



PETRA ZUSTERZEEL

The Netherlands

Personal statement

I would bring to the ESGO Council a unique blend of clinical, governance, and strategic perspective rooted in advancing patient centred oncological care. My motivation is driven by a conviction that meaningful progress in gynaecological oncology hinges not only on breakthroughs in science, but also on high quality, equitable care pathways, strong advocacy, and robust collaborative frameworks-core pillars of ESGO's mission.

As a principal clinician focused on patient participation and experience, I understand how the standardization of care, guideline implementation, and quality indicators must intersect with real patient voices. I bring hands on credibility in translating patient priorities into policy, metrics, and operational decisions.

My role as Board Member & Vice-Chair of the Oncology Committee - Dutch Society of Obstetrics & Gynaecology (NVOG) and Board Member of SONCOS (Dutch Federation of Oncology Societies) has given me direct exposure to system level decision making in cancer networks, particularly in the context of the Integrated Cancer Care / tranche based models under the current health reform in the Netherlands. This experience is directly relevant to ESGO's interest in optimizing care centralization and access across Europe.

In terms of governance & leadership development, I have successfully completed a 2-year SIOO executive programme "Successful Governance of" program, which deepened my understanding of board dynamics, stakeholder alignment, and institutional accountability. I also participated in a course from the NVTZ, the Dutch Association for Supervisory Board Members in Health and Social Care, giving me insight into the specific expectations, standards, and ethical obligations of oversight roles. These trainings bolster my capacity to engage as a strategic steward.

My skills include strategic thinking, structured problem solving, stakeholder facilitation, and the ability to ask rigorous, clarifying questions. I am committed to investing the time and energy required for Council responsibilities, including active engagement in committees, advocacy initiatives, guideline development, and regional liaison.

In joining ESGO's Council, my aim would be to amplify ESGO's impact across Europe by ensuring that patient perspectives remain central, care pathways adapt to evolving evidence and health system reforms, and that ESGO continues to lead the harmonization of training, guideline excellence, and

Curriculum Vitae – Dr. Petra Zusterzeel, MD PhD

Gynaecological Oncologist | Associate Professor | Clinical Leader | Principal Clinician



Personal Information

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- Place of Birth: Weert, The Netherlands

Profile

I bring a strong combination of clinical expertise, academic leadership, and strategic management. I am passionate about connecting diverse perspectives and guiding teams toward shared goals. I operate with clarity, decisiveness, and a deep commitment to innovation and patient-centered care. My Management Drives profile: Orange–Yellow–Red–Blue, reflecting flexibility, vision, and a strong results-oriented approach.

Core Competencies

Transparent | Energetic | Team-oriented | Strategic thinker | Results-driven

Current Positions

Radboud University Medical Center (Radboudumc), Nijmegen

- *Gynaecological Oncologist* (2010–present)
- *Chair of Gynaecological Oncology Division* (2022–present): leading a multidisciplinary team (23 FTE), responsible for HR, budgeting (€3.4M), staffing, and strategic planning
- *Associate Professor / Principal Clinician* (2021–present): research focus on fertility-preserving surgery, sentinel node procedures, AI in oncology, and patient involvement
- *Program Director, Gynaecological Oncology* (2020–present): oversight of care quality, efficiency, and pathway alignment
- *Board Member, Radboud Oncology Centre* (2023–present)

Clinical and Academic Roles

- Former Medical Manager, Operating Theatres (2011–2020)
 - Teaching at Radboud University and HAN University of Applied Sciences
 - Supervisor for 8 MD–PhD researchers
 - Editorial board member of 3 international journals
 - Frequent speaker at national and international conferences
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Education & Qualifications

- *PhD in Medical Sciences* – Radboud University Nijmegen (2001)
 - *Specialisation in Obstetrics & Gynaecology* – Radboudumc & Rijnstate Hospital (2001–2007)
 - *Fellowship Gynaecological Oncology* – QLD Centre for Gynaecological Cancer, Brisbane, Australia (2008–2010)
 - *Hospital Governance Certificate* – SIOO (2021–2022)
 - *MD Degree* – Catholic University of Nijmegen
 - *Bachelor, Industrial Engineering* – Eindhoven University of Technology
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Board & Leadership Roles

- **Board Member & Vice-Chair, Oncology Committee – Dutch Society of Obstetrics & Gynaecology (NVOG)** (2024–present)
 - **Board Member – SONCOS (Dutch Federation of Oncology Societies:** developing and monitoring national multidisciplinary quality standards for cancer care (2024–present)
 - **Chair – IKNL East (Netherlands Comprehensive Cancer Organisation)** (2016–present)
 - **Board Member – GOZON (Gynaecological Oncology Southeast Netherlands)** (2017–present)
 - **Founder & Board Member – DGRS (Dutch Gynaecological Robotic Surgeons)** (2014–2018, 2022–present)
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Scientific Output

- 125+ peer-reviewed publications (Q1–Q2 journals)
 - H-index: 33 | Total citations: 2,997
 - Key focus: fertility-preserving surgery, sentinel node procedure, robotic oncology, patient involvement, and cost-effectiveness
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Languages

- Dutch (native), English (fluent), German (proficient)

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

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3. Knapen MFCM, Zusterzeel PLM, Peters WHM, Steegers EAP. Glutathione and glutathione-related enzymes in reproduction; a review. *Eur J Obstet Gynaecol Reprod Biol* 1999;82:171-184.
4. Zusterzeel PLM, Knapen MFCM, Roes E, Steegers-Theunissen RPM, Peters WHM, Merkus JMWM, Steegers EAP. Glutathione S-transferase Alpha levels in epileptic and healthy pregnant women preconceptionally and throughout pregnancy. *Gynecol Obstet Invest* 1999;48:89-92.
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9. Zusterzeel PLM, van Troon HM, Peters WHM, Raijmakers MTM, Steegers EAP. Erythrocyte instability in pregnancies complicated with pre-eclampsia. *Acta Obstet Gynecol Scand* 2000;79:785-787.
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13. Zusterzeel PLM, Peters WHM, Visser W, Hermesen KJM, Merkus HMWM, Steegers EAP. A polymorphism in the gene of microsomal epoxide hydrolase polymorphism is associated with preeclampsia. *J Med Genet* 2001;38:234-237.
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