Medical Radiology 28/02/2013 with points 106/110.

WORK EXPERIENCE

December 2002 - present: Dirigente Medico di I livello (registrar) at the Servizio di Medicina Nucleare e Centro PET della Azienda Univeristario Ospedaliera S.Orsola –Malpighi di Bologna. From 2005 Professor at the “Scuola di specializzazione in medicina nucleare”, at the University of Bologna.

March 2001 - December 2002: Dirigente Medico di I livello (registrar) at the Servizio di Medicina Nucleare dell'Ospedale S. Croce e Carle di Cuneo; clinical applications of PET in oncology and cardiology.

November - December 2001: Visiting fellow at the CETIR PET center Barcelona, Spain clinical application of PET in oncology and cardiology (Director Prof. Ignasi Carriò).

January - December 2000: Research fellow at the “Istituto Europeo di Oncologia” (I.E.O.) experience on Radio Target Therapy with 90Y and somatostatin analog (DOTA-TOC) and radioguided surgery (ROLL; SNB) (Director, Dr. Giovanni Paganelli).

June - December 1998: fellow at the Department of Radiology, Service of Nuclear Medicine and PET Center, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia (Director, Prof. Abass Alavi).

Skillness: Large experience in whole body PET/CT scan reading using 18F-FDG, 11C-Choline, 11C-Methionine, 11C-Acetate, 68Ga-DOTA-NOC, 18F-DOPA, 11C-Ephedrine, 64Cu-ATSM. The PET centre at the Azienda Ospedaliera S.Orsola–Malpighi, Bologna is provided with 3 PET/CT scanners and the output is about 7000-8000 scans per year.

Brain PET scans in oncology (11C Methionine) or brain disorders (18F-FDG). Large experience in organizing a PET centre. Experience in Radio Target Therapy with somatostatin analog (90Y-dota-TOC). Experience radio guided surgery (sentinel node detection in breast, melanoma, genito-urinary tract and ROLL).

Italian referent for H10 EORTC protocol on the application of PET in Hodgkin Lymphoma.

Member of the EANM group about the application of Choline PET in prostate cancer.



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Krassimir Yanev

Modern Surgical Methods for Treating Prostate Cancer

Worldwide, prostate cancer ranks fourth among malignant diseases affecting males. With the introduction of PSA-screening, the frequency of the localized prostate cancer has increased significantly, while that of the metastatic one has been reduced. Radical prostatectomy is the main form of treatment for localized prostate cancer, which has shown in several randomized trials to reduce the risk of progression, metastasis, and death due to the disease. Radical treatment options are the classic open surgery and advanced endoscopic methods, as laparoscopic or robot-assisted surgery.

Patients with a life expectancy of over 10 years and low to moderate risk of extra-capsular spread of the disease are indicated for radical prostatectomy (T1c, GS <7 and PSA < 10ng/mL, Partin tables/nomograms), as well as strictly selected patients with locally advanced prostate cancer (cT3b-T4 N0 or any T N1) as a part of a multimodal therapy. The extended lymph node dissection is mandatory in all high-risk patients.

In the last decade, modern endoscopic methods are gradually becoming a treatment standard. The main advantages of these methods are: better precision, smaller blood loss, a small percentage of intra and post-operative complications and better results in terms of continence and erectile function. Endoscopic operations post-operative period is associated with less pronounced pain syndrome, faster recovery, better cosmetic effect, and hence a shorter hospital stay. In terms of cancer indicators, various comparative analyzes show no significant differences in outcomes between open and endoscopic operations.

At present, no treatment option has surpassed the radical prostatectomy yet, and it is considered as the "golden standard" in the treatment of localized prostate cancer.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Krassimir Yanev is an urologist. He is currently the Head of the Surgical Unit in the Department of Urology in Alexandrovska University Hospital - Sofia, Bulgaria, where he has devoted nearly 23 years of working experience. Assoc. Prof. Yanev graduated the Medical University in Sofia in 1989 and acquired the degree of an Assoc. Prof. in 2010. Meanwhile he also graduated the University of National and World Economy, specializing in Healthcare Management. Further to that, he has participated in more than 15 special urology courses all around Europe, focusing on laparo-endoscopic urology. The teaching activities of Assoc. Prof. Yanev include tutoring students and residents in urology and holding teaching courses for professionals. He is a member of the Urology Advisory Boards of several hospitals in Sofia – Doverie, Hill Clinic and City Clinic. Assoc. Prof. Yanev has served as a PI and SI in 14 clinical trials in the past 10 years. Apart from being a National Consultant in Urology, he is an active full member of EAU, AUA, SIU, Bulgarian Society of Urology, as well as a member of the Executive Committee of URONET Urology Association. Assoc. Prof. Krassimir Yanev speaks 2 foreign languages - English and Russian.




Gregory A. Wiseman, MD



PRESENT ACADEMIC RANK AND POSITION 1995 – Present - Academic Affiliate - Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research; Consultant - Division of Nuclear Medicine, Department of Radiology, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota; 08/01/1995 – Present - Consultant - Department of Radiology, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota; 07/01/1996 – Present - Assistant Professor of Radiology - Mayo Clinic College of Medicine

EDUCATION 1978 - University of Wyoming, BSc, Microbiology; 1979 - University of Wyoming BSc, Nutrition and Food Science; 1983 - University of Utah Medical center ,MD; 1983 - 1986 - Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Resident, Internal Medicine; 1987 - 1989 - Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Fellow, Hematology; 1989 – 1990 - University of Washington, Resident, Nuclear Medicine; 1989 – 1992 - University of Washington, Fellow, Oncology; 1991- 1992 - University of Washington, Chief Resident, Nuclear Medicine; **CERTIFICATION(S) Board Certification(s)** 1988 – Present - American Board of Hematology; 1986 - Present - American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM); 1992 – Present - American Board of Nuclear Medicine; Mayo Certification(s) 12/28/2012 - Mayo Clinic Quality Academy - Mayo Clinic Quality Fellow: Bronze Level Certification; **HONORS/AWARDS** - 01/1978 - Honors - University of Wyoming; 01/1979 - Honors - University of Wyoming; 01/1991 - 01/1992 - Mallinckrodt Fellowship; **PREVIOUS PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS AND MAJOR APPOINTMENTS** - 1990 – 1992 - Medical Safety Consultant - Radiolabeled Monoclonal Antibody Patient Studies, NeoRx Corporation, Seattle, Washington; 1992 - Project Physician - Radiolabeled Monoclonal Antibody Patient Studies, NeoRx Corporation, Seattle, Washington; 1992 - 1995 - Radioisotope Misadministration Investigator - Nuclear Regulatory Agency; 08/01/1992 - 07/31/1995 - Senior Associate Consultant - Department of Radiology, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota; 10/10/1992 - 07/01/1996 - Instructor of Radiology - Mayo Clinic College of Medicine; **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS** - Has been a member of American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology, American Society of Clinical Oncology, American Society of Hematology, American Society of Nuclear Cardiology, British Nuclear Medicine Society, Children's Oncology Group, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group, International Atomic Energy Agency, International Society of Radio-labeled Blood Elements, Society of Nuclear Medicine, Clinical Trials Council, Committee on Councils, SNM Molecular Imaging Clinical Translation Advisory Committee and the Therapy Council; Vice-president of Nuclear Oncology Council; Member of Board of Directors of Nuclear Oncology Diagnosis and Therapy Council; **JOURNAL RESPONSIBILITIES** – Editor - Frontiers in Bioscience; Editorial Board Member, Sunnyvale, California - Journal of Nuclear Medicine & Radiation Therapy; **INSTITUTIONAL/ DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES, COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES** - Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Department of Radiology – Member of the Centennial Exhibit Committee, Member of the Emergency Response Committee, Member of the Research Committee, Member and Chairman of the Safety Committee; **VISITING PROFESSORSHIPS** - 12/1996 - Nuclear Medicine Department, La Sapienza Hospital, Rome, Italy; **CLINICAL PRACTICE, INTERESTS AND ACOMPLISHMENTS** - Developed standard criteria for interpretation of ventilation perfusion scans. The criteria is being used by the consulting staff, and Radiology residents for clinical interpretation. The criteria have helped to improve the reading of the on-call studies by the residents avoiding revisions of reports by the staff. Wrote the sections for the nuclear medicine procedure manual used in clinical practice at Mayo Rochester for diamox brain perfusion imaging and edited the sections on endocrine imaging, tumor imaging and tumor therapy. The manual is used in daily clinical practice. Transferred the nuclear hematology procedures previously done in laboratory medicine to Radiology as part of a continuous improvement committee recommendation. This required reviewing the procedures, discussions with Dr Fairbanks of Lab Medicine and writing the protocols. The move of these studies is beneficial to Mayo and the patients by consolidating; **RESEARCH INTERESTS** - 1979: American Cancer Society of Wyoming. In vitro assay of murine sarcoma cells for sensitivity to chemotherapy agent; 1980:



University of Utah Medical Student Summer Grant. Abnormal neutrophil chemotaxis in diabetics; 1981: University of Utah Medical Student Summer Grant. Inhibition of neutrophil chemotaxis by endothelial cells and prostacyclin; 1988-89: Mayo Clinic, Clinical Investigator Program. Purging of myeloma cells from bone marrow and peripheral blood for autologous bone marrow transplantation as a treatment for myeloma; 1988-89: Mechanisms of steroid interaction and cells death in lymphoma; 1989: University of Washington. Human malignant melanoma xenografts in the immunosuppressed dog as a model for radiolabeled monoclonal antibody targeting.

Dr. Galen Kyurkchiev

Dr. Galen Kyurkchiev is a medical doctor, licensed to practice in Bulgaria, United Kingdom and Ireland, with more than 30 years of professional experience in histopathology and cytopathology. Dr. Kyurkchiev started his professional career at the Department of Pathology at Sofia Medical University where he worked for 17 years. After a short spell in a private hospital in Sofia, he moved to Doverie Hospital, where he currently occupies the position of Chief histopathologist. He has also served as a consultant in a number of UK and Irish hospitals.

Dr. Galen Kyurkchiev graduated the Medical University in Sofia in 1984 and later specialized in Pathological Anatomy/Histopathology (1991) and in Cytopathology (1996). In 1991, he got a PhD degree with a dissertation on the immunohistochemical studies in chronic lymphocytic leukemia on lymph nodes and bone marrow. He became a Master of Medical Science in 2000 with a work on bone marrow trephine biopsy. Further to that, Dr. Kurkchiev has attended numerous courses in cytopathology, surgical pathology, general pathology, hematopathology, bone marrow and quantitative pathology at renowned medical centres in Germany, Italy, Israel, and the USA.

Dr. Kyurkchiev has participated in 6 major research projects mainly on hematopoietic neoplasm issues, has delivered 21 presentations at local and international congresses, and has published 28 scientific works in specialized journals.

Dr. Galen Kyurkchiev speaks 2 foreign languages – English and German.



Dr. Hristo Spasov

Dr. Hristo Spasov is an intern, specializing in medical oncology at Serdika Hospital in Sofia, Bulgaria.
Dr. Spasov has graduated Plovdiv English Language School in 2007 and Medical University in 2013.
Dr. Spasov speaks 2 foreign languages - English and German.

Dr. Ralitsa Dzhupanova

Dr. Ralitsa Dzhupanova is an intern of medical oncology at Serdika Hospital in Sofia, Bulgaria.
She has graduated the Mathematical School in Rouse in 1992 and then the Medical University in Sofia in 1998.
Further on, she specialized in Internal Diseases (2001) and in Medical Biology (2009). She is currently specializing Medical Oncology at Pleven Medical University. She has also attended specialized courses in Abdominal Ultrasound Diagnostics (2001) and Immunology Methods in Microbiology (2003), as well as one in the Institute of Anatomy at the University of Cologne.

Dr. Dzhupanova started her professional career in the emergency care unit in the town of Rouse, then moving to the Department of Internal Diseases in the Regional Hospital in Rouse. She has also experience working for big pharmaceutical companies as well as an assistant to the professor in the Department of Biology at Sofia Medical University. She has also worked for 6 years as a chief assistant to the professor in the Human Biology Department of the Medical Faculty of St. Kliment Ohridsky University in Sofia, Bulgaria.

Dr. Dzhupanova has 4 scientific publications and 6 participations in local and international meetings.

Dr. Ralitsa Dzhupanova speaks 2 foreign languages - English and Russian

Case studies

Long-term complete remission in metastatic triple positive breast cancer patient - focus on K 67 and others biological and clinical factors defining complete response - Petkova D, Mihaylova Zh, Petrova V, Megdanova V

Stomach as a distant metastatic site in breast cancer with lobular histology - Megdanova V, Mihaylova Zh, Petkova D, Petrova

An ocular metastasis in breast cancer – case report and review of the literature - Petrova V, Mihaylova Zh, Petkova D, Megdanova

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