



European Society for Medical Oncology

## **ESMO Clinical Unit Visit – Report**

**Fellow:** Dr Hanna Kosela

**Home Institute:** Warsaw Cancer Center, Poland

**Host Institute:** University Hospital in Leuven, Belgium

**Mentors:** Prof Patrick Schöffski, Dr. Olivier Bechter

**Period:** 14<sup>th</sup> January 2013 – 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2013

My name is Hanna Kosela. I am a resident during my fourth year of specialization in medical oncology. I work in the Warsaw Cancer Center in the Department of Soft Tissue and Bone Sarcoma and Melanoma headed by Professor Rutkowski.

Our department is dedicated to the treatment of sarcomas of bone and soft-tissue and melanomas, and I work with sarcoma/melanoma patients every day. My main area of interest is chemotherapy in patients with advanced soft tissue sarcomas. This is one of the main reasons why the place I chose for the ESMO clinical unit visit Fellowship was the General Oncology Department in the University Hospital in Leuven, Belgium. The head of the Clinic is Professor Patrick Schöffski, who is one of the leading experts in treatment of sarcoma patients in Europe. The fellowship lasted six weeks from 13 January 2013 to 22 February 2013. The coordinator of my stay in Leuven was Dr. Olivier Bechter. During these weeks I had a unique opportunity to observe the work of one of the Europe's leading cancer clinics, equipped with the most modern facilities for diagnosis and treatment of cancer. In Leuven the patients have access to the highest quality health care and are able to participate in a large number of clinical trials including the first phase ones. Together with the oncology specialists employed there, I participated in the diagnosing and treatment of the patients, and also attended to the multidisciplinary tumor boards. With Professor Schöffski and other doctors I visited the outpatient clinic where I observed patients during treatment and during follow-up. The great educational value for me was participating in examinations of patients who came to Leuven for second opinion, often from other European countries and from distant regions of the world. I had the opportunity to examine these patients. I had also the unique chance to get to know the work carried out by the laboratory of molecular biology headed by Dr. Agnieszka Wozniak. It was particularly valuable for me because during my daily duties in Poland I rarely have contact with basic research, which plays a crucial role in contemporary oncology. By courtesy and commitment of Professor Schöffski and his team I could be introduced to the treatment of rare cancers such as soft tissue sarcomas. I could also deepen my knowledge of cancer therapy beyond the main area of my daily work in Warsaw, and being a base of medical oncology, such as breast, kidney, testicular or prostate cancer what is very important for my development as a future general medical oncologist. Even though I am not

familiar with language spoken in Leuven (Flemish) I didn't have any problems with communication with the doctors and often patients in English.

Beside this my stay in Leuven was a very pleasant experience for me, because it is a very beautiful and friendly student city.

In conclusion, ESMO Clinical Unit Fellowship was for me a very enriching experience that has improved my scientific development. It also gave me a chance to stay in Europe's leading cancer center and to acquire skills that will be helpful in my future career development as a physician and scientist. ESMO fellowships for young doctors are a great opportunities for development and cognition of abroad oncology.

#### Hanna Kosela Clinical Unit Visit Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
14/01/2013	15/01/2013	16/01/2013	17/01/2013	18/01/2013	19/01/2013	20/01/2013
consultation	consultation	consultation	scientific/lab research	consultation		
consultation MOC Neuro-onco 17-18h	consultation	consultation	MOC AMO 13-14.30h MOC MBC 14-16h MOC GNC 16.30-17.30h MOC SAR 17.30-19h	MOC ORL 12-13.30h consultation MOC URO 17-18.30h		
21/01/2013	22/01/2013	23/01/2013	24/01/2012	25/01/2013	26/01/2013	27/01/2013
consultation	consultation	consultation	scientific/lab research	consultation		
consultation MOC Neuro-onco 17-18h	consultation	consultation	MOC AMO 13-14.30h MOC MBC 14-16h MOC GNC 16.30-17.30h MOC SAR 17.30-19h	MOC ORL 12-13.30h consultation MOC URO 17-18.30h		
28/01/2013	29/01/2013	30/01/2013	31/01/2013	1/02/2013	2/02/2013	3/02/2013
consultation	consultation	consultation	scientific/lab research	consultation		
consultation MOC Neuro-onco 17-18h	consultation	consultation	MOC AMO 13-14.30h MOC MBC 14-16h MOC GNC 16.30-17.30h MOC SAR 17.30-19h	MOC ORL 12-13.30h consultation MOC URO 17-18.30h		

4/02/2013	5/02/2013	6/02/2013	7/02/2013	8/02/2013	9/02/2013	10/02/2013
consultation	consultation	consultation	scientific/lab research	consultation		
consultation MOC Neuro- onco 17-18h	consultation	consultation	MOC AMO 13-14.30h MOC MBC 14-16h MOC GNC 16.30- 17.30h MOC SAR 17.30-19h	MOC ORL 12- 13.30h consultation MOC URO 17- 18.30h		
11/02/2013	12/02/2013	13/02/2013	14/02/2013	15/02/2013	16/02/2013	17/02/2013
consultation	consultation	consultation	scientific/lab research	consultation		
consultation MOC Neuro- onco 17-18h	consultation	consultation	MOC AMO 13-14.30h MOC MBC 14-16h MOC GNC 16.30- 17.30h MOC SAR 17.30-19h	MOC ORL 12- 13.30h consultation MOC URO 17- 18.30h		
18/02/2013	19/02/2013	20/02/2013	21/02/2013	22/02/2013	23/02/2013	24/02/2013
consultation	consultation	consultation	scientific/lab research	consultation		
consultation MOC Neuro- onco 17-18h	consultation	consultation	MOC AMO 13-14.30h MOC MBC 14-16h MOC GNC 16.30- 17.30h MOC SAR 17.30-19h	MOC ORL 12- 13.30h consultation MOC URO 17- 18.30h		

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