

## Faculty

*Prof. Dr. Carla van Gils, PhD, Epidemiologist, Julius Center, University Medical Center Utrecht.*

*Prof. Dr. Alastair Thompson, MD PhD, Breast Surgical Oncologist, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas, USA.*

*Dr. Tjalling Bosse, MD PhD, gynecological pathologist, Leiden University Medical Center.*

*Prof. Dr. Andrew Tutt, MD PhD, Breast Medical Oncologist, Institute of Cancer Research and King's College, London, UK.*

*Dr. Serena Nik-Zainal, MD PhD, Clinical Geneticist, University of Cambridge, UK.*

*Lindy Visser, MSc PhD-student, Division of Molecular Pathology, Netherlands Cancer Institute – Antoni van Leeuwenhoek, Amsterdam.*

*Mr. Ellen Verschuur, Patient Representative, Dutch Society of Breast Cancer ('Borstkankervereniging Nederland').*

*Prof. Dr. Ab Klink, former Minister of Health, Welfare and Sport in the Dutch government, currently member of the Board of Directors of the Health Insurance Company VGZ.*

*Prof. Dr. Pieter Wesseling, pathologist in neuro-oncology at Amsterdam Universities Medical Centers/VUmc, Amsterdam as well as at the Princess Maxima Center for Pediatric Oncology, Utrecht.*

*Prof. Dr. Vincent Smit, MD PhD, Head of the Department of Pathology, Leiden University Medical Center.*

*Dr. Esther Lips, PhD, Molecular Biologist and Geneticist, Division of Molecular Pathology, Netherlands Cancer Institute – Antoni van Leeuwenhoek, Amsterdam.*

*Dr. Danielle Cohen, PhD MD, Pathology Fellow, Leiden University Medical Center, the Netherlands.*

## Registration

<https://forms.lumc.nl/lumc2/symposium-wesseling>

## Venue

The symposium will be held in the Buruma Lecture Hall of the Leiden University Medical Center (Building 3), Hippocratespad 21, 2333 ZD, Leiden.  
<https://www.lumc.nl/over-het-lumc/contact/routebeschrijving/?setlanguage=English&setcountry=en>

## Accreditation

Accreditation has been requested for epidemiology, radiology, pathology, surgery, radiation oncology, and medical oncology.

## INVITATION



# Welcome

Dear colleague,

It is my privilege to invite you to the symposium 'Finding the balance between over- and undertreatment', two grand challenges in current cancer diagnosis and treatment. By spotlighting these areas, we aim to discover new ways to advance the quality of cancer care.

First, clinicians should realign attention and efforts to avoid overdiagnosis and, as a consequence, overtreatment to achieve optimal patient care. Overdiagnosis, defined as the detection of a "disease" that will never manifest symptoms nor lead to death during a patient's expected ordinary lifetime, can be the by-product of screening for early forms of disease. While screening saves lives for some, it may inadvertently turn others into patients, leading to treatments with no benefit and that perhaps do harm. Since most people who are diagnosed are respectively treated, it is difficult to assess whether overdiagnosis has occurred in an individual, emphasizing an area of clinical imprecision in need of reform.

Second, the burden of ineffective treatment of cancer should be prevented. Even though treatment strives for the optimal benefit-to-harm ratio, multiple patients (number needed to treat ~ NNT) often undergo standard treatment for the benefit of only one. Obviously, we should design strategies to distinguish patients that will benefit from a particular treatment from those that will not, saving the latter the burden of often toxic, but needless treatment. For the ones that do need intensive treatment, we are facing the challenge to develop better personalized and targeted therapeutic approaches to improve outcome.

The symposium aims to explain and discuss ways to understand and address these challenges, combining expertise from epidemiology, screening, surgery, pathology, genomics and policymaking. I look forward to your participation and vivid discussions in our ongoing efforts to improve current clinical practice for the benefit of many.

Kind regards,

Prof. Dr. Jelle Wesseling



# Time schedule

**09.00-09.30 Registration**

*Chair Esther Lips*

**09.30-09.40 Welcome and introduction**

Vincent Smit

**09.40-10.00 High incidence of breast cancer in the Netherlands: does screening matter?**

Carla van Gils

**10.00-10.30 How to reduce breast surgery?**

Alastair Thompson

**10.30-11.00 Coffee break**

**11.00-11.20 Less might be more in gynecological oncology**

Tjalling Bosse

**11.20-11.50 How to avoid ineffective systemic breast cancer treatment?**

Andrew Tutt

**11.50-12.20 How to nail down the mutations that matter?**

Serena Nik-Zainal

**12.20-13.00 Lunch**

*Chair Danielle Cohen*

**13.00-13.20 How to distinguish harmless from hazardous Ductal Carcinoma In Situ?**

Lindy Visser

**13.20-13.40 The patient perspective is essential for the real balance**

Ellen Verschuur

**13.40-14.10 How to generate healthy health care?**

Ab Klink

**14.10-14.30 You gotta move!**

Pieter Wesseling

**14.30-15.00 Panel discussion and concluding remarks**

Discussant and chair: Vincent Smit