



**Dr. Fred R. Hirsch, MD, PhD.**

IASLC Chief Executive Officer



Dr. Fred R. Hirsch, MD, PhD, has worked with clinical/translational research in lung cancer for more than 25 years. His current interest is in biomarker developments for the treatment and early detection of lung cancer. He is particularly studying biomarkers related to molecular targeted therapies in order to understand the mechanisms of action and resistance of these new therapies, and to be able to select the patients who will benefit from such treatment. The biomarker studies include preclinical studies as well as studies from tumor tissue from clinical cohorts. Dr. Hirsch's laboratory is currently studying biomarkers in multiple clinical trials performed in the US and Europe both in lung and head and neck cancer.

Dr. Hirsch is the Co-Chair of the Southwest Oncology Group (SWOG) lung cancer translational science committee, and he has served as a member of the Thoracic Oncology Steering Committee for the US National Cancer Institute.

Dr. Hirsch has received several awards, including the prestigious IASLC Mary J. Matthews Award for his life time achievement in lung cancer translational science as well as the Japanese Lung Cancer Society's Merit Award and the Addario Lectureship Award.

Dr. Hirsch is a professor at the University of Colorado, School of Medicine in Denver, Colo., U.S., and is Associate Director for the University of Colorado Cancer Center. He is also adjunct professor at the Tongji University, Shanghai, China. He is the Chief Executive Officer of IASLC.

Dr. Hirsch holds a medical degree and doctorate from the University of Copenhagen, Denmark and a degree from the Copenhagen Business School.



**Dr. Robert Pirker, MD**

International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC) 17th World Conference on Lung Cancer  
President



Dr. Robert Pirker has specialized in Internal Medicine and Haemato-Oncology, and has taught Internal Medicine and Medical Oncology at the Medical University of Vienna and its predecessor, the Medical Faculty of the University of Vienna, for many years. His initial research focused on antibody-toxin conjugates and clinically relevant mechanisms of drug resistance in leukemias and solid tumors. He has more than 25 years of experience in translational and clinical lung cancer research with a focus on chemotherapy, targeted therapies, characterization of predictive biomarkers and anaemia management.

Dr. Pirker is currently Professor of Medicine and Program Director for Lung Cancer at the Department of Medicine I, Medical University of Vienna, Austria. As a member of the International Adjuvant Lung Cancer Trial (IALT)-Bio and Lung Adjuvant Cisplatin Evaluation (LACE)-Bio groups, he is involved in the research on predictive biomarkers for adjuvant chemotherapy in patients with completely resected non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC). He also was the worldwide Coordinating Investigator of the FLEX trial, and served as a member of Steering Committees and Data Safety Monitoring Boards for several lung cancer clinical trials.

Dr. Pirker has published more than 180 articles, reviews or book chapters. He is an Editorial Board Member of Lung Cancer and of Translational Lung Cancer Research and is Regional Editor of The Journal of Experimental Therapeutics and Oncology. He has received several scientific awards including the AIO Award of the German Cancer Society.

Dr. Pirker obtained a master's degree in Biochemistry in 1978 and a medical degree in 1979 from the University of Vienna, and trained in Internal Medicine, Haemato-Oncology and Nuclear Medicine at the University of Vienna. He also worked from 1983 to 1986 as National Institutes of Health (NIH) Visiting Fellow at the Laboratory of Molecular Biology (Chief: Dr. Ira Pastan), National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, MD, USA.

Besides being a member of the IASLC, the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO), the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) and other scientific societies for many years, Dr. Pirker has been an ESMO Faculty Member on Chest Tumors and a member and chair of the IASLC Education Committee. He was elected to the IASLC Board of Directors in 2015. Dr. Pirker has been involved in the organization of several scientific Congresses and workshops. He was Chair of the Scientific Committee of the European Multidisciplinary Conference on Thoracic Oncology in 2009 and Congress President of the 8th and 14th Central European Lung Cancer Congresses in 2002 and 2014, respectively. He is also Chair of the Steering Committee of the recently launched Central European Initiative against Lung Cancer.