

Rafael López López is the Head of the Oncology Department at the University Clinical Hospital of Santiago de Compostela (Spain), Director of the Translational Oncology Group at the Health Research Institute (IDIS), and Coordinator of the cancer area at the same institution (www.oncomet.es). He is also a Full Professor of Oncology at the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Santiago de Compostela. He earned his medical degree from the Autonomous University of Madrid. In 1988, he completed his training as a specialist in Medical Oncology at the General Hospital of Asturias. He was accredited by the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) in 1989. He was an ESMO Fellow at the Free University Hospital of Amsterdam (Prof. HM Pinedo) in 1990 and 1991. He has worked at the Central Hospital of Asturias (Oviedo), the Hospital of Navarra (Pamplona), and founded and developed the Medical Oncology Department at the Txagorritxu Hospital (Vitoria). Since 1997, he has led the medical oncology department in Santiago de Compostela.

He is deeply involved in research, having led over 150 clinical trials as the principal investigator. He is responsible for translational research in solid tumors, particularly breast and gastrointestinal cancers. He is currently working on research projects aimed at understanding and treating the metastatic process. His group is a leader in liquid biopsy in Spain, with strong research and clinical capabilities. He has been a speaker in the Cancer Strategy of the Ministry of Health. Dr. López is a member of ASEICA (Spanish Association for Cancer Research), EACR, ESMO, the Spanish Society of Medical Oncology (SEOM), the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), and the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR). He was also the president of the Galician Society of Cancer, during which time the Galician Cancer Strategy was developed in collaboration with the Health Service of Galicia. He is the author of over 200 publications and book chapters, both national and international, and has presented research at national and international congresses. He has participated in more than 10 patents and 3 spin-offs. He served as president of the ECO Foundation (Excellence and Quality in Oncology) in 2021 and 2022 and is currently the vice president. He is the president-elect of ASEICA.