Biography

Professor Johann de Bono was appointed as Senior Lecturer and Honorary Consultant in Medical Oncology at The Royal Marsden and The Institute of Cancer Research in 2003. He is now a Professor in Experimental Cancer Medicine at The Royal Marsden where he works in the clinical drug development of Phase I trials and has a particular interest in rationally designed molecular targeted therapies and prostate cancer.

Professor de Bono graduated from the University of Glasgow medical school in 1989, and trained in internal medicine, graduating as a Member of the Royal College of Physicians (MRCP) in 1992. He was then awarded a four-year Cancer Research UK Clinical Research Scholarship which allowed him to pursue a PhD, which he completed in 1997. In 1999 he trained in medical oncology, and was awarded an MSc (Cancer Sciences) from Glasgow University. The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow then awarded him a travelling scholarship that allowed him to pursue further research on the statistical issues that pertain to clinical trials of targeted drugs, at the SWOG statistical headquarters at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Centre in Seattle, USA. Between 2000 and 2003, Prof de Bono pursued further research developing new anti-cancer drugs at the Institute for Drug Development within the University of Texas Health Science Centre at San Antonio.

In 2003, he was elected as a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, and in 2009, he was elected as a Member of the Malta Order of Merit. Professor de Bono received the prestigious ESMO Award in 2012 and was part of the ICR/RMH team who were awarded the AACR Team Science Award. He also received an award from the Royal Society of Chemistry for his team’s work in developing abiraterone.

Over the last five years, Professor de Bono has been involved in the development of over 50 novel agents, many of which are now approved drugs, and he is currently running over 20 clinical trials.