

ESR Electronic Elections 2022

Candidacy for the position of:
ESR Research Committee Chair

Prof. dr. Marion Smits

Erasmus MC, Rotterdam/NL

Professor of Applied Physiological Neuroimaging
Neuro- and Head & Neck Radiologist
Chief of Neuroradiology
Fellowship Programme Chair



Curriculum Vitae

current leadership positions and affiliations

- Chair of the Publications Committee, ESR Executive Council (2019-2022)
- Chair of the Dutch Society of Neuroradiology (2018-2021)
- Chair of the European Organisation of Research and Treatment in Cancer (EORTC) Brain Tumour Group Imaging Subcommittee (2018-2024)
- Chair of Research & International Relations in the board of the Radiological Society of the Netherlands (from 1 January 2022)
- Past-chair of the EORTC Imaging Group (2021-2024)
- Editorial board member of MAGMA (2021-present)
- Course director of the joint ESNR-ESMRMB course on advanced neuroimaging techniques (2020-present)
- Member of the Dutch Cancer Society KWF scientific assessment committee (2019-present)
- National delegate for the Netherlands in the European Society of Neuroradiology (ESNR) Institutional Members Council (2012-present)
- National delegate for the Netherlands in the Union Européenne des Médecins Spécialistes (UEMS) Division of Neuroradiology (2012-present)
- Member of Dutch guideline committees on glioma, brain metastases, and quality of neuro-oncological care
- Knowledge Ambassador for the City of Rotterdam, Rotterdam/NL (2015-present)

past leadership positions and affiliations

- President of the European Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine and Biology (ESMRMB) 2019-2020 (Presidential track: 2017-2021)
- General secretary of the board of the Dutch Society of Neuroradiology (2012-2018)
- Congress president of the 2018 ESNR annual meeting in Rotterdam/NL (2015-2018)

- Board member (Treasurer, Vice-Chair, Chair) of the EORTC Imaging Group (2013-2020)
- Honorary Consultant at UCL NHS Foundations Trust in London/UK (2014-2021)
- ESMRMB annual meeting scientific programme committee Chair and Executive Board member (2013-2015)
- Course director fMRI & DTI for the ESMRMB School of MRI (2012-2016)
- Course organiser of the ESMRMB fMRI & DTI hands-on course, Paris/FR (2012)
- Scientific programme committee member of the World Federation of Neuroradiological Societies (WFNR) Symposium Neuroradiologicum, Istanbul/TR (2013-2014).
- Scientific programme committee member of the ESMRMB annual scientific meetings in Lisbon/PT and Toulouse/FR (2011-2014)
- Young Health Council of the Netherlands member (2011-2013)
- Local course organiser ESMRMB fMRI & DTI hands-on course, Rotterdam/NL (2009)

scientific achievements

- 154 peer-reviewed journal publications and 7 book chapters, H-index 40
- > 170 published scientific abstracts
- 130 invited lectures
- €4.9M current research funding
- 8 PhDs supervised to completion, 8 PhDs in progress

honours and awards

- AuntMinnie Europe Most Influential Radiology Researcher (2021)
- Honorary Member of the American Society of Neuroradiology (2020)
- Visiting Professor at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY/US (2018)
- Visiting Professor at Johns Hopkins Medical Institution, Baltimore, MD/US (2015)
- Member of the Young Health Council of the Netherlands (2011-2013)
- Erasmus University of Rotterdam (EUR) personal Fellowship (2009)
- PhD cum laude (2008)
- Lourens Penning Prize for outstanding Neuroradiological research in the Netherlands (2007)
- European Marie Curie Fellowship (2003)

full CV and list of publications

www.marionsmits.net

Involvement in the ESR and ECR so far

- Chair of the Publications Committee, ESR Executive Council (2019-2022)
- ECR programme planning committee member for ECR2020, ECR2021 and ECR2022
- ESR representative in the European Cancer Organisation for defining quality cancer care requirements in adult glioma (2019-present)

- 25 invited lectures at ECR (2011-2021)
- lecturer at the ESOR ASKLEPIOS and GALEN Foundation courses (2021)
- Member of the European Imaging Biomarker Alliance (EIBALL) (2016-2019), representing and liaising with the EORTC as well as participating in the Quantitative Imaging Biomarker Alliance (QIBA) working group on arterial spin labelling (ongoing)
- Member of the ESR-RSNA joint symposium committee (2012-2016)
- Member of the ESR Leadership Institute (2013-2016)
- Neuroradiology host institution coordinator and supervisor for ESOR and Bracco clinical and research scholarships/fellowships (2016-present)

Personal Statement

I am an internationally active neuroradiologist dedicated to breaking down the boundaries between the research arena and clinical practice and vice versa. In recognition of my achievements, I was recently named 'Most influential Radiology Researcher' by AuntMinnie Europe.

I am driven in my research by my ideal to make the world a little better: for researchers, for clinicians, and for patients and their loved ones. By teaching and mentoring I aim to empower the next generations of researchers and I strive effortlessly to have the findings of my research make their way to clinical care. Not just in academia or highly specialist centres, but to all patients, wherever they are in the world. Too often scientific insights remain hidden and unused, especially in the highly dogmatic field of Medicine. I firmly believe that breaking barriers between disciplines, re-thinking our paradigms, and embracing novel technologies will improve patient care, reduce patient burden, and increase accessibility to highly expert but at the same time sustainable healthcare.

I am an active supporter of open science and mentor my research group – consisting of 8 PhD students, 1 research fellow, 2 post-docs, 1 assistant professor, and a variable number of MSc/BSc students – in scientific openness and integrity such that next generations of researchers feel strengthened to move this much needed reform of academia forward. In principle, my work is published open access and I almost invariably grant data sharing requests. We recently published the 'Erasmus Glioma Database', which provides access to imaging data as well as genetic status of over 700 glioma patients.

It is impossible to disentangle my research from my clinical activities as their mutual exchange is at the core of my achievements. I am section chief of neuroradiology and my clinical work encompasses the full spectrum of diagnostic neuroradiology and head & neck radiology. I am in charge of the MR neuroimaging protocols to ensure the highest quality and implementation of imaging techniques. I am a champion for several innovations in clinical radiology, such as structured reporting, protocol harmonisation, artificial intelligence, and integrated diagnostics.

Key to making my work matter is my active participation in professional societies and committees, commonly in leadership positions. In my current capacity as ESR Publications Committee Chair I have been given the opportunity to see first-hand how my vision of European radiological research is aligned with that of the ESR. It would thus be my greatest honour to continue my commitment to the ESR as its Research Committee Chair.