



Rob Coppes

Rob Coppes did a PhD in Molecular Pharmacology and a post-doc in radiobiology. He became a full professor of Radiotherapy with focus on the radiation biology of normal tissues in 2012. In 2015 he received the Bacq-and-Alexander Award of the European Radiation Research Society to an outstanding European researcher to recognize achievements in the field of radiation research. He serve(s)(d) as editor or scientific board member of several international journals, societies and institutes. He has a strong background in cell biology and radiation biology with specific training in clinical radiation biology. He has experience in clinical radiobiology related oncology and has led multiple EU and Dutch research consortia and other research projects and extensively participates in training and teaching in radiobiology. His lab showed a completely novel mechanism indicating in the salivary gland that the dose to the stem region predicts the response of the tissue. It was shown that the tissues stem cells are not equally divided over the tissue and found a high accumulation of these cells in a specific area of the gland. A relation was found between the sensitive area and the stem cell response using novel by his group developed techniques. Next to this his group developed a salivary gland organoid based stem cell therapy for patient at risk of developing xerostomia after head and neck cancer therapy. A first clinical trial using salivary gland stem cell transplantation is currently ongoing. His lab now explores mechanisms of radiation damage response using normal tissue and tumor organoids and different radiation qualities, such as protons.