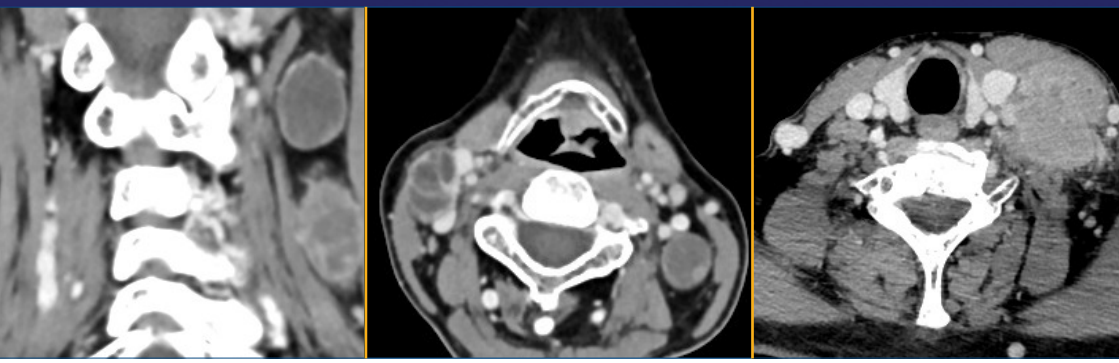
Academy EHNS
European Head & Neck Society

ONLINE COURSE

Imaging-derived Extranodal Extension (iENE) in Head and Neck Oncology

January 16th, 2027



Under the auspices of

AIOCC ETS-IHNS
Associazione Italiana Oncologia Cervico Cefalica

EHNS European Head & Neck Society

eshnr european society of head and neck radiology

HNCIG HEAD & NECK CANCER INTERNATIONAL GROUP

COURSE RATIONALE

Extranodal extension (ENE) is widely recognized as one of the most relevant prognostic factors in head and neck oncology, with a direct impact on staging, treatment selection, and oncologic outcomes. In recent years, the growing role of imaging-derived extranodal extension (iENE) has progressively transformed pre-treatment evaluation, making radiological assessment a potentially decisive element in the choice between surgical and non-surgical treatment strategies.

Despite its increasing clinical importance, iENE remains characterized by substantial variability in terminology, grading systems, interpretation criteria, and multidisciplinary application. Differences in radiological interpretation and clinical integration continue to influence therapeutic decision-making across institutions and specialties. For these reasons, the European Head and Neck Society (EHNS), the Head and Neck Cancer International Group (HNCIG), the European Society of Head and Neck Radiology (ESHNR), and the Associazione Italiana di Oncologia Cervico-Cefalica – Italian Head and Neck Society (AIOCC-IHNS) have joined forces to develop this international educational initiative within the framework of the EHNS Academy.

The course has been conceived as a highly multidisciplinary educational event involving surgeons, radiologists, radiation oncologists, medical oncologists, pathologists, and trainees, with the aim of promoting a shared international culture of iENE interpretation and clinical application. Particular attention will be dedicated to the implementation of common decision-making processes within mul-

tidisciplinary tumor boards, where iENE increasingly represents a critical determinant of treatment planning. Through lectures, case-based discussions, interactive polling sessions, and multidisciplinary debate, the course will provide participants with a practical and updated overview of current evidence, diagnostic challenges, prognostic implications, and future perspectives, including artificial intelligence, biomarker integration, possible role of IO in advanced disease treatment.

Beyond the scientific content itself, the initiative also represents a pilot model of structured international collaboration among leading scientific societies in head and neck oncology and radiology, with the ambition of reaching a broad worldwide audience and fostering multidisciplinary cultural growth across the global head and neck cancer community.

Giovanni Succo
President EHNS

Hisham Mehanna
Chair HNCIG

Soraya Robinson
President ESHNR

Giuseppe Sanguineti
President AIOCC-IHNS

PROGRAMME

08:30 – 08.50

Joint Institutional Welcome and Opening Remarks

- Opening remarks from the President of the European Head and Neck Society **Giovanni Succo**
- Address from the Chair of the Head and Neck Cancer International Group **Hisham Mehanna**
- Address from the President of the European Society of Head and Neck Radiology **Soraya Robinson**
- Institutional remarks from the resident of Italian Head and Neck Society **Giuseppe Sanguineti**

08:50 – 09.00

3 case quiz

Eugene Yu, Davide Farina, Andrew McQueen

09:00 – 11:00

Session 1 – Foundations of ENE

Chair: **René Leemans**

- Introduction and course objectives **- Soraya Robinson**
- History of ENE **- Mario Fernandez Fernandez**
- ENE in the TNM staging system - unanswered questions **- Mererid Evans**
- Clinical ENE: definition and terminology - **Ahmad Abou-Foul**
- Pathological ENE: definition, terminology, and challenges after neo-adjuvant IO - **Laura Peferoen**

Q/A online chat session

11:00 – 13:00

Session 2 – Imaging ENE: Concepts and Evidence

Chair: **Andrew McQueen**

- iENE: definition, terminology and grading **- Barton F Branstetter**
- Imaging modalities (CT, MRI, US,PET-CT) **- Eugene Yu**

- Proper imaging techniques **- Barton F Branstetter**
- Grade 2 iENE: selecting the appropriate imaging techniques for unequivocal assessment **- Roberto Maroldi**
- Evidence from literature **- Christina Henson**
- Prognostic impact in HPV+ and HPV– disease, and future perspectives in IO era **Giuseppe Sanguineti**

Q/A online chat session

13:00 – 13:10

Case quiz statistics

13:10 – 14:00

Lunch Break

14:00 – 17:00

Session 3 – Case-based Discussion

Chair: **Şefik Hoşal**

- Negative iENE **- Eugene Yu**
- Grade 1–3 iENE **- Barton F Branstetter**
- Equivocal grade 1-3 iENE **- Maartje de Win**
- Multiple patterns and pitfalls **- Alexandra Borges**
- Standardization challenges **- Roberto Maroldi**

Q/A online chat session

Session 4 – Challenging cases

Chair: **Prav Praveen**

- Challenging Case 1 **- Maartje de Win**
- Challenging Case 2 **- Davide Farina**
- Challenging Case 3 **- Caterina Giannitto**

Q/A online chat session

17:00 – 18:00

Session 5 – Future Perspectives

Chair: **Wojciech Golusinski**

- Artificial Intelligence **- Christian Simon**
- Biomarkers **- Sophie Huang**
- Precision oncology integration and possible role for immunotherapy **- Paolo Bossi**

Q/A online chat session

18:00 – 18:30

Session 6 – Conclusions

Chair: **Andreas Dietz**

- Key messages **- Hisham Mehanna**
- Case quiz immediate statistics **- Eugene Yu, Barton F Branstetter, Caterina Giannitto**
- Closing remarks **- Giovanni Succo, Barton F Branstetter, Roberto Maroldi**

FACULTY

Ahmad Abou – Foul (UK)
Alexandra Borges (POR)
Paolo Bossi (ITA)
Barton F "Char" Branstetter (USA)
Maartje De Win (NL)
Andreas Dietz (GER)
Mererid Evans (UK)
Davide Farina (ITA)
Mario Fernández Fernández (ESP)
Caterina Giannitto (ITA)
Wojciech Golusinski (POL)
Christina Henson (USA)
Sefik Hoşal (TUR)
Sophie Huang (CAN)
Renè Leemans (NL)
Roberto Maroldi (ITA)
Andrew McQueen (UK)
Hisham Mehanna (UK)
Laura Peferoen (NL)
Prav Praveen (UK)
Soraya Robinson (AU)
Giuseppe Sanguineti (ITA)
Christian Simon (SWI)
Giovanni Succo (ITA)
Eugene Yu (CAN)

DIGITAL PLATFORM

The course will be delivered through a dedicated Zoom® webinar platform, ensuring high-quality live streaming, interactive participation, and real-time discussion.

Audience engagement, polling, and self-assessment activities will be conducted through a dedicated electronic voting system, allowing structured interaction during case-based sessions and final evaluation.

TARGET AUDIENCE AND CME ACCREDITATION

The course is addressed to: Radiologists, Head & Neck Surgeons, Maxillo-facial Surgeons, Radiation Oncologists, Medical Oncologists, Pathologists Residents and Fellows.

The course will be CME accredited according to current Italian and European CME regulamentations.

Training objective: Technical-professional content (knowledge and skills) specific to each profession, each specialization, and each ultra-specialized activity, including rare diseases and gender-specific medicine.

REGISTRATION FEES

Registration form available on www.aiocc.it

Single participation: €100

Multiple participations from the same MTB: €50 per participant

SCIENTIFIC AND ORGANIZING SECRETARIAT

SCIENTIFIC SECRETARIAT

Erika Crosetti (EHNS and AIOCC), Roberto Maroldi (ESHNR), James Bates (HNCIG)

ORGANIZING SECRETARIAT

Stilema S.r.l.

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OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

The official language of the course is English