WP1: Clinical

The main activities of working party 1 (WP1) are directed towards establishing the content of prospective data registries at a European level. A WP1 consensus meeting took place at Schiphol Airport on 5 September 2019. The content was agreed for a number of prospective data registries, including the generic assessment and tumour-specific registries for central nervous system, head and neck, breast, lung, oesophageal and prostate cancers.

A paper that explains the background and general aims has been published by the GREEN JOURNAL. In the USA, a prospective data registry for paediatric patients has been launched. The proposal is that the EPTN should link as much as possible to this registry to prevent redundancy and to facilitate data sharing between the USA and Europe for future common projects. This is crucial given the low incidence and wide variety of different tumours. From EPTN, Beate Timmermann is leading this sub-task.

The European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC) and ESTRO are to set up a collaborative venture, to be called EORTC-ESTRO Radiation Infrastructure for Europe or, more interestingly, E²-RADIatE. It will comprise two projects: OligoCare and ParticleCare, which will form the EPTN prospective data registry. EORTC will set up the infrastructure for the IT database and will be the custodian of the data, while ESTRO is responsible for setting up the governance structure. Under the auspices of EORTC, there are currently three proposals for a head-and-neck cancer trial to test the hypothesis that proton therapy results in less radiation-induced toxicity than photon therapy. Two of the planned randomised controlled trials will use an enrichment paradigm with or without a Dutch model-base approach. Other emerging international trials in oesophageal and breast cancer are also utilising the platform of EPTN.