

Dr Ian Boon

Consultant Clinical Oncologist
University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust



I am a clinical oncologist specialising in treating head and neck cancers and thyroid cancers within University Hospital Southampton NHS Trust (UHS). I offer holistic non-surgical treatment including advanced technical radiotherapy, chemotherapy, immunotherapy, and novel targeted therapy.

I lead the clinical research portfolio for head and neck cancer in UHS. I am the principal investigator for Trilynx, LEAP-009, proton beam trials (PBT) recruitment study and I am setting up the EVOLVE-HNSCC trial as well.

I am certified Human Research Authority (HRA) Clinical radiation expert (CRE) reviewer and have experience reviewing early radiotherapy trial proposals. I have also worked as professional expert advice to NICE committee with regards to Proknow radiotherapy software approval. I am part of the Royal College of Radiologists (RCR) Artificial Intelligence (AI) advisory group. I am interested in research into cancer genomics and clinical translation of AI auto-segmentation into radiotherapy clinical practice.

I have deep passion for translational clinical research for head and neck cancers. Salivary gland cancers are rare, with little evidence base and unmet clinical research need.

I lead the UHS clinical trials head and neck portfolio and has been successful principal Investigator for head and neck trials. I have Good Clinical practice and aware of the clinical trial requirements, ethical and legal requirements. As members of the Royal College of Radiologists, Early Research Forum of the National Cancer Research Institute, European Society of Medical Oncology (ESMO) I bring networks from vital oncology community to advance the research agenda.

I understand and am involved in writing research applications, methodology and protocol. I collaborate with other clinicians and researchers to work on complex areas including artificial intelligence, radiotherapy developments and cancer genomics.

I am also a certified Clinical Radiation Expert for the Human Research Agency in reviewing early radiotherapy related trial proposals. By working with the HRA, I have gain skills and experience in understanding how research proposal are approved and holistic understanding of how to get a successful trial research approval.

Through my work as expert consultant to the National Institute of Health and Care Excellence (NICE), I learn on experience in appraising and evaluating technologies, I reflect that it is vital for NICE to review novel healthcare technologies and developments prior to adoption into clinical workflow. I am also committed to advancing equality, diversity, and inclusion in scientific research, particularly in this rare cancer.