

CV summary

Title & full name: Prof. Dr. Yolande Lievens

Profession: Radiation Oncologist, Chair of Department –
Associate Professor in Radiation Oncology

Institute, city, country: Ghent University Hospital, Ghent University – Belgium

Contact details:

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Qualifications / education:

1984 - 1991: Medical studies: Leuven University (KU Leuven), Leuven, Belgium.
1991 - 1996: Specialisation in Radiation Oncology, university hospital, Leuven, Belgium.
1996 - 1998: Course in Hospital and Health Care Management (KU Leuven)
1998 - 2002: PhD program on Cost and Economic evaluation of Radiotherapy.
29-5-2002: Public PhD Defence and awarded the title of Doctor in Medical Science (KU Leuven)

Main areas of professional interest/specialisation:

My main clinical interest goes to radiation oncology for thoracic malignancies, but I also have a special attention for the role of radiotherapy in haematology and in breast cancer. Apart from the clinics, I have always been and remain heavily involved in the organisational aspects of radiotherapy, in the position of radiotherapy within multidisciplinary oncology and in the financial and health economic aspects of cancer care. Finally, I have a special interest for quality issues in radiotherapy, not only in terms of quality assurance but also regarding the impact of our treatments on quality of life.

Professional experience/appointments:

Between 1996 and 2012 I was staff radiation oncologist in the Leuven university hospital. In the early years of my professional carrier, I also fulfilled a part-time function in the palliative support team of the same hospital (until 2004). As of March 2012, I have been appointed chair of the radiation oncology department of the university hospital in Ghent. My academic carrier started shortly after defending my PhD at the Leuven University, since March 2012 I am associate professor in radiation oncology at the Ghent University.

Research interests:

In line with my clinical appointments and collaboration in multi- and interdisciplinary groups, my clinical research focuses on defining the place of radiotherapy in the multidisciplinary approach of each individual patient, optimally using the different technical opportunities of our specialism.

My interest in health economics, especially for radiation oncology, but evidently set in the wider context of the global oncologic landscape, has allowed me to participate in various projects and collaborate with many groups. Apart from ESTRO, I am collaborating with international organisations such as the IAEA, CCORE and UICC, and closer to home with the Belgian Health Care Knowledge Centre and the Belgian Cancer Registry. I am convinced that

health services research is key to the future of radiation oncology, to advance cancer patient outcome by sustaining innovative radiotherapy within the nowadays often limited health care budget.

Professional membership & associations:

Belgian Society of Radiotherapy and Oncology (BVRO-ABRO/VBS-GBS)

Belgian Doctors College for Radiotherapy.

European Society for Radiotherapy & Oncology (ESTRO)

American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO)

International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC)

Lymphoma Group of the European Organisation of Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC)

International Health Economics Association (iHEA)

Auditor in the IAEA QUATRO-network

President of the radiotherapy section of the Belgian Society of Medical Specialists (2007-2013)

President of the Belgian Doctors College for Radiotherapy (as of February 2013).

President-Elect of ESTRO (as of April 2014).

Honours and awards:

In 2003 I received the Varian award for my PhD work in Health Economics.

Top most international scientific publications/books:

1. Lievens Y, Van den Bogaert W, Rijnders A, Kutcher G and Kesteloot K. Palliative radiotherapy practice within Western European countries: impact of the radiotherapy financing system? *Radiother Oncol* 2000;56:289-95.
2. Lievens Y, Van den Bogaert W and Kesteloot K. Activity-Based Costing: a practical model for cost calculation in radiotherapy. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys* 2003;57:522-35.
3. Bentzen SM, Heeren G, Cottier B, Slotman B, Glimelius B, Lievens Y and Van den Bogaert W. Towards evidence-based guidelines for radiotherapy infrastructure and staffing needs in Europe: The ESTRO QUARTS project. *Radiother Oncol* 2005;75:355-65.
4. Van de Werf E, Verstraete J and Lievens Y. The cost of radiotherapy in a decade of technology evolution. *Radiother Oncol* 2012;102:148-53.
5. Lievens Y and Grau C. Health Economics in Radiation Oncology: Introducing the ESTRO-HERO project. *Radiother Oncol* 2012;103:109-12.

Hobbies:

City trips, old and new architecture, modern and ethnic art, design.

Hiking in faraway and deserted areas, discovering the world under the sea surface.

Enjoying a good meal in good company.