



**Pablo Berlanga – Spain**

Supported by ITCC to attend Flims 2013

**University Hospital La Fe**

Paediatric Oncology

Valencia

My name is Pablo Berlanga and I am a Pediatric Oncology Fellow at Hospital La Fe, Valencia (Spain) focused in early clinical trials and bone tumors in children under the supervision of Dr Cañete (attendee to the 1<sup>st</sup> Flims Workshop in 1999) and Dr Castel. As part of my fellowship in Valencia I have had the pleasure to work as a visiting clinical research fellow in Early Drug Development at the Pediatric and Adolescent Department at the Institut Gustave Roussy since October 2012 to April 2013, under the supervision of Dr Geoerger, head of the Pediatric Phase I Program. Therefore, being selected to attend the Flims Workshop as an ITCC Fellowship Grant recipient was not just a great honour, but an incredible opportunity to apply lessons learned and enjoy one of the most stimulating learning environments any young oncologist could dream of.

The Flims Workshop is not just an extraordinary “educational programme that introduces junior oncologist in any oncology subspecialty to the principles of good clinical trial design”. This Workshop is a unique opportunity to meet up to 40 highly experienced clinical experts in the field of oncology (pediatric, medical, surgical and radiation oncologists and biostatisticians) as well as 80 other junior clinical oncologist from all over the world in a stimulating educational setting full of multiple lecture sessions (phase I/II/III trial designs, biomarkers, biostatistics, ethical principles), “meet the expert” seminars, small discussion and protocol development group sessions. Nevertheless, the most exciting part of Flims is the exceptional personal challenge of developing, during the 5-day workshop, the initial protocol proposal into a complete protocol using all the information learned and feed-back received!

To summarize, the Flims Workshop is an extraordinary, exhausting but extremely rewarding, once-in-a-lifetime experience to meet top-ranking international clinical experts and learn clinical trial design “by doing” in a stimulating environment I strongly recommend to any fellow oncologist.

I am sincerely grateful to ITCC for supporting me to attend this workshop. Flims was an extraordinary, exhausting but extremely rewarding, once-in-a-lifetime experience to meet top-ranking international clinical experts and learn clinical trial design “by doing” in a stimulating environment I strongly recommend to any fellow oncologist.

