



Violeta Astratinei

PH.D. BIOLOGIST AND MELANOMA PATIENT ADVOCATE

Profile

Ph.D. Biologist, and a former scientific researcher. Active in Patient Advocacy & Patient Organizations after she lost her sister to Melanoma. Passionate about Science, patient Education, and equitable Access to Health Innovation in Central and Eastern Europe. Romanian living in the Netherlands and mother of two daughters.

Employment History

Founder & President, Volunteer, Romanian Melanoma Association, Bucharest

NOVEMBER 2014 – PRESENT

- coordinates the Association's' projects and manages volunteers
- organizes Annual Association's Conferences and designs their Scientific Program
- elaborates educational materials for the Association's website and social media pages
- attends Oncology international conferences and communicate Science for Romanian patients and public
- supports and educates Romanian patients in Melanoma, clinical trials and navigating the healthcare system
- advocates for access to prevention, early diagnosis, and innovative treatments in Melanoma
- advocates for access to Innovative Trials in Romania
- communicates with authorities, hospitals, medical staff, pharma companies, payers and media

Board Member , Melanoma Patient Network Europe (MPNE)

SEPTEMBER 2014 – PRESENT

- co-organizes MPNE educational and research projects
- co-designs MPNE conferences' scientific agendas
- offer advise for Academic Melanoma Trials Committees and Melanoma Advisory Boards
- works in two Horizon 2020 EU Projects, Share4Rare and UM Cure in Uveal and Pediatric Melanomas
- writes, explain and disseminates scientific and medical information for the European and UK Melanoma Patients community
- coordinates the Melanoma Patient Network Central and Eastern Europe Group

Board Member, Volunteer, Dutch Melanoma Foundation (Stichting Melanoom)

JUNE 2015 – JUNE 2019

- contributed to the Dutch Melanoma Foundation strategical change bringing in focus the medical knowledge, Clinical Research and high-level patient education;
- revised more than 30 Clinical Research project proposals;
- involved in the management of academic clinical trials as member of Steering Committees
- followed the reimbursement and patient access to innovative drugs in the Netherlands

Details

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Links

[Facebook](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

Skills

In-depth knowledge of Melanoma

Experience in designing the scientific and strategic agenda of patient conferences

Good abilities in revising clinical trials protocols

Specific knowledge of European and Drug Development-healthcare systems

Excellent organiser of patient events & meetings

Experience in European Projects

Languages

english

romanian

dutch

Scientific Researcher, National Institute for R-D in Environment Protection, subdepartment of Microbiology, Bucharest, Romania

NOVEMBER 1991 – DECEMBER 2010

- Scientific Research - eighteen years in the Biology and Microbiology field
- Consultancy – five years experience in the Environmental field
- Project Management – ten years as a Project Leader
- Communication – monthly research reports, and presentations, annual scientific articles.

Consultant , VA Consulting , Almere, Netherlands

JULY 2017 – PRESENT

Consultancy in European Projects, Melanoma and Clinical Research, Patient Education and Advocacy in Oncology

Professional Societies

Member of the EORTC Melanoma Steering Committee, European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer

SEPTEMBER 2019 – PRESENT

Member of European Society for Medical Oncology - ESMO

JULY 2017 – PRESENT

Member of American Society of Medical Oncology- ASCO

JULY 2019 – PRESENT

Education

Biologist, University of Bucharest, Romania, Faculty of Biology , Bucharest, Romania

SEPTEMBER 1985 – JUNE 1991

Study of Biological Sciences

Ph.D. in Ecology, University of Bucharest, Faculty of Biology, Bucharest, Romania

MARCH 1996 – MARCH 2005

One Year Marie Curie Fellowship, Wageningen University , Netherlands

MARCH 2003 – MARCH 2004

Conferences and Meetings

please see also www.melanomapatientnetworkeu.org/events.html and [https://www.melanomromania.org/evenimente](http://www.melanomromania.org/evenimente)

MARCH 2014 – PRESENT

- 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017- American Society of Clinical Oncology- ASCO Annual Meeting
- 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016- European Society of Medical Oncology, ESMO Annual Meeting
- 2019, 2018, 2015- European Association of Dermato-Oncology, EADO Annual Meeting
- 22nd-24th November 2019, Effective advocacy impact through evidence and know-how, Krusenberglund, Sweden, co-organizer
- 25th-27th October, 2019 MPNErare, The challenge of being rare in Melanoma, Berlin, Germany, co-organizer, speaker

- 30th August-1st September 2019, Melanoma in Central and Eastern Europe, Looking for opportunity, Skopje, Macedonia, co-organizer, speaker
- 10-11th May, 2019, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, 4th National Romanian Melanoma Conference "Innovation in Melanoma-Together for a better life', organizer/speaker
- 24th-27th April 2019, Quickstart Learn and Share for Melanoma advocates at EADO, Paris, France. co-organizer, speaker
- 22nd-24th March 2019, Melanoma at the Edge 2019. Access, Research, and Perspective, Brussels, Belgium, co-organizer, speaker
- 22nd-25th November 2018, The Price for a Life, Krusenberg Workshop for European Melanoma Advocates, co-organizer
- 6th-9th November 2018, Scientific Quickstart for Melanoma advocates at EADO, Barcelona, Spain. co-organizer, speaker
- 18th-19th October 2018, QuickStart for Melanoma advocates at ESMO, Munich, Germany, co-organizer
- 21st- 23rd September 2018, Melanoma in Central and Eastern Europe, Bucharest, Romania, co-organizer, speaker
- 11-12th May, 2018, Bucharest, 3rd National Romanian Melanoma Conference "Clinical trials - behind the first line of treatment", organizer/speaker
- 16th-18th March 2018, Brussels, Belgium, "Melanoma at the Edge" – Melanoma Patient Network Europe annual conference, co-organizer, speaker
- 23rd -25st February -ESO Masterclass in Cancer Patient Advocacy, Lisbon, Portugal, Member of the Steering Committee, speaker
- 24th-26th November, Krusenberg, Sweden, Lean Advocacy -a workshop for MPNEhubs, co-organizer
- 6th-8th October 2017, Leiden, Netherlands, MPNErare2017, a conference for Rare Melanoma, speaker, co-organizer
- 23rd-25th June, 2017, Zagreb, Croatia, " Melanoma in CEE . A chance to live for all, not a privilege for few", speaker, co-organizer
- 12-14th May, 2017, Bucharest, 2nd National Romanian Melanoma Conference "Innovation in melanoma: a chance to live for all", organizer/speaker
- 8th April, 2017, Amsterdam, Infodag, Dutch Melanoma Foundation, scientific committee, speaker
- 17-19 March, 2017, Brussels, Belgium, MPNE conference Value and Affordability in Melanoma, speaker, co-organizer.
- 13-14 December, 2016, Brussels, Belgium, Eupati Graduation and Final Conference, All Aboard to a Better Health Future, participant/graduate
- 25-27th November 2016, Krusenberg, Suedia, MPNE workshop Access to innovation, co-organizer
- 7-11 October 2016, ESMO 2016, Copenhagen, Patient Advocacy Track "Experience of Dutch Melanoma Foundation with Dutch Melanoma Treatment Registry", speaker
- 10-12 June 2016 – Pisa Italy, Communication in patient advocacy, participant
- 13-15 May 2016, – Bucharest, Romania- First conference of Melanoma Romanian Patients " "Innovation, Information and Access" – organiser, speaker
- 6-8 April 2016 – DIA Euromeeting, Germany , Hamburg -participant
- 2 April 2016 –the annual Congress of Dutch Melanoma Foundation Infodag, speaker
- 18th- 20th March 2016 in Leuven, Belgium, MPNE 2016, 'Power to the patient. With great power comes great responsibility', co-organizer, speaker
- 5th-7th February 2016, ESMO workshop- Cancer Patient Networks driving research, participant
- 10-11 December , 2015, BeNeMeet – Antwerpen , Belgium , Dutch- Belgium Melanoma Symposium, panel speaker
- October 2014 -December 2015 - Eupati course: European Patients' Academy Expert Training Course for Patients and Patient Representatives on the Medicines Research & Development Process – EUPATI fellow

- 27th- 29th November 2015, MPNE autumn workshop 2015, Krusenberg Herrgård, Sweden, 'How to read Scientific papers' for Melanoma advocates –co-organisier, speaker
- 31 October – 2 November 2015 , Marseille, France, Global Melanoma Coalition Meeting, participant representing MPNE/Melanom Romania/Stichting Melanoom
- 25-29 Sept.2015, European Cancer Congress, scientific coordinator of MPNE advocates
- 3 September 2015- EMA, London – participant to the Scientific Advice Working Party and related report- as MPNE advocate
- 24-26 April 2015, MPNE 2015 – The risk of not taking risk in melanoma, European Melanoma Conference, Brussels, speaker
- 21-23 November 2014, Project management for melanoma patient advocates, Sweden, Krusenberg Herrgård, participant
- 28-30 March 2014, First MPNE melanoma conference, Brussels, participant

Courses

EUPATI COURSE- European Patients' Academy Expert Training Course for Patients and Patient Representatives on the Medicines Research & Development Process, European Patients Forum

OCTOBER 2014 – DECEMBER 2015