



Special Committee on Beating Cancer

EXCHANGE OF VIEWS

“The impact of the COVID19-pandemic on cancer prevention, health services and cancer patients and research: Lessons from a public health crisis”

Monday, 10 May 2021, 11:15 - 12:00

Brussels, European Parliament, Room: József Antall (6Q2) and with remote participation

BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS



Prof. Mark LAWLER, Associate Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Professor of Digital Health, and Chair in Translational Cancer Genomics, Queen's University Belfast (QUB) and Board Member European Cancer Organisation.

Prof. Lawler is an internationally renowned scientist with over 200 papers including key publications in the highest impact journals. His work has been recognised by numerous national/international awards including the Prestigious European Health Award. He is Scientific Director of DATA-CAN, the UK's Health Data Research Hub for Cancer. Mark is a member of the Board of the European Cancer Organisation. He is also a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the European Cancer Patient Coalition.

He has a strong commitment to patient-centred research/care and to addressing cancer inequalities. He was architect of the European Cancer Patient's Bill of Rights (BoR), a catalyst for change and empowerment tool for cancer patients, which he launched in the European Parliament on World Cancer Day 2014. His work on addressing inequalities and access issues in relation to cancer care has been central in the development of the European Code of Cancer Practice, which the European Cancer Organisation launched (virtually) with EU Health and Food Safety Commissioner Stella Kyriakides in Brussels in September 2020.

Prof. Lawler's work on COVID-19 and its impact on cancer services and cancer patients has received international attention. He co-chairs the European Cancer Organisation's Special Focussed Network on COVID-19 and cancer, which recently launched its 7-Point Plan to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on cancer services and cancer patients. He has just been appointed as Chair of the International Cancer Benchmarking Partnership (a global initiative to improve outcomes for cancer patients). In November 2020, as part of European Personalised Medicine month and in association with the European Cancer Patient Coalition, he launched a patient-focussed booklet entitled Personalised Medicine: A Guide for Patients.



Mirjam CRUL, PharmD, PhD. Received her master in pharmacy in 1999. Subsequently, she worked as a research fellow at the Netherlands Cancer Institute studying clinical pharmacology of novel anticancer agents. This work resulted in a PhD in 2002. She trained to become a hospital pharmacist from 2002-2006. Currently she is employed in the Amsterdam University Medical Center, where she supervises the aseptic compounding unit and has pharmaceutical responsibility for the oncology department. She served as a board member for the Dutch Hospital Pharmacists Association (NVZA) from 2016 to 2019. At present, she holds a chair in the European Cancer Organization board and is vice-president of the European Society of Oncology Pharmacy (ESOP).



Solange PETERS, MD, PhD, is full professor and chair of medical oncology as well as the thoracic malignancies programme in the department of oncology at the University Hospital of Lausanne, Switzerland. She received both her doctorate in medicine and PhD from the University Hospital of Lausanne, Switzerland. After completing her clinical education in medical oncology and molecular biology in Switzerland and Italy, Professor Peters has specialized in thoracic tumors, lung cancer, and pleural tumors.

Professor Peters is currently in charge of teaching and patient care in the area of thoracic malignancies in the department of oncology of Lausanne University, where she is building a translational program in collaboration with the molecular oncology laboratory directed by Dr Hanahan at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne and the Ludwig Institute. Professor Peters' main fields of interest are new biomarkers discovery and validation in preclinical and clinical settings, multimodality strategies for locally advanced non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC), as well as cancer immunotherapy.

Professor Peters' current research projects are focused on multimodality stage III NSCLC treatment strategies, immunotherapy in limited small cell lung cancer and advanced NSCLC and thymic malignancies, ALK inhibitors, HER2 inhibitors, as well as innovative immunotherapy combinations and new immunomodulating treatments across thoracic malignancies. She acts as the local principal investigator (PI) for lung trials opened at Lausanne Cancer Centre, focused on phase I predictive biomarkers and thoracic malignancies immunotherapy, and is a co-PI of several other trials. Additionally, she acts as the scientific coordinator and Foundation Council member of the European Thoracic Oncology Platform.

Professor Peters has authored numerous peer-reviewed manuscripts and book chapters, and serves as deputy editor of the Journal of Thoracic Oncology, associate editor of the Annals of Oncology and on the editorial board of several other oncology journals. Professor Peters is active in the educational programs of the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) and the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC), notably working as the current editor of the ESMO lung cancer clinical practice guidelines. She is the past-Chair of ESMO Women for Oncology Committee, and she is the youngest ESMO President ever, for a mandate in 2020-2021. She was also a member of the IASLC board of directors, and vice president of the Swiss Group for Clinical Cancer Research lung group.



Dineke ZEEGERS PAGET is the Executive Director of EUPHA - the European Public Health Association – a network of national public health associations aimed at voicing knowledge and building capacity.

Dineke has a law degree, followed by a PhD. Before starting to work at EUPHA in 1997, she worked at the World Health Organization HQ and the Swiss Federal Ministry of Public Health.