



pre-symposium

# TOWARDS NEW STANDARDS IN RECTAL CANCER TREATMENT

CUTTING EDGE DATA AND CONCEPTS IN RECTAL CANCER

Thu 20 Oct '22 — Fri 21 Oct '22

BMCC Bruges

Thursday afternoon, October 20<sup>th</sup> - Venue: BMCC Bruges

BAST SESSION (12.00 - 14.00) - INVITE ONLY

**BASICS IN RECTAL CANCER SURGERY** (chair: A. Wolthuis, Leuven)

PARALLEL SESSIONS (14.00-16.00)

**ROBOTICS IN RECTAL CANCER SURGERY**

Advantages of the platform and implications for training  
(G. Bislenghi, colorectal surgeon, Leuven)

**BASICS IN MEDICAL ONCOLOGY**

MSI testing, determinants of neoadjuvant therapy, liquid biopsies...  
Faculty includes: M. Svrcek (Paris), A. Cercek (NY), J. Dekerverl and F. Van Herpe (Leuven)

KEY NOTE LECTURES (16.30-18.15)

Role, timing and duration of neoadjuvant chemotherapy in rectal cancer  
(K. Haustermans, radiation oncologist, Leuven)

Sphincter preservation in distal rectal cancer: worth the effort?  
(A. Wolthuis, colorectal surgeon, Leuven)

Early rectal cancer: non-conventional approaches  
(S. Bach, colorectal surgeon, Birmingham UK)

Determinants of response to neoadjuvant therapy in rectal cancer  
(J. Garcia-Aquilar, colorectal surgeon, New York)

WELCOME DRINKS AND WALKING DINNER (18.30-21.30)



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### IS EPIDEMIOLOGY OF RECTAL CANCER CHANGING?

Increasing incidence of rectal cancer at young age and clinical implications

### HIGH DEFINITION MRI

Current standards in MRI staging and response assessment  
E. Dresen, Leuven and R. Beets-Tan, Amsterdam

### IMPROVED SURGICAL TECHNIQUES

Robotics in rectal cancer (J. Garcia-Aquilar, New York)  
A safer low pelvic anastomosis (A. Spinelli, Milan)  
Lateral pelvic node dissection (RO.Perez, Sao Paolo)  
Caveats for the ta-approach (R. Hompes, Amsterdam)

### IMMUNOTHERAPY

J. Dekervel (Leuven) and A. Cercek (New York) discuss the current role of checkpoint inhibition  
in non-metastasized rectal cancer

### TOTAL NEOADJUVANT TREATMENT (TNT)

K. Rödel (Frankfurt) and T. Conroy (Nancy) explain the different TNT strategies and J. Garcia-Aquilar (New York)  
highlights the changing role for surgery in rectal cancer

### WATCH AND WAIT STRATEGY: CHALLENGES

RO. Perez (Sao Paolo) and A. Wolthuis (Leuven) discuss complete clinical response  
in early and advanced rectal cancer  
  
S. Bach (Birmingham, UK) will address the current role of TAMIS, EMR and ESD after chemoradiation  
as an alternative to watch-and-wait

### THE LEUVEN PROTOCOL

E. Van Cutsem and A. D'Hoore (Leuven) propose the current Leuven protocol  
a critical appraisal of the international experts