

ENETS Conference 2024 – Tijmen van Weert

After a brief flight to Vienna, Austria, I attended the European Neuroendocrine Tumor Society (ENETS) 2024 conference for three days. Here, I showcased my poster on prognostic biomarkers for predicting disease recurrence in lung neuroendocrine tumors (i.e. lung carcinoids). I engaged in discussions about my work with a Dutch doctor. Additionally, I gained insights into other groups researching effective diagnosis of lung carcinoid biopsies. It was enlightening to learn that, similar to my research, other groups have encountered challenges with the Ki-67 biomarker on biopsy material. Furthermore, I learned that the other groups are investigating different biomarkers than those in my project, alleviating concerns about direct competition. I also attended talks on potential new biomarkers for neuroendocrine tumors, and learned about a potential therapeutic target for lung carcinoids, which sparked new ideas for future projects. While less central to my research, I appreciated hearing about advancements in research on gastroenteropancreatic tumors. Finally, networking with fellow lung neuroendocrine researchers, some of whom I had previously only corresponded with via email, was the highlight of my experience. Lastly, I extend my gratitude to NRS for granting me the YITG, enabling my conference attendance.