

**MANCHESTER**  
**CANCER**  
**RESEARCH**  
**CENTRE**

# WISDOM FROM 'THE WEST'

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**Programme - 15th -17th March 2023**

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# Welcome

**Welcome to the international conference *Wisdom from 'The West'*, organised in honour of Professor Catharine West, Professor of Radiation Biology at The University of Manchester, who retired in December 2022.**

This conference celebrates and showcases the areas where Catharine has made her mark, not only looking back but also looking to the future in radiobiology and biomarker research.

Organised by members of The University of Manchester, Cancer Research UK RadNet Manchester, the NIHR Manchester Biomedical Research Centre, Manchester Cancer Research Centre and The Christie, we invite you to join us in celebrating Catharine and radiotherapy related research. The conference is CPD accredited, with 10 points available to attendees



## About Professor Catharine West

Catharine West is a Professor of Radiation Biology at The University of Manchester. During her career, her research focused on trying to predict how cancer patients responded to radiotherapy with a particular interest in measuring radiosensitivity and hypoxia. She was instrumental in setting up an international Radiogenomics Consortium, which identifies the genetic determinants of radiotherapy toxicity. She has published over 300 papers (h-index 65) and has sat on the editorial boards for Radiation Research, Physics in Medicine & Biology and Clinical Oncology.

[Find out more and register for the conference](#)

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## Wisdom From 'The West' Programme - Wednesday 15th March 2023

All times are in GMT

NEW VENUE - Hilton Manchester Deansgate hotel

11.30 - 12.00 Arrival and Registration

12.00 - 12.30 Radiation Research in Manchester

### Professor Tim Illidge

Professor of Targeted Therapy & Oncology, The University of Manchester & Honorary Consultant in Clinical Oncology, The Christie NHS Foundation Trust

12.30 - 13.00

Radiogenics: From RAPPER to the International Radiogenomics Consortium

### Professor Neil Burnet

Honorary Academic Consultant, The Christie

13.00 - 14.00 Welcome Lunch

14.00 - 14.30

Predicting Normal Tissue Toxicity: Ten Years and a Million SNPs Later

### Dr Sarah Kerns

Associate Professor of Radiation Oncology, Medical College of Wisconsin

14.30 - 15.00

The REQUITE project and its offspring – a story of how Catharine led a bunch of misfits to European glory

### Dr Chris Talbot

Senior Lecturer in Medical Genetics at University of Leicester

15.00 - 15.30

The use of polygenetic risk scores in understanding normal tissue toxicity

### Dr Alan McWilliam

Senior Lecturer in Translational Radiotherapy Physics, The University of Manchester

15.30 - 16.00 Break

16.00 - 16.30

Can we modify radiotherapy responses by manipulating the gut microbiota?

### Professor Anne Kiltie

Friends of ANCHOR Clinical Chair of Oncology, University of Aberdeen

16.30 - 17.00

West is the Best for R&D, Patients, Relatives and Employees in Cancer Care

### Dr Thomas Björk Eriksson

Consultant and Assistant Professor, Sahlgrenska University Hospital

17.00 - 17.30

Why physicists need to learn biology

### Professor Marcel Van Herk

Professor in Radiotherapy Physics, The University of Manchester

17.30

End Day One

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## Wisdom From 'The West' Programme - Thursday 16th March 2023

All times are in GMT

NEW VENUE - Hilton Manchester Deansgate hotel

09.00 - 09.30 Arrival and Coffee

09.30 - 10.00 East is East – and West is West, but hypoxia is all over  
**Professor Jens Overgaard**  
Professor, Consultant, Department of Experimental Clinical Oncology, Aarhus University Hospital

10.00 - 10.30 The vasculature and microenvironment of tumours and their significance for radiotherapy  
**Professor Mike Horsman**  
Professor of Experimental Radiotherapy, Aarhus University

10.30 - 11.00 Using Radiobiology to optimise treatment  
**Professor Peter Hoskin**  
Professor in Clinical Oncology, The University of Manchester and Honorary Consultant in Clinical Oncology, The Christie

**11.00 - 11.30 Break**

11.30 - 12.00 Tumour voxel dose response matrix: A measure of radiosensitivity  
**Dr George Wilson**  
Chief of Radiation Biology, William Beaumont Hospital

12.00 - 12.30 Radiotherapy biomarkers: Moving towards personalised radiotherapy in clinical practice  
**Dr Laura Forker**  
NIHR Clinical Lecturer, The Christie & The University of Manchester

**12.30 - 13.30 Lunch**

13.30 - 14.00 Biomarkers for low dose radiation exposure  
**Professor Carmel Mothersill**  
Professor of Environmental Radiobiology, McMaster University

14.00 - 14.30 Mining for Late Effects  
**Dr Marianne Aznar**  
Senior Lecturer in Adaptive Radiotherapy, The University of Manchester

14.30 - 15.00 Imaging Biomarkers  
**Dr Lucy Kershaw**  
Senior Research Fellow in MRI at Edinburgh Imaging, University of Edinburgh

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## Wisdom From 'The West' Programme - Thursday 16th March 2023 - Continued

15.00 - 15.30 Break

15.30 - 16.00 Oxygen-enhanced MRI for Imaging Tumour Hypoxia  
**Michael Dubec**  
Clinical Scientist, The Christie

16.00 - 16.30 Bench to Bedside  
**Dr Anu Datta**  
Specialist Registrar in Radiology, The Christie

16.30 - 17.00 Commercialisation  
**Joely Irlam**  
Chief Technology Officer, PDB Biotech

17.00 End Day Two

19.00 **Conference Dinner**  
With after dinner speaker **Professor Ian Stratford**, Professor of Pharmacy, The University of Manchester and Catharine West's former PhD supervisor

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## Wisdom From 'The West' Programme - Friday 17th March 2023

All times are in GMT

NEW VENUE - Hilton Manchester Deansgate hotel

09.00 - 09.30 Arrival and Coffee

09.30 - 10.00 GARD: Utilizing genomics to optimize and personalize radiotherapy dose

### Professor Javier Torres-Roca

Professor of Oncologic Sciences in the University of South Florida; Chief of Clinical Research at the Department of Radiation Oncology, Moffitt Cancer Center

10.00 - 10.30 Hypoxia profiles in tumours - evidence and road to implementation

### Professor Heidi Lyng

Leader of the Clinical Radiation Biology Group at Institute for Cancer Research, Oslo University Hospital, and Professor at Department of Physics, University of Oslo

10.30 - 11.00 Investigating the relationship between hypoxia and the immune tumour microenvironment in muscle-invasive bladder cancer

### Dr Vicky Smith

PDRA, Cancer Research UK Manchester Institute

11.00 - 11.30 Break

11.30 - 12.00 **Question and answer session**

### Professor Catharine West

Professor of Translational Radiobiology, The University of Manchester

12.00 - 12.30 Farewell

### Professor Robert Bristow

Director, Manchester Cancer Research Centre

12.30 End of Day Three and Close

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# Conference Packages

*Wisdom from 'The West'* takes place at the Hilton Manchester Deansgate hotel, which is behind Deansgate train station. Situated within the lower 23 floors of the Beetham Tower, Hilton Manchester Deansgate is a landmark hotel with spectacular views over the city.

Registration is now open and closes on the 28th February 2023. A choice of two packages are available:

**Package 1, Conference Pass Only – £140.00**

3-day conference pass only – no accommodation or dinner included

**Package 2, Conference Pass & Dinner – £175.00**

3-day conference pass and conference dinner (16th) only – no accommodation included

[Find out more and register for the conference](#)

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**Manchester Cancer Research Centre**

The Oglesby Cancer Research Building,  
The University of Manchester  
555 Wilmslow Road  
Manchester  
M20 4GJ  
United Kingdom

Email: [MCRCComms@Manchester.ac.uk](mailto:MCRCComms@Manchester.ac.uk)

[www.mcrc.manchester.ac.uk](http://www.mcrc.manchester.ac.uk)