



PRESS RELEASE

On May 27th ORCA's CSO Victor van Beusechem will give his inaugural lecture entitled: "El Dorado beyond the horizon".

Amsterdam, 25-05-2016

On May 27th ORCA's CSO Victor van Beusechem will give his inaugural lecture and thereby accepts his position as Professor of Applied Molecular Oncology at the VU University. In the inaugural lecture Victor will share his view how to shift the horizon of our current knowledge of cancer to reach the El Dorado of a more effective treatment of cancer. His approach is to follow two paths, one directed against specific targets in cancer cells and one directed against a hallmark of cancer. In the first strategy, he applies functional genetic screening technologies to discriminate between relevant and irrelevant mutations in cancer cells and to identify genetic targets for personalized treatment. In the second strategy, he applies molecular knowledge of cancer and viruses to develop a new class of medicines, so called oncolytic adenoviruses. These viruses replicate in and kill cancer cells selectively and induce an immune response against the tumor. The final goal of this applied research is to make new, more effective medicines available for treatment of patients. Victor van Beusechem and his research team take up the gage to bring this goal within reach, thereby improving the prospects for future cancer patients and their loved ones.

Date and time: Friday 27th of May 2016, 15:45

Location: Aula, Vrije Universiteit, Boelelaan 1105, Amsterdam

About Victor van Beusechem

Victor van Beusechem invented new technologies and developed innovative scientific approaches to optimize virus-based gene and anti-cancer therapies with his research teams at TNO in Rijswijk, at Introgene BV (now Crucell) in Leiden and at VU University Medical Center in Amsterdam. Besides CSO of ORCA, he is Professor of Applied Molecular Oncology, head of the Oncogenomics Laboratory of the department of Medical Oncology, and director of the RNA Interference Functional Oncogenomics Laboratory, at the VUmc Cancer Center Amsterdam. He graduated in Medical Biology, and received a PhD (Cum Laude) in gene therapy at Leiden University.

About ORCA therapeutics

ORCA Therapeutics BV is a biopharmaceutical company developing a pipeline of innovative anticancer therapies based on the highly promising approach of engineered oncolytic adenoviruses. ORCA Therapeutics is currently preparing its lead product ORCA-010 for testing in clinical trials.

Update

The Inaugural Lecture is available online (Dutch): <http://hdl.handle.net/1871/54475>