

ESP Advanced Training Centre for Bone and Soft Tissue Pathology Leiden

Name of the Centre:

Departments of Pathology,

Leiden University Medical Centre, Leiden, The Netherlands

Chair of the Centre:

Dr. J. Bart (LUMC)

Head of training programme: Prof. J.V.M.G. Bovée

Details about specific areas in which training can be offered:

The LUMC is a tertiary referral centre for bone and soft tissue tumours and is the largest centre for bone tumours in The Netherlands, while the NKI is the national leading center for soft tissue sarcoma.

Professor Judith V.M.G. Bovée is a clinician scientist at the Departments of Pathology at the Netherlands Cancer Institute and the Leiden University Medical Center, with a special focus on bone and soft tissue tumours. Her aim is to crosslink patient care (diagnostic pathology of bone and soft tissue tumours) with basic research (elucidating the molecular events underlying sarcoma development and progression) in order to establish improved diagnosis, prognosis and treatment for patients with bone and soft tissue tumours. Dr. Bovee provides reference pathology at a national and international level. After 32 years at the LUMC, since January 2026, she combines her position at the Department of Pathology at LUMC with a part-time appointment (three days per week) at the Netherlands Cancer Institute (AvL), the leading national center for soft tissue sarcomas. This move is motivated by a strong ambition to further strengthen collaboration in sarcoma diagnostics and research across the Netherlands.

The bone and soft tissue tumor section at the LUMC is co-headed by Dr. S.W. Lam. At the NKI, the fellow will also work with Prof. P. Snaebjornsson, and Dr. van Boven. The LUMC is a national and internationally recognized expert centre for bone and soft tissue tumours, and around 40% of all malignant bone tumours in The Netherlands are diagnosed and treated in the LUMC. Dr. Bovee was expert editor for the WHO 6th edition classification for bone and soft tissue tumours (2026), and she has delivered multiple educational lectures on bone and soft tissue tumour pathology, for instance at ESCOP, ESP and USCAP.

The Giordano fellow can be positioned at the LUMC and / or the NKI, depending on availability as well as personal preference of the fellow. The fellow will attend the daily sign-out, which will give exposure to the regular diagnostic case load at both centers. In addition, the fellow can study the consultation cases sent to Prof. Bovée. The fellow will participate in multidisciplinary team meetings, the soft tissue tumour reference pathology meetings and the multidisciplinary meetings of The Netherlands Committee on bone tumours, in which histology will be interpreted within the clinical and radiological context. Moreover, the fellow can participate in the analysis of molecular diagnostic tests for sarcoma.

Depending on personal interest, the fellow can also participate in a research project, since Prof. Bovée also leads the research group on bone and soft tissue tumour pathology, aiming at elucidating the molecular events underlying sarcoma development and progression in order to establish improved diagnosis, prognosis and treatment for patients with bone and soft tissue tumours. Therefore, depending on the interest of the fellow, and the length of the fellowship, a small research project may be performed, crosslinking patient care with research. In the past few years already multiple foreign pathologists (Spain, Greece) have visited the Department of

Pathology LUMC to do a fellowship of bone and soft tissue pathology, in a similar program as described above.

Number of positions offered for each year, expected duration of the training: 2 fellows can be hosted per year, for a duration of 3-6 months each.

Specific periods of the year when the visit may be realized: will be defined after interview (the summer period (July/August) can be more difficult)

Contact address for requesting details by the applicant: Y.P.M. van der Bent:

y.p.m.van_der_bent@lumc.nl

We further declare that we meet the requirements to host a fellow:

No charge for training

Help in finding a low cost accommodation

Help in getting necessary visa, insurance or other documents if required

After completion of the training period the trainee receives a detailed certificate describing the work

We can provide a letter of invitation for the applicant

For a list of publications:

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?term=Bovee+JV&sort=date>