

PRO'S AND CONS OF LUNG UNITS

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Conflicts of interest

- Personal financial interests:
 - Advisory board BMS, travel support Roche, BMS
- Institutional financial interests:
 - Advisory board BMS, Boehringer Ingelheim; research grants Roche, Boehringer Ingelheim, AstraZeneca; payment for interview sessions with lung cancer specialists Roche
- Non-financial interests:
 - Participant in Preceptorship funded by AstraZeneca;
- Other:
 - Member Dutch guideline committees NSCLC, brain metastases and leptomeningeal metastases, recipient of a DUERTECC/EURONCO grant for 2017–2018

Content

What is a lung unit?

Requirements for lung cancer care

The Dutch model

Pros and cons

Summary - Conclusion



Having a multidisciplinary team can ensure the best possible treatment and care.

What is a lung unit?

No uniform definition

**ALREADY DIAGNOSED
TREATMENT
PROBLEMS OUTSIDE
OF REGULAR APPOINTMENT – GP FIRST**

The Lung Unit at The Royal Marsden comprises a team of clinical staff specialising in medicine, radiotherapy and diagnostic imaging.

Choosing a Lung Cancer Treatment Center

Your Choice of Treatment Center Can Affect Quality of Life and Outcome

By [Lynne Eldridge, MD](#) | Medically reviewed by [a board-certified physician](#)
Updated March 19, 2019

PRINT 

**QUALITY
COMPREHENSIVE CARE
VOLUME
TREATMENT OPTIONS
LOCATION**

**ALL STAGES
PERSONALIZED MEDICINE
SUPPORT TEAM**



Selecteer een taal

FIND A DOCTOR

 GIVE NOW

Thoracic (Lung) Cancer Treatment Center

Differences across Europe in lung cancer care

Who does what?

Literature search + interviews representatives EU countries

Systemic therapy	Radiation	Surgery	Palliative care
<p>Oncologist</p> <p>Oncologist OR respiratory physician</p>	<p>Radiation oncologist</p>	<p>Thoracic surgeon</p> <p>General surgeon</p> <p>Cardio(thoracic) surgeon</p>	<p>Palliative care physician</p> <p>Respiratory physician</p> <p>Oncologist</p>

Requirements for lung cancer care

ERS

The European initiative for quality management in lung cancer care

Blum et al ERJ 2014

Population	Intervention	Comparison	Outcome
Lung cancer	Referral Diagnostics Therapy Surgery Systemic therapy Radiotherapy Radiochemotherapy Palliative/supportive care Guidelines Adherence Implementation Quality management Lung cancer centres Pathways/fast track Multidisciplinary team Quality assurance Cancer registry Audit Survey Quality indicators Volumes/minimum quantities Disparities	Other interventions or no intervention	Mortality Morbidity/complications Quality of life Satisfaction with care Timeliness/delay

Requirements for lung cancer care

What do patients want - LUCE



Close gaps in access
new drugs, clinical trials

Collect systematic data
identify unmet need, monitor, improve, harmonize

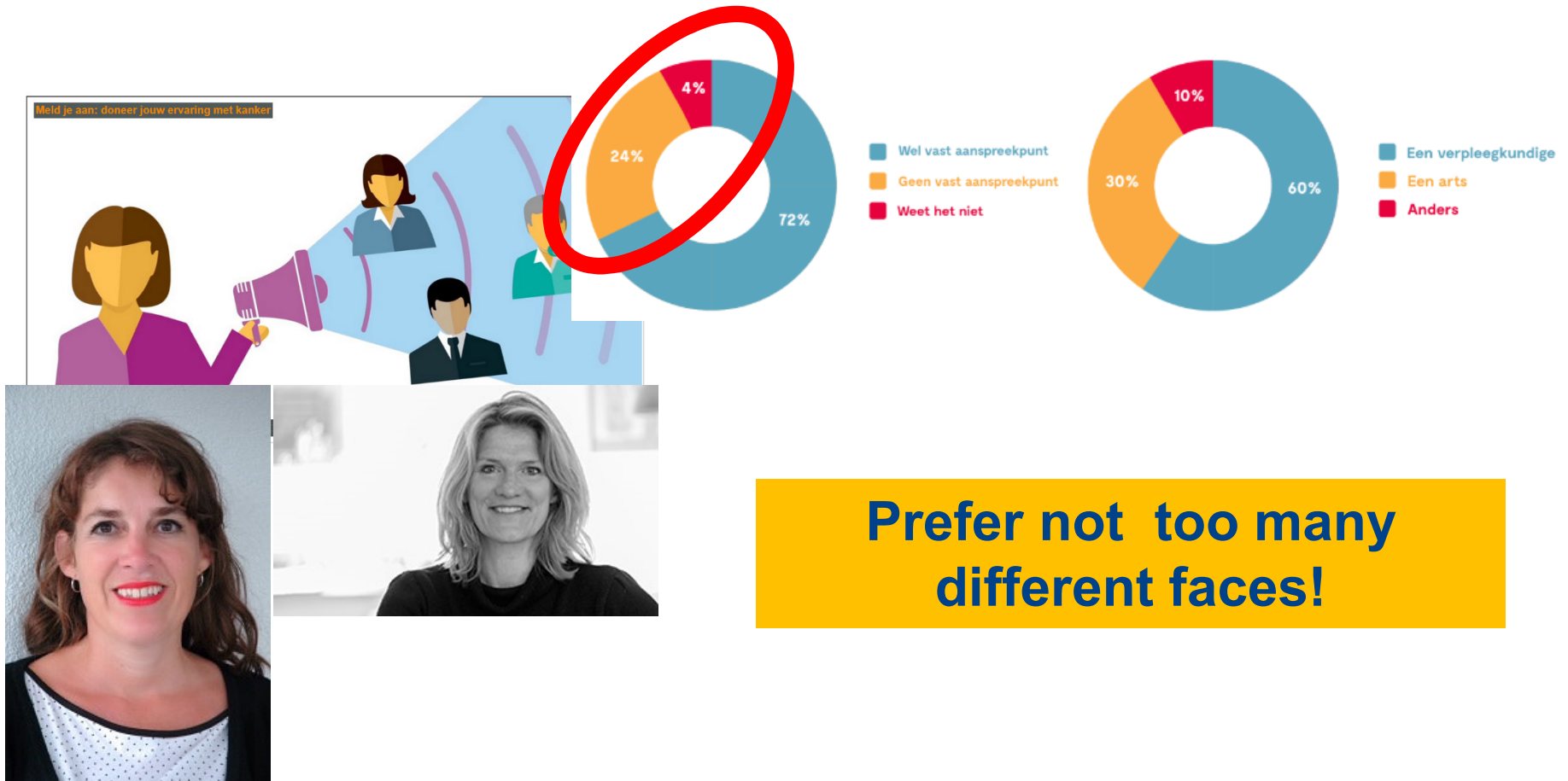
Common guidelines
harmonize, implement, specialized reference centers

Financial sustainability

Patient involvement

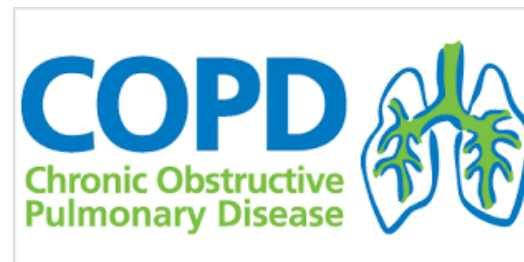
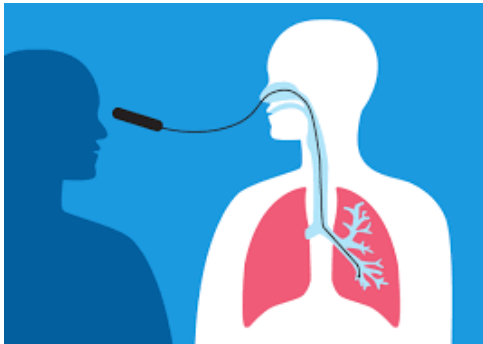
Dutch Federation of Cancer Patients

Survey among cancer patients: contact person?



Lung cancer care in the Netherlands

respiratory physician from diagnosis to systemic treatment and complication / comorbidity management



LUNG UNITS IN THE NETHERLANDS

REQUIREMENTS

SONCOS

Stichting Oncologische Samenwerking

Society for Oncological Collaboration



Dutch Association for physicians
for pulmonary disease and
tuberculosis

Situation in the Netherlands – SONCOS

Thoracic oncology requirements

Proven expertise in lung cancer

- At least 2 respiratory physicians, 2 surgeons, 1 radiation oncologist, 2 imaging experts, 1 pathologist

Weekly MDT:

- Physicians above + case manager +/- nurse, if not referral center: possibility for access

Endobronchial procedures

At least 100 /year, possibility for EUS

Access to

Emergency imaging (ultrasound, CT, angiography)

Nuclear medicine (SPECT-CT, V/Q, PET-CT)

Situation in the Netherlands – SONCOS *Thoracic oncology requirements*

Access to (minimally invasive) mediastinal staging, Mediastinal staging < 5 weeks

Frozen section possibility

Access to molecular diagnostics

Neoadjuvant chemotherapy – chemoradiotherapy – SRT available

At least 50 new patients / year

- If surgery: at least 20 anatomical resections / year + access emergency thoracotomy + ICU

Participation in quality registrations

Specific requirements for checkpoint inhibitor therapy and targeted therapy

Situation in the Netherlands – SONCOS

Lung cancer systemic treatment requirements

5 centers for rare (<5%) driver mutations

Checkpoint inhibitors (NVALT):

At least 20 patients/year



Regular MDT with resp physician, immunologically oriented physician, dermatologist, gastro-enterologist

Mandatory registration in NVALT expensive drugs registry

Trial participation (min 3 trials/year, 15 patients/year)
checkpoint inhibitor expertise

For new therapies: training + quality check

(access to) molecular tumor boards

Pro's and cons of lung units (Dutch system)

Medical oncologist

vs

respiratory physician?



Medical oncologist vs respiratory physician

The battle



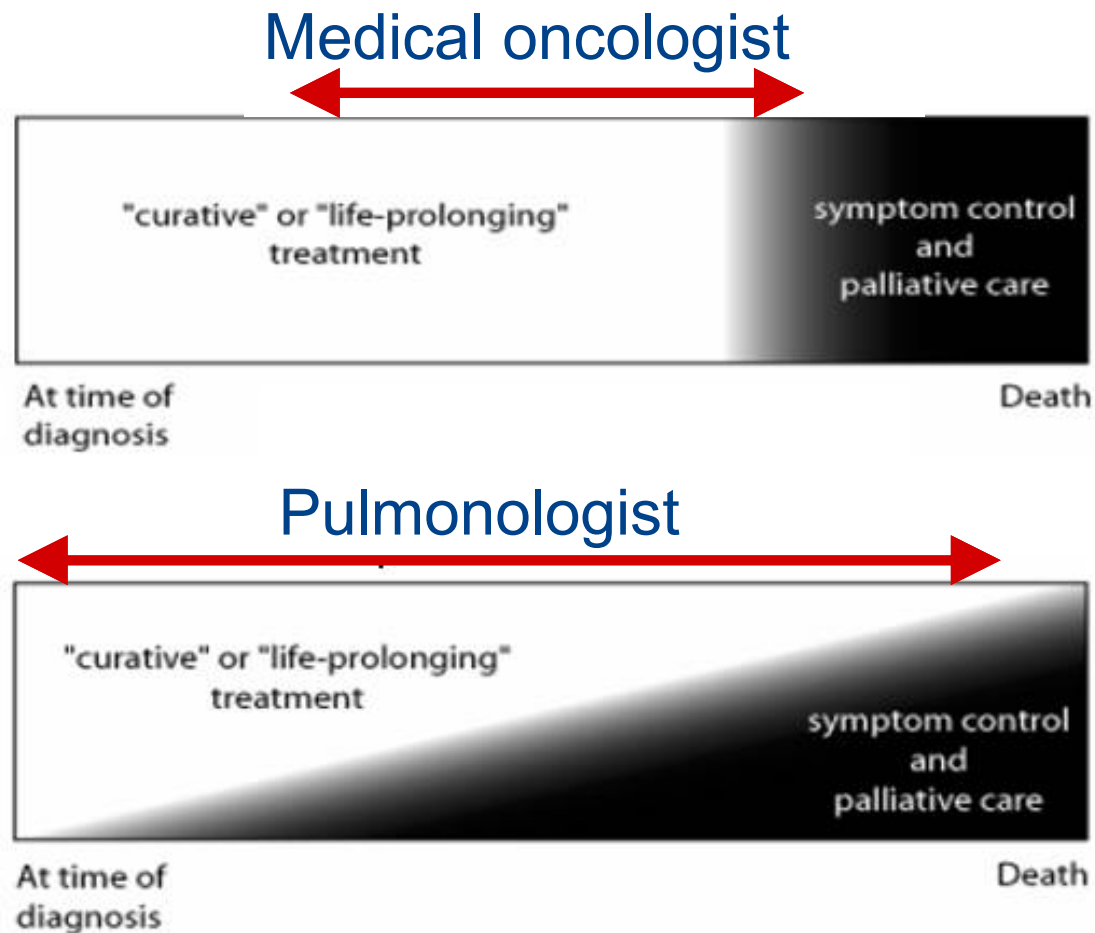
Requirement	Medical oncologist	Respiratory physician
Referral – diagnostics		
Surgery + after care		
Radiation oncology + after care		
Systemic treatment + complications		
Palliative care		
Guidelines		
Quality management		
Volumes		



**THE NEXT PART
WILL BE
BIASED!**

Medical oncologist vs respiratory physician

Referral - diagnostics



Medical oncologist vs respiratory physician

The battle

Requirement	Medical oncologist	Respiratory physician
Referral – diagnostics	X	+
Surgery + after care		
Radiation oncology + after care		
Systemic treatment + complications		
Palliative care		
Guidelines		
Quality management		
Volumes		

Medical oncologist vs respiratory physician

Surgery + aftercare



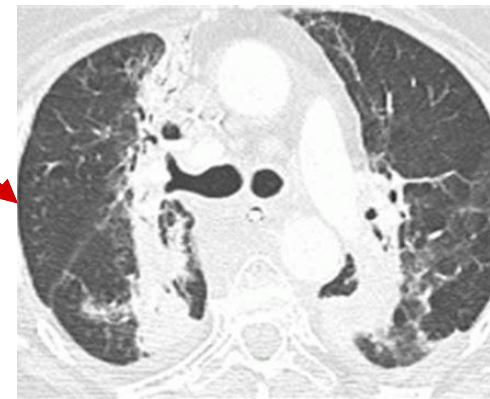
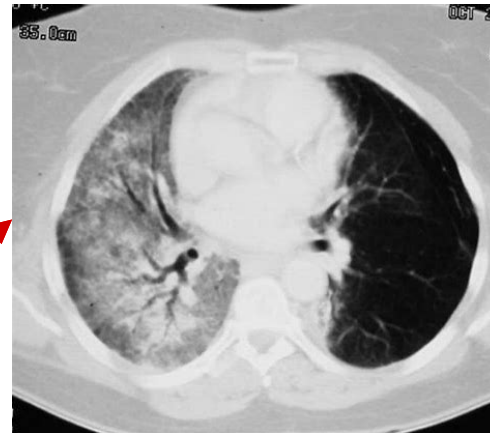
Medical oncologist vs respiratory physician

The battle

Requirement	Medical oncologist	Respiratory physician
Referral – diagnostics	X	+
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Radiation oncology + after care		
Systemic treatment + complications		
Palliative care		
Guidelines		
Quality management		
Volumes		

Medical oncologist vs respiratory physician

Radiation oncology + after care



Differential diagnosis?

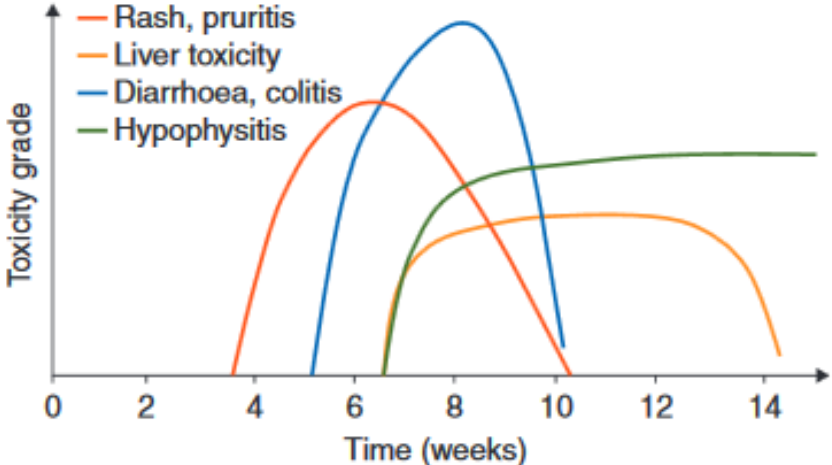
Medical oncologist vs respiratory physician

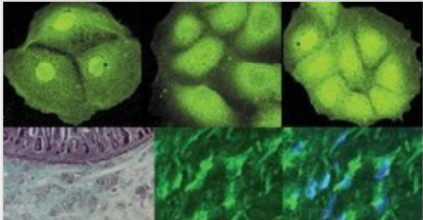
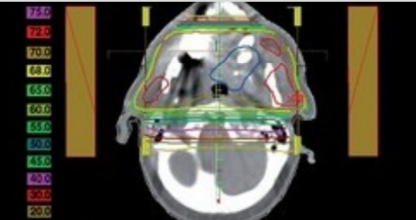
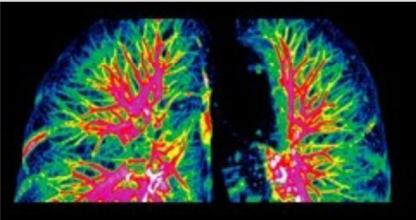

The battle

Requirement	Medical oncologist	Respiratory physician
Referral – diagnostics	X	+
Surgery + after care	X	+
Radiation oncology + after care	↔	+
Systemic treatment + complications		
Palliative care		
Guidelines		
Quality management		
Volumes		

Medical oncologist vs respiratory physician

Systemic treatment + complications



ACCUEIL	CATALOGUE	CONTACT	
 <p>DU Radiobiologie et Radioprotection en radiothérapie</p>	 <p>DU Radiothérapie des cancers ORL</p>	 <p>DU TORINO - Carcinologie thoracique intégrée</p>	 <p>DUCC - Diplôme Universitaire de Carcinologie Clinique</p>

Medical oncologist vs respiratory physician

The battle

Requirement	Medical oncologist	Respiratory physician
Referral – diagnostics	X	+
Surgery + after care	X	+
Radiation oncology + after care	↔	+
Systemic tx + complications	+	↔
Palliative care		
Guidelines		
Quality management		
Volumes		

Medical oncologist vs respiratory physician

Palliative care

Patient Guides

Personalised Medicine Explained

Getting the Most out of Your Oncologist

» Designated Centres of Integrated Oncology and Palliative Care

2018 ESMO Designated Centres

Designated Centres Survey

Patient Advocacy Track

Advocacy in Action

Maastricht University Medical Centre (MUMC)

ESMO Designated Centre of Integrated Oncology and Palliative Care

Contact person	Annemie Courtens, PhD, Co-ordinator of the Palliative Care team
Country	Netherlands
Contact	Phone: +31 433877548 - E-mail
Web	Maastricht University Medical Centre



» Centre history

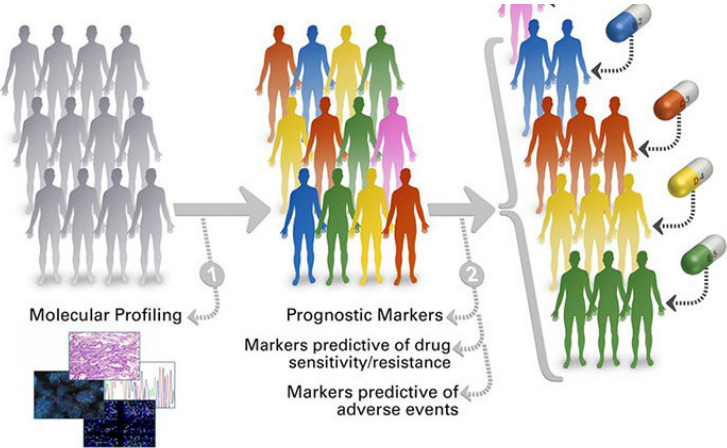
The Maastricht Oncology Centre at the Maastricht University Medical Centre (MUMC+) is a Comprehensive Cancer Centre in The Netherlands and the referral centre for the South-eastern part of the country. Besides the tertiary referral role, the hospital has maintained its role as a public hospital. A dedicated centre for palliative care was initiated in 1998. Activities are focused on patient care /treatment research and teaching.

Medical oncologist vs respiratory physician

The battle

Requirement	Medical oncologist	Respiratory physician
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Radiation oncology + after care	↔	+
Systemic tx + complications	+	↔
Palliative care	+	+
Guidelines		
Quality management		
Volumes		

Medical oncologist vs respiratory physician *Guidelines – quality management - volumes*



est Tumours

ESMO Clinical Practice Guidelines: Lung and Chest Tumours [f](#) [t](#) [e](#) [in](#) [r](#)

The ESMO Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG) are intended to provide the user with a set of recommendations for the best standards of cancer care, based on the findings of **evidence-based medicine**.

Latest enhanced and revised set of guidelines

ESMO has Clinical Practice Guidelines on the following Lung and Chest Tumours: Early and locally advanced non-small-cell lung cancer, Metastatic non-small-cell lung cancer, Thymic epithelial tumours, Malignant pleural mesothelioma, Small-cell lung cancer.

Medical oncologist vs respiratory physician

The battle

Requirement	Medical oncologist	Respiratory physician
Referral – diagnostics	X	+
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Systemic tx + complications	+	↔
Palliative care	+	+
Guidelines	+	+
Quality management	+	+
Volumes	+	+

Pro's and cons of lung units (Dutch system) **THE WINNER**

Medical oncologist

vs

respiratory physician?



THANK YOU FROM THE MAASTRICHT TEAM

spiritual



Home support



Case manager



Rad onc



imaging



Pain team



Pall care



surgery



pulmonology



nurse



pathology



molecular



Nurse research



UMC+