ESSO Announcements

ESSO endorses the European Cancer Summit 2021 Declaration

ESSO has endorsed the Declaration released on the first day of the European Cancer Summit 2021, which took place on 17th and 18th November 2021, both in Brussels and virtually.

Improving cancer care across Europe has been top on the EU agenda for quite long. Though we have already witnessed implementation of plenty initiatives, such as Europe’s Beating Cancer Plan, the EU Mission on Cancer, the European Health Data Space, and the new EU Pharmaceutical Strategy, yet there is more to be done.

A declaration was released in conjunction with this year’s summit, calling all relevant parties to jointly build a brighter future for healthcare and cancer care out of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The declaration presents overall advice from the cancer community:

- Action on Early Detection
- A plan for HPV cancer elimination
- Defining patient-centric public health needs
- Advancing digital cancer care
- Combating oncology workforce shortage
- Inter-speciality cancer training across the professions
- A public facing Beating Cancer Plan
- Missing no opportunity for Covid-19 build back
- Cancer research leadership in ALL EU countries
- A goal focused EU Network of Comprehensive Cancer Centres
- Drawing on the strength of the many for quality cancer care
- Supporting Survivorship & Quality of Life on many fronts
- A Cancer Inequalities Registry for public use
- All cancer inequalities deserve our focus
- Building a new century of international cancer & health cooperation out of the pandemic

As an active member of the European Cancer Organisation, ESSO also endeavours to achieve optimised cancer care for the benefit of cancer patients in Europe by calling recognition of the important role surgical oncology plays in cancer treatment. During ESSO 40 Congress (Lisbon, 8th-10th November 2021), ESSO released an open letter during ESSO 40 Congress in this regard.

Read ESSO open letter: https://www.europeancancer.org/summit#extra-3.

ESSO 40 Congress “Best Proffered paper”, “Best Poster”, “Best Clinical Trial proposal” Awards

During the ESSO 40 Congress (7–10 November 2021, Lisbon), the following authors were rewarded for their oral presentation, poster or trial proposal.

The “best proffered paper” awards went to:

- **Gold award**: Jade St-Pierre (McGill University, Department of Kinesiology and Physical Education, Montreal, Quebec) “Feasibility of multimodal prehabilitation to enhance preoperative functional capacity of esophageal cancer patients during concurrent neoadjuvant chemotherapies — A pilot interventional study”
- **Silver award**: Prof. Clarisse Eveno (Lille University Hospital, Lille, France) “Ten years of French practice combined with a root cause analysis of Cytoreductive Surgery (CRS) and Hyperthermic Intra-peritoneal Chemotherapy (HIPEC)”
- **Bronze award**: Renu Bahadoer (LUMC, Leiden, the Netherlands) & Esmee Dijkstra (University Medical Center Groningen, Groningen, the Netherlands) “Patterns of locoregional failure and distant metastases in patients treated for locally advanced rectal cancer in the RAPIDO trial”

The “Best Poster” awards were presented to:

- **Bo Strijbos** (Maxima Medical Centre, Veldhoven, the Netherlands) “Persistent pain after breast cancer treatment, the underdog that is affecting breast cancer survivors”
- **Pascal Jonker** (University Medical Center Groningen, Groningen, the Netherlands) “MET Targeted Molecular Fluorescence Guided Imaging and Quantitative Spectroscopy for the Detection of Lymph Node Metastases in Papillary Thyroid Cancer”
- **Berend Van Der Wilk** (Erasmus MC — University Medical Center, Rotterdam, the Netherlands) “Patients’ preferences for active surveillance or standard oesophagectomy: a discrete choice experiment”
- **Floris Verheij** (Netherlands Cancer Institute, Amsterdam, the Netherlands) “Unresected Left-sided Colon Tumors in Asymptomatic Metastatic Patients are Associated with Higher Rates of Complications than Unresected Right-sided Tumors”

The “Best Clinical Trial proposal” Award was presented to:

- **Carmela Caballero** (BIG-Breast International Group, Belgium) “Understanding a multi-disciplinary team perspective about omission of surgery for early stage breast cancer”