



European Society  
for Medical Oncology

ESMO TRU Visit  
Vall d'Hebron Hospital  
Bracelona, Spain  
13-15 April, 2005



From 13–15 April 2005, the Department of Medical Oncology hosted a Young Medical Oncologists TRU visit entitled 'Early Clinical Development of Molecular Targeted Therapies' at the Vall d'Hebron Hospital Barcelona, Spain. The visit was chaired by José Baselga, MD, Chairman and professor of medicine at Vall d'Hebron Hospital. The young medical oncologists came from Georgia, Italy, Romania and the United Kingdom. José Baselga commented, "TRU visits are a very important educational activity promoted by ESMO. Our participants very much enjoyed the opportunity to become acquainted with our translational research efforts, and in addition, we had the chance to get to know each other."

Nino Kartvelishvili from Georgia recognized that, "Visiting the research unit in Barcelona helped me to acquire the practical information that we lack to interpret data and implement new technologies at my home institute. I return to my department with many new ideas which I will present to my colleagues in our daily morning conference."

Alessandro Minisini from Italy said, "I will involve my colleagues in the creation of a group devoted to translational research in breast cancer, principally in the field of predictive factors and I hope to establish a useful network with other institutions in order to exchange information and improve the quality of our studies."

Carlo Parmieri of the United Kingdom added, "I will suggest that our department apply for funding for a research pathologist so that pharmacodynamic studies can be routinely carried out and in the future I will also try to ensure that all phase I studies that are carried out involve tumor biopsies to optimize the amount of information gained."

Cristina Oprean of Romania shared, "As things are moving fast in my country, I hope that I will also start to work in phase I, and not only in phase II and III trials in which I am already involved." All fellows expressed their gratitude to ESMO for supporting these TRU visits.