

Participant Feedback on the 2007 ENASCO Tutorial

"From Hypothesis to Product: an EORTC-NCI-ASCO Diagnostics Development"

I was one of the lucky one's who was selected as one of the young oncologist/scientist to attend the EORTC-NCI-ASCO diagnostic development tutorial. This tutorial exists out of some lectures and discussion sessions. I especially liked the discussion sessions: in small groups, included four people of the faculty, problems were discussed concerning development of a trial design for a selected marker (in our case ERCC1 for metastatic colorectal cancer). The goal of the discussion sessions was not to develop a trial but understand the problems of developing hypothesis/endpoints, need of standardisation of different assays, different statistical methods and especially the amount of discussion and different viewpoints/opinions (of different oncologists/scientists) in general and during such a development. Because the groups were very small, very different (different specialists) and we were very lucky with our faculty, I think the goal of the discussion groups, and therefore the tutorial, was achieved. At least it was for me.

Besides the academic part of the tutorial, I had the opportunity to meet other different oncologists/scientist from different countries to discuss tumour marker variation in the pub and more. I made some new friends!

I would like to thank the EORTC-NCI-ASCO for the grant I received and I would like to thank the faculty for the interesting lectures and fascinating discussion sessions.

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