



Association of Imaging Producers & Equipment Suppliers  
European Industrial Association for Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Healthcare

# "Nuclear Medicine in Cancer Management: Improving Efficacy and Reducing Costs"

An AIPES Symposium

**Wednesday 16 September 2015 at 10 :00 am**

Theâtre du Vaudeville, Brussels



## **Barbara Malene Fischer, MD, PhD, DMSC**

Dr. Malene Fisher is Consultant in the Department of Clinical Physiology, Nuclear Medicine and PET, at the Rigshospitalet, Copenhagen University Hospital, Denmark. She is Associate professor of Research, in the Department of Clinical Medicine, Faculty of Health, at the Copenhagen University. She has a specialization in Clinical Physiology and Nuclear Medicine.

Dr. Fischer has performed research within the field of functional imaging and oncology for a decade. The common thread of her research being the exploration and implementation of functional imaging in cancer treatment, mainly PET/CT and recently also PET/MR. Her PhD established the detection limit of the PET/CT technology and suggested a model for in-vitro PET studies. Moreover, it included pioneer clinical studies on PET/CT in staging and therapy evaluation of patients with small cell lung cancer. Since then, Dr. Fischer has conducted, analysed and presented the world's first randomized clinical trial on PET/CT in staging of patients with non-small cell lung cancer which demonstrated that preoperative staging with PET/CT significantly reduces the frequency of futile thoracotomies as well as the total number of thoracotomies without affecting overall survival or cost. The primary endpoints were published in 2009 in the New England Journal of Medicine and have been implemented into current national and international guidelines.



## **E.G. Elisabeth de Vries, MD, PhD**

Prof. Dr. E.G. Elisabeth de Vries, MD, PhD is Professor of Medical Oncology, and head of the Department of Medical Oncology at the University Medical Center Groningen, in the Netherlands. She is involved in patient care, teaching, and research. Her research lines are directed to increase the sensitivity of tumors to anticancer drugs, and she uses imaging techniques to support this.

Apart from laboratory studies, she performs and coordinates clinical trials. She has received numerous grants, including grants from the Dutch Cancer Society, EU, and is PI of CTMM (Center for Translational and Molecular Medicine) grant MAMMOTH and of ERC advanced grant OnQview. She is currently chairperson of the committee for the new RECIST 2.0 version on behalf of the EORTC and is co-chair of the task force who developed the ESMO Magnitude of Clinical Benefit Scale.

She is member of the Royal Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) and received the European Society of Medical Oncology (ESMO) award in 2009. She is also Fellow of the European Academy of Cancer Sciences and she has been awarded a Royal Netherlands Academy of Sciences professorship.



### **Wolfgang Weber, MD**

Prof. Wolfgang Weber is chief of the Molecular Imaging and Therapy Service at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. He authored more than 150 peer reviewed, original publications and review articles, and supervised more than 50 undergraduate students, graduate students, postdoctoral researcher, medical residents and fellows.

His current research is focused on the development and clinical evaluation of novel radiopharmaceuticals for the diagnosis and therapy of cancer. Ongoing projects include clinical and preclinical somatostatin and gastrin releasing peptide receptor antagonists for the diagnosis of therapy of neuroendocrine tumours and prostate cancer. These compounds have shown favourable characteristics in animal studies and very encouraging results in early clinical studies.

A further area of research is the use of PET/CT and PET/MR for radiation treatment planning and monitoring tumour response to therapy. In this area, his team is working on technical improvements of PET imaging (e.g. gated and high resolution PET imaging) as well as on clinical trials assessing the impact of PET imaging on patient outcome. Ongoing projects include radiation treatment planning of lung cancer head and neck cancer and gliomas.

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### **Barry A. Siegel, MD**

Barry A. Siegel, M.D. is currently Professor of Radiology and Medicine at Washington University School of Medicine, Director of the Division of Nuclear Medicine at Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology, and a member of the University's Alvin J. Siteman Cancer Center. Dr. Siegel has been at Washington University since 1962, when he matriculated as an undergraduate. He subsequently attended medical school, followed by medical internship and radiology and nuclear medicine residency at Washington University and was appointed Director of the Division of Nuclear Medicine in 1973.

Throughout his career, Dr Siegel has been active in nuclear medicine research, and has made contributions related to the diagnosis of pulmonary embolism, the detection of thrombosis, and oncological applications of radionuclide tracers. For the last two decades his research efforts have focused on uses of positron emission tomography for cancer diagnosis and staging, as well as predicting and monitoring tumor response to therapy. He also has been heavily engaged in the development and conduct of multicenter clinical trials in the arena of cancer imaging with PET via leadership roles in both the American College of Surgeons Oncology Group (ACOSOG) and the American College of Radiology Imaging Network (ACRIN). Since 2005, he has devoted much of his time to the development and operation of the National Oncologic PET Registry (NOPR), and those efforts have helped to greatly expand coverage for PET by the Medicare program.

A prolific writer and editor, with over 380 journal articles, book chapters, and books to his credit, Dr. Siegel is also actively involved as an editorial board member for several journals, and served from 1988 to 2002 as the Editor In Chief of the Professional Self-Evaluation Program (the "Syllabus Series") published by the American College of Radiology.

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### **Dr. Konrade von Bremen, MD**

Dr. Konrade von Bremen is CEO of the SWAN-Isotopen AG (Bern, Switzerland), a spin off company of the University Hospital of Bern Inselspital, fostering innovation in molecular imaging. SWAN Isotopen AG is producing PET radioisotopes for the Swiss market.

Dr von Bremen graduated from the Medical faculty at Siena (IT) in 1991. In 1997 obtained the Swiss Board Certificate in Internal Medicine. She continued with a Master degree in Health Economics and Management in 2000 from the University of Lausanne (CH) and a Certificate of Advanced Studies in the Management of Med-/Biotech and Pharma Ventures from the same university in 2009.

Dr von Bremen served as Associate Medical Director of the University Hospital Lausanne (CH) before before joining MEDTRONIC in Tolochanz (CH ) as the Director Clinical of the Neuro-Division of in 2002. She held various research and teaching appointments with Universities in Switzerland and Italy in the field of Health Technology Assessment and industry relations. In 2006 she was appointed Project Director of Innovation Projects at the Inselspital Bern.

Proven competencies of Dr von Bremen include the design and implementation of interdisciplinary innovation projects in the realms of academia and industry; the assessment of healthcare technologies and associated reimbursement strategies, the definition of multi-disciplinary training programmes, global healthcare management and system analysis in view of optimized organizations in hospitals and healthcare industry.