

Dr Sofia Rivera is an MD, MSc, head of a radiation unit at Gustave Roussy, cancer center, currently finishing her PhD in radiobiology.

She is a 39 year-old radiation oncologist working at Gustave Roussy Cancer Center since January 2013. She has studied medicine and radiation oncology in Paris, Dijon and Madrid (ERASMUS program), with some time spent in Equatorial Guinea (humanitarian mission). She passed the Radiation Oncology Board Certification Exam in 2008 with her medical thesis on the evaluation of quality assurance procedures by dummy run in a phase III trial. During her training, she was charmed by the multidisciplinary nature of radiation oncology and the enormous potential for innovation within this field. In addition to her clinical work, she undertook a Master's degree of Science in Radiobiology and is currently finishing her PhD on a translational radiobiology topic evaluating the combination of a Histone Deacetylase (HDAC) inhibitor and radiation in preclinical *in vitro* and *in vivo* Non Small Cell Lung Cancer models at the Gustave Roussy Radiobiology Laboratory (INSERM1030 Unit), running in parallel a phase I trial combining an HDAC inhibitor with palliative irradiation which has just been completed.

Following her studies in the Cancer Center of Dijon (France), she also worked as an assistant professor in Radiation Oncology in the university hospital of Saint Louis in Paris while becoming senior radiation oncologist in the same institution. In 2013, she accepted to head Unit A of the radiation oncology department at Gustave Roussy Cancer Center, Paris Cancer Campus, Villejuif (France) leading the breast cancer radiation unit. With eight linear accelerators, and a ninth being installed currently, about 4000 new radiotherapy treatments per year (among which more than a third given to breast cancer patients), she leads a growing multidisciplinary unit at the cutting edge of research and technology in an expanding department in the stimulating environment of a major cancer center. She promotes clinical radiation oncology unit work in close relationship with the INSEM1030 Unit located in nearby preclinical research building, facilitating translational research programs with the integration of research into daily clinical practice.

Her main areas of interest are:

- Breast cancer, where she is PI in various clinical trials including preoperative, partial breast and accelerated hypo fractionated breast radiotherapy.
- Combination of new drugs, including immunomodulating agents, with radiation, which is strongly linked to her PhD research topic, her involvement in phase I trials and her position as co-chair in the Synergy of Targeted Agents (STAR) radiation oncology group of the EORTC.
- Radiomics, integrating clinical projects such as CANTO, the French national breast cancer toxicity cohort aiming at recruiting 20 000 patients treated for non-metastatic breast cancer followed prospectively for 10 years, with collection of all DICOM data from diagnostic images to planning and treatment images.

Her heart is in research, patient care and teaching and she strongly believes that in these 3 fields the room for improvement in radiation oncology (and in oncology in general) can only be filled in by exchanging, sharing and spreading our expertise, knowledge and questions. Therefore, she is involved at local, national and international level in training programs for radiation oncology residents, RTTs and physicists. She also undertakes activities as a lecturer in Paris-Saclay university, as well as teaching in the French radiation oncology society (SFRO), being a member of the educational committee and of the "Cancer radiothérapie" editorial board, and in ESTRO as ESTRO

course teacher, member of the core educational and training committee since 2009, and board member of FALCON (Fellowship in Anatomic delineation and Contouring) since its creation in 2010. Besides that, she has supervised several Masters of Science theses in radiobiology and Medical theses from her students. She is a reviewer for all major peer reviewed radiotherapy journals, including, of course, the Green Journal, and has a number of publications resulting from her various clinical, research and pedagogical activities and collaborations.

She has been involved in ESTRO activities for more than 10 years, starting with the young ESTRO group in 2006, which, supported by the ESTRO board, the scientific committee of the ESTRO meeting and the ETC, reinitiated a young scientific session at ESTRO meetings. That was a fantastic experience. She was involved in the young ESTRO group until 2013 and in the ETC up to the present, with various activities, among which two of the most exciting were being an editor of the Young Corner of the ESTRO newsletter and launching FALCON within the core FALCON group. Since 2012 she has been active in developing new online educational activities in delineation using FALCON and strongly promoting the concept of “blended learning” which consists in mixing live and online educational activities. Along that line, she contributed to developing the highly successful ESTRO online contouring workshops, reaching 10 workshops per year in 2015, which allow participants from all over the globe with limited resources to connect, learn and exchange on contouring with the most prestigious European experts in the field. To promote not only online, but live exchanges as well, she is part of the evaluation group for the ESTRO mobility grants twice a year.

Sofia is of Spanish roots, which she is very much attached to, and she was born in Paris where she lives with her family which has always been the strongest pillar of her life. Her origins probably influenced her taste for Flamenco music and dance and her training in Burgundy certainly enhanced her sensitivity to French gastronomy. This multicultural background has allowed her not only to connect with others linguistically, but also to develop a cultural empathy, which combined are a great asset for developing international collaborations.

ESTRO has clearly broadened her vision of radiation oncology and has brought her valuable professional, scientific and human experiences. Being involved in ESTRO activities, in close contact with brilliant and highly motivated people willing to openly share their experience and knowledge has been a source of motivation, energy and inspiration. In this spirit, she believes that she could contribute by further developing blended learning activities integrating live and online events, taking advantage of her experience in FALCON, which may broaden and reinforce the attractiveness of ESTRO and the links between ESTRO members. Becoming an ESTRO board member would be an honour and a unique opportunity to contribute to the sharing and spreading of expertise, science and knowledge that is essential to improve radiation oncology results for our patients.