

# **Nikolaus Metz** MSc. Universitätsklinikum Krems Austria



## **ESTRO** background

My contact with ESTRO began with my visit to ESTRO 2013 in Geneva and was characterized from the beginning by my close contacts with Andreas Osztavics and Philipp Scherer. Regular visits to congresses and various courses showed me the importance of ESTRO as a networking organization.

## **Experience**

I have dedicated 23 years of my professional career to the field of radiation therapy. Throughout this journey, my privilege was to of working with diverse teams, gaining valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities faced by radiation therapists. My experience in treatment planning, patient immobilization, patient care and IGRT has equipped me with a comprehensive understanding of the intricacies involved in delivering high-quality care to patients.

In my current role as senior RTT at University hospital Krems (Clinical Department of Radiotherapy), I have successfully completed various audits and have been active in the national society for RTT (ÖGRO ARGE RT & RTAustria) since 2004 and member of the board since 2012. In recent years I have been a member of the board and responsible for the website as well.

My main interest is in the further development of the RTT professional group in my own country but especially in Europe with the focus on bringing the skills and knowledge to a common level.

These experiences have honed my leadership skills, including strategic planning, team building, and effective communication.

I am confident that these skills, coupled with my deep commitment to the advancement of radiation therapy and radiography, align well with the goals of the ESTRO RTT Alliance.

### **Education and Qualifications**

After my training as a RTT in 2001, I was able to consolidate and further expand my knowledge at national and international conferences in the first few years. In addition to theoretical further training, practical and exchange with other clinics was always important to me.

I was able to use an internship at the Humanitas Research Hospital under Professor Marta Scorsetti in 2009 to work together in the interdisciplinary team to establish VMAT as a radiation technology at my workplace.



In 2011 I finished my Master degree program in Medtech (functional imaging, conventional and ion radiotherapy) and started to be a part-time lecturer for radiotherapy therapist students in Vienna.

Further training in the areas of stereotactic radiotherapy, hypofractionation, image guided radiotherapy, patient care and also leadership management round off my knowledge and wealth of experience and form a solid basis for my daily work.

#### **Personal**

My main concern and my job, of course, is to uphold the quality of education of radiation therapists and to optimize the curricula adapted to the developments in our occupational field. As a radiation therapist in radiotherapy, my heart naturally beats for improving the training in radiotherapy. However, very professional patient care, high-value radiotherapy for all cancer patients and the health of all radiotherapy professions should always be in the focus of all developments, which also corresponds to the vision of the ESTRO optimal health for all, together for 2030. For this reason, we are also in regular contact with the national society RT-Austria with all Bachelor Degree programs in Austria.

#### **Final statement**

My main interest is the further development of the RTT profession based on the Bologna Process with the standardization of study programmes and degrees across Europe and transnational higher education reform aimed at international student mobility in Europe, with a strong focus on bringing clinical skills and knowledge to a common level.

These experiences have honed my leadership skills, including strategic planning, team building, and effective communication.

I am confident that these skills, coupled with my deep commitment to the advancement of radiation therapy and radiography, align well with the goals of the ESTRO RTT Alliance.