



# **EACMFS Postgraduate Programme**

## **Head and Neck Surgery: Oncology**

### **Introduction**

EACMFS has become the most prominent and respected scientific reference for the specialty in Europe and is highly considered in other parts of the World. According to our self-definition, the objectives of the Association are to promote cranio-maxillo-facial surgery in theory and practice and to attempt to establish uniform training requirements for the specialty in Europe and encourage these worldwide.

With this new EACMFS Postgraduate Programme we aim to provide our young colleagues with an updated knowledge concerning the state-of-the-art treatment in Head and Neck Surgery. Head and Neck Surgery is a multidisciplinary field joining different specialists working frequently together for the benefit of the patient covering a wide spectrum from Orthognathics, Aesthetics, Traumatology, Cleft, Lip and Palate to Oncology and Reconstruction. We consider that, according to the interest of our members, the surgical treatment of head and neck tumors including the multidisciplinary view of other specialists working in this region and the full armamentarium of reconstructive surgery is a good topic to start our Postgraduate Programme which could be continued with future courses covering other areas.

### **Programme description**

Our one-year Postgraduate Programme in Head and Neck Surgery: Oncology will enable Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons to acquire advanced additional training in the specialty concerned with the diagnosis and management of head and neck tumours.



The Programme includes online learning courses, a clinical observership at a surgical centre with specialised experience in head and neck cancer treatment and a hands-on cadaver workshop.

Upon completion of the Programme, the participants will receive a Certificate issued by EACMFS. The Programme will be accredited by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME).

## **Objectives of the Programme**

This Programme aims to:

- Give the participants the knowledge to critically understand the scientific and molecular basis of head and neck cancer and its diagnosis.
- Provide the attendants with the appropriate knowledge of current multidisciplinary state-of-the-art management and treatment of head and neck tumours.
- Teach the participants advanced techniques in head and neck surgery including planning, approaches and microvascular free flap reconstruction.

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## **Scientific Directors**

- Prof Julio Acero
- Prof Frank Hölzle
- Dr Nicholas Kalavrezos
- Prof Emeka Nkenke
- Prof Christos Perisanidis
- Prof Klaus-Dietrich Wolff

## **Programme structure**

### **1. Programme curriculum**

The Programme curriculum is divided into six modules that cover a wide range of topics including:

- epidemiology and molecular oncology of head and neck cancer
- diagnostic approach and staging



- principles of surgical treatment and management of the neck
- advances in radiotherapy
- role of systemic treatment and immunotherapy
- quality of life
- microvascular reconstruction

This e-learning programme will take place between February 2022 and July 2022 with one module scheduled each month. Every module will consist of two 3 hours webinars held every other week. Each webinar will include include four topics. Dates and times for each webinar will be confirmed in due course.

### **Module 1:**

**Scientific Directors: Prof E. Nkenke, Prof C. Perisanidis**

- Epidemiology of head and neck cancer
- Molecular biology
- Diagnostic approach
- Imaging studies
- Staging of head and neck cancer
- Principles of surgical treatment
- Advances in surgical oncology
- Contemporary clinical trials
- Principles of immunotherapy

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### **Module 2:**

**Scientific Director: Prof J. Acero**

- Surgical treatment of oral cancer
- Surgical approaches to maxillary, midface and skull base malignancies
- Management of the Neck including principles of neck dissection
- Management of the cN0 neck

### **Module 3:**

**Scientific Director: Dr N. Kalavrezos**

- Management of oropharyngeal cancer
- Transoral robotic surgery



- Surgical treatment of head and neck skin cancer
- Salvage surgery for recurrent disease

#### **Module 4:**

##### **Scientific Director: Dr N. Kalavrezos**

- Surgical treatment of salivary gland cancer
- Quality of life
- Management of head and neck sarcomas
- Management of thyroid cancer

#### **Module 5**

##### **Scientific Directors: Prof K.-D. Wolff, Prof F. Hölzle**

- Microvascular reconstruction of soft-tissue defects
- Microvascular reconstruction of bone defects

#### **Module 6**

##### **Scientific Director: Prof J. Acero**

- Virtual planning and guided surgery
- Functional reconstruction: Implant restoration following head and neck cancer treatment
- Role of systemic therapy including immunotherapy
- Advances in head and neck radiotherapy

## **2. Clinical observership**

The clinical component of the programme consists of a clinical observership for the participant at a specialised unit (chosen from the EACMFS Blue Book) with experience in the management of head and neck tumours. Over the course of a month, the participant will attend morning meetings, ward rounds and tumour boards to learn and practice cancer patient management, including diagnostic methods, therapeutic procedures, as well as implementation of guidelines and protocols. The participant will also attend operating theatres and will observe major head and neck cancer surgery.



European centres providing clinical observership include:

- Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Ramon y Cajal University and Puerta de Hierro University Hospitals, Madrid, Spain
- Head and Neck Centre, University College London Hospital, UK
- Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Medical University of Vienna, Austria
- Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, University hospital Rechts der Isar's, Munich, Germany
- Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, RWTH Aachen University Hospital, Aachen, Germany
- Dept. of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, University of Heidelberg, Germany
- Dept. of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, University of Leeds, UK
- Dept of Cranio-Maxillofacial Surgery, University Hospital Basel, Switzerland
- Dept of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, University Hospital Düsseldorf (UKD)
- Dept of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, Conception University Hosp Marseilles, France

### **3. Cadaver course**

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The hands-on cadaver workshop is designed to teach essential and advanced operative techniques in head and neck cancer surgery. including surgical oncology procedures and flap harvesting. The two-days intensive course on fresh frozen anatomical specimens will be held in Madrid, Spain (exact dates between April – September 2022 to be confirmed).

### **4. Assessment**

Participants will be evaluated through:

- written examination (multiple choice questions)
- oral examination (including oral presentation of two clinical cases).

Upon completion of the Head and Neck Surgery: Oncology Postgraduate Programme, the participants will receive a Certificate issued by the EACMFS.



Additionally, the Programme will be accredited by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME).

## **Requirements for enrollment and applicant selection**

Applicants are required to have the following credentials :

- EACMFS membership
- Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery residents in their senior year of training or Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery specialists

The application\* (please see under Registration) must be accompanied by a letter of support provided by the Head of the referring department (or former Head or Councillor) and a curriculum vitae. Knowledge of English is required.

A total of 10 applicants will be selected by the Scientific Directors.

## **EACMFS Certificate and accreditation**

Upon completion of the Postgraduate Programme in Head and Neck Surgery: Oncology, delegates will be awarded with a Certificate issued by EACMFS.

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The Programme will be accredited by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME).

**Application deadline and start date** Applications for consideration must be submitted no later than 15 January 2022. The Programme starts in February 2022 with the e-learning modules (dates to be confirmed).

## **Tuition fee**

A tuition fee of €2,500 must be paid upon acceptance by bank transfer.

The tuition fees cover the cost of the Programme curriculum, the cadaver workshop, examinations and Certificate. The fees do not cover traveling, accommodation and living expenses during clinical observership and the cadaver workshop.



## Registration

Interested applicants\* should send the following documentation:

- A letter of application with details of current status/training
- An up-to-date curriculum vitae
- Letter of support of the application from the Head of the referring department, former Head or Councillor

Knowledge of English is required.

Please address all correspondence to: [clairejoffe@eacmfs.org](mailto:clairejoffe@eacmfs.org)

The closing date for the receipt of these applications is **15 January 2022**.

Late applications will not be considered.

## Organizing Secretariat

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