EORTC : 1962 – 2012

The EORTC mission and achievements : 50 Years of Progress against Cancer.

FRANCOISE MEUNIER, MD, PhD, FRCP
EORTC Director General
2 October 2012 – ESMO Congress - Vienna
Disclosure slide

Françoise Meunier, EORTC Director General,
I have no Conflicts of Interest
EORTC : from Dreams to Realities

Main Mission: promote and conduct research to improve cancer care

• Private and non profit organization created in 1962

• Core activity: conduct clinical trials:
  – International
  – Multidisciplinary/Combined therapeutic modalities
  – Develop Translational Research/Imaging/ Biobanking
  – Define new standards of care
  – Large academic trials/Practice changing
  – Quality Assurance Programs

Henri Tagnon
Co-Founder of EORTC
EORTC PRESIDENTS 1962-2015

Georges Mathé
Villejuif, France
(1962-1965)

Silvio Garattini
Milan, Italy
(1965-1968)

D. Willem van Bekkum
Rijswijk, NL
(1969-1975)

Henri Tignon
Brussels, Belgium
(1975-1978)

Lazlo George Latja
Manchester, UK
(1979-1981)

Carl Gottfried Schmidt
Essen, Germany
(1981-1984)

Umberto Veronesi
Milan, Italy
(1985-1988)

Louis Denis
Antwerp, Belgium

E. van der Schueren
Leuven, Belgium

Gordon McVie
London, UK
(1994-1997)

Jean-Claude Horiot
Dijon, France
(1997-2000)

Allan T. van Oosterom
Leuven, Belgium

A.M.M. Eggermont
Rotterdam, NL
(2003-2006)

Martine Piccart
Brussels, Belgium
(2006-2009)

Jean-Yves Blay
Lyon, France
(2009-2012)

Roger Stupp
Lausanne, Switzerland
(2012-2015)
EORTC GROUPS/TASK FORCES

• Clinical Research
  
  **Tumor Specific Groups**
  - Brain Tumor
  - Breast Cancer
  - Children’s Leukemia
  - Lung Cancer
  - Leukemia
  - Lymphoma
  - Melanoma
  - Soft Tissue and Bone Sarcoma
  - Gastro-intestinal Tract Cancer
  - Genito-Urinary Tract Cancer
  - Gynecological Cancer
  - Head and Neck Cancer

  **Other Clinical Groups**
  - Infectious Diseases
  - Quality of Life
  - Radiation Oncology

  **Task Forces**
  - Elderly
  - Cutaneous Lymphoma

• **Translationnall Research**
  - Pathobiology
  - Pharmacology and Molecular Mechanisms
  - Imaging
MISSION EORTC HEADQUARTERS

• Provide optimal infrastructure for carrying out multicenter cancer clinical trials
• Provide expertise in clinical research management
• Ensure independence and objective conduct, analysis report of trials
• Promote and conduct internal research projects
• Education role: courses/manual/PhD
Accrual of patients in EORTC studies (2000 – 2011) 71.905 patients

European Union:
Austria: 810
Belgium: 7.399
Bulgaria: 49
Cyprus: 73
Czech Republic: 160
Denmark: 529
Estonia: 7
Finland: 34
France: 14.438
Germany: 6.310
Greece: 48
Hungary: 210
Italy: 6.553
Latvia: 34
Luxemburg: 9
Malta: 20
Poland: 1.082
Portugal: 635
Republic of Ireland: 90
Romania: 20
Slovak Republic: 451

European Union (Con't):
Slovenia: 310
Spain: 2.867
Sweden: 595
The Netherlands: 15.279
United Kingdom: 6.620

Non-EU Countries
Bosnia: 8
Croatia: 352
Macedonia: 6
Norway: 454
Serbia: 261
Russia: 178
Switzerland: 1.438
Turkey: 631
Ukraine: 4

Rest of the World: 3.941 patients

www.esmo2012.org
EORTC PHENOMENAL STRENGTH AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Practice changing trials in common cancers (GI, Lung, Breast, Prostate) but also:

• Soft Tissue Sarcoma: GIST trial record breaking
• Melanoma: Largest trials in shortest time frame
• Brain tumors
• Haemato-oncology (adults and children):
  • Leukemia
  • Lymphoma
• Head and Neck Cancer: Larynx preservation
• Etc....
Necessity For European Cooperation
Necessity to adapt to Complex and heterogeneous EU Legislations

- Law on human experimentation
- Drug laws
- Data protection/privacy
- Bio-bank laws
- Radioprotection etc…
The Way Forward ?

Streamline - Simplify - Harmonize

Ongoing revision of Clinical Trial Directive
Need For Further Comprehensive EU Research Approaches

• Appropriate infrastructures for:
  - Local investigators
  - Coordinating centers
  - Education and career tracks for next generation of oncologists
  - And Funding!

• Less than 5% of cancer patients participate in clinical trials

• Building a bright future together requires
  
  Wisdom – Courage – Vision and Trust

www.esmo2012.org
Future Perspectives

New Model of Collaboration

- Public Funding
- Charities
- Industry
- Policy Makers
- Academia

Patient Organization
We are Unique

- Same Goals
- Same Commitment
- Same Respect
- Same Scientific Interests
- Same responsibility to improve cancer treatments
- Same responsibility to rescue academic trial agenda
- Same support and loyalty to the EORTC
- Same adaptation to a changing environment
- Same charm of being an international and multicultural organization