



# CONFERENCES

## phiRO Young Investigator Award



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### *What does this award mean to you?*

It is of course a great honour, but it also really motivates me to keep going with this project. There is still much to be investigated, and I hope to provide more insights into stereotactic body radiation therapy of pancreatic tumours. This award certainly encourages me to do so!

### *What is your next challenge?*

I am working on several different projects, but regarding this specific work, I am looking into extending our dose accumulation methods to use 3D information instead of 2D. This will require some more advanced MRI sequences, since 3D-cine imaging is quite limited in terms of temporal resolution. Image registration and motion estimation in 3D can be much more complex than in 2D, and its accuracy cannot simply be evaluated on a visual basis, for example. Therefore, a crucial part of the use of such methods is the performance of extensive quality assurance to make sure that we are accurately accumulating doses and tracking the tumours.

### *What do you think are the next challenges for the radiation oncology community?*

Because I am a very early-career scientist, I do not feel that I have much authority to comment on this. However, one development I think will certainly take place is the tailoring of radiotherapy treatment to individual cases. This might involve the prescription of unique, non-uniform target dosage that will take account of organs-at-risk constraints, but also a reaction in real-time during treatment to anatomy changes and continuous adaptation to deliver the optimal dose.

### *What has been your involvement within the European Society for Radiotherapy and Oncology (ESTRO)?*

This was the second time I attended an ESTRO conference, the first time being Madrid 2021. Then, many COVID-19 restrictions were still in place, so this year the conference felt like a much more “complete” experience. Of course, I will be submitting my work to ESTRO events to come, and perhaps in the future, I will contribute more to other parts of the scientific programme as well.

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

This is a hard question, but if I had not gone into academia after graduating, I would probably have tried to get a job at a medical technology company. I think it would have been pretty cool to contribute to one of the interesting services or products that the industry is developing in our field.