

Vivian Gerretsen – WCLC 2024, San Diego, USA

The NRS Travel Grant gave me the opportunity to visit the IASLC World Conference on Lung Cancer (WCLC) 2024 in San Diego, USA. It was the first time I attended an international conference like the WCLC, which was an inspiring experience. Multiple sessions were dedicated to topics such as the latest advances in immunotherapy – a rapidly advancing field where the choice between neoadjuvant, perioperative, and adjuvant (immuno)therapy is still equivocal – biomarkers for early detection in lung cancer, and tumor biology. I was selected to present my research in a session on tumor biology and lung cancer metastasis. After my presentation, I received some pointed questions and valuable feedback, including a critical appraisal by the discussant of my session. This feedback will help me finalize my project. At the WCLC, I also attended the Grant Application workshop, an interactive session providing tools and check-lists I will definitely use when applying for grants in the near future. Since this conference was mainly focused on clinical research, it made me realize I should emphasize the clinical relevance of my translational research.