

ESTRO

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ESTRO background

I have been a member of ESTRO for over 10 years, since my days as a research fellow at the Institute of Cancer Research, London. Over the years, I have benefited hugely from mentoring and networking opportunities within the ESTRO 'family'.

I was first given the opportunity to present some of my research at the annual meeting in 2010 and since then have regularly enjoyed speaking in various sessions in the main meeting and in the pre-ESTRO teachings courses. In addition to acting as a reviewer of manuscripts submitted to Radiotherapy and Oncology, I have enjoyed actively participating in writing the ESTRO guidelines for lung cancer radiotherapy.

My engagement with ESTRO continues to shape my clinical practice and inspire my research activities, in addition to providing me with motivation to be involved at a higher level in ESTRO. My main aim, if elected, is to promote and support clinical research through well designed multicentre trials with embedded translational work and large-scale international registration studies. These will feed into the continuous programme of education and evidence based clinical practice guideline updates. Together these ESTRO activities will continue to improve outcomes for real-world patients and support and inspire the next generation of clinical researchers.

Experience

I have 12 years of experience as a thoracic clinical oncology consultant with a busy clinical practice across 2 hospital sites. My research interests aim to improve clinical outcomes for patients by developing individualised approaches to lung radiotherapy through integration of targeted therapy and immunotherapy with advanced radiotherapy technologies, including stereotactic radiotherapy (SABR), intensity-modulated and image-guided adaptive radiotherapy. My research portfolio includes being Chief Investigator for the international randomised phase II/III HALT trial investigating the role of SABR for oligo-progressive mutation positive lung cancer and the national randomised phase III SARON trial investigating the role of SABR for synchronous oligometastatic disease in non-small cell lung cancer. These roles have given me a deeper appreciation of the importance of every member of the research team and the value of mentorship and collaboration. If elected, I am highly motivated to contribute further to the ESTRO E² Radiate platform programme and to promote the international radiotherapy trial portfolio.

I would bring to the board management experience from my roles as a member of the UK National Cancer Research Institute (NCRI) lung & Clinical Trials in Radiotherapy (CTRad) clinical study groups, EORTC lung group, the British Thoracic Oncology Group (BTOG) steering committee, the advanced



radiotherapy committee of the International Association of the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC) and as chair elect of the UK SABR consortium. I have become an experienced speaker (partly through ESTRO) and enjoy the educational components of my job, from everyday teaching of our local trainees and wider members of our multi-disciplinary team to teaching on international courses and taking part in lively debates. I am keen to support and promote promising early career speakers to continue to strengthen the ESTRO network.

Education and Qualifications

I was awarded a first-class honours degree in medical sciences by the University of Cambridge in 1994 before qualifying as a doctor from the University of London in 1997. Following my general medical training, I completed my training as a clinical oncologist also in London in 2006, achieving the Frank Doyle Medal from the Royal College of Radiologists. I was awarded the Chairman's Prize from the Institute of Cancer Research for my research degree in 2013. I was appointed as a consultant at the Royal Marsden Hospital in 2012.

Personal

I have two daughters, aged 14 and 17 (aspiring medic!) and along with my husband, who is a microbiologist at the heart of the local COVID battle, we have found the last few months to be interesting. I trained and undertook my research degree part-time for a number of years when my children were little. There is more than one way to train and succeed, juggling family life with a busy clinical practice and academic career. I fully support flexibility for individuals to achieve this.

Final statement

ESTRO is a strong organisation with global membership that provides support and opportunities to its members to deliver practice changing research and evidence-based guidelines, ensuring optimal outcomes for our patients. I am highly motivated to contribute at board level to help shape its future.

