



CONFERENCES

Best Clinical Award



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What have been the highlights of your career?

The top highlight will always be becoming and still being part of Professor Jens Overgaard's team at the Department of Experimental Clinical Oncology at Aarhus University Hospital. Another highlight has been my chance to spend time as a visiting research assistant at the Department of Pathology at Yale University Hospital, New Haven, USA. I have enjoyed several inspiring stays there.

What is your next challenge?

Together with my mentor from the USA, I am planning to write a new English textbook on breast pathology not only for pathologists but also for clinicians. We aim to emphasise issues of special clinical relevance such as margin assessment and integration of molecular pathology into daily routine work. As the number of molecular analyses increases, the biological information that is available for each patient becomes increasingly complex and does not always point in the same direction. It is the responsibility of the pathologist to present the biological findings and draw a conclusion from them as well as report on unusual and divergent observations. I find that one of the great challenges currently is to strive to obtain increasingly personalised biological information while knowing that this information must still fit into largely categorical treatment schemes.

What are you proudest of in your career?

Having a well-functioning, multidisciplinary team is crucial for optimal patient treatment, and I am very proud on a daily level to be part of two extraordinary multidisciplinary cancer teams that diagnose and treat breast- and head-and-neck-cancer patients. Both teams are driven by evidence-based guidelines from the Danish Breast Cancer Group (DBCG) and the Danish Head and Neck Cancer Study Group (DAHANCA), respectively. In both teams, decisions on individual patient treatment, conceptualisation of new research projects and discussions on current academic and practical issues are carried out in an ambience of mutual respect and engagement - and they are followed by a lot of great laughs.

If you hadn't been a scientist, what would you like to have been?

A ballet-dancer.

What do you do in your spare time?

Having been brought up in a home where everyone played an instrument at a professional or semiprofessional level, music takes up a large part of my life. Whenever possible I go to classical or jazz concerts, and I spend a fair share of my salary on tickets to the theatre, opera and ballet. I also attend ballet classes several times a week and have done so for more than 40 years.

