

Meet Siemens Healthineers

Siemens Healthineers: Our brand name embodies the pioneering spirit and engineering expertise that is unique in the healthcare industry. The people working for Siemens Healthineers are totally committed to the company they work for, and are passionate about their technology. In this section we introduce you to colleagues from all over the world – people who put their hearts into what they do.

Nuria Escobar Corral, Ph.D.

I was born and raised in Spain. I moved to Germany when I was 21, as part of the ERASMUS exchange program between European universities. It was supposed to just be for a year, but I ended up staying. After earning a degree in physics from Universidad de Valencia, Spain, I went on to work as a medical physicist in the Department of Radiotherapy at Uniklinik RWTH Aachen, Germany, from 2009 to 2017. During this time, I also earned my Ph.D. in a collaboration with the Department of Physics at RWTH Aachen University. In 2017, my family and I moved to Bamberg, where I spent 18 months working in the Department of Radiation Oncology at University Hospital Erlangen, before joining Siemens Healthineers in April 2019. In my role as a clinical and scientific specialist in imaging for radiotherapy, I work on topics involving the use of multimodality imaging in radiotherapy.



Forchheim, Germany



How did you first come into contact with MRI?

As a medical physicist in radiotherapy departments, I was in contact with MR images, but not with MR systems. Images were produced elsewhere, and we used them to support therapy planning. I was very impressed by the soft-tissue contrast MRI could achieve, which is especially useful for head and pelvis cases in radiotherapy. My first real contact with an MR system was when I joined Siemens Healthineers. I'm amazed at everything I've learned this past year, and at everything that MRI can offer to radiotherapy.

What do you find most fascinating about MRI?

That's a difficult question: The technology is so fascinating that it's hard to choose one thing. Compared to the classic CT radiotherapy world, for example, it's fascinating that you can measure different physical processes and obtain different images and therefore different clinical information, all in one measurement session. I'm also astonished at the contrast provided by MRI images. It enables clinicians to establish the boundaries between organs and tumors much more confidently. I would say that MRI reveals anatomical and physiological details that we could previously only guess from CT images. I'm also very interested in the possibilities presented by functional imaging for assessing treatments or even predicting treatment outcomes. It might also play an important role in dose painting in the future. Overall, MRI and radiotherapy are a recently mar-

ried pair that are opening up a new world of possibilities for cancer treatment.

What do you find motivating about your job?

I see my role as a mediator between the MRI and radiotherapy worlds. They have different ways of working, and even a different language. And now that the use of MRI in radiotherapy is increasing so quickly, they are forced to understand each other. As a mediator, I must understand both MR and radiotherapy, and build the bridges that enable communication. I find this task very interesting, and the challenges associated with it are very motivating.

If you could do anything you wanted for a month, what would it be?

I'd probably spend some time performing measurements with our MR systems, learning all the information we can acquire from different sequences, and building my expertise for our software solutions.

Outside of work, you can usually find me with my two sons, reading a book, playing a board game, or riding a bike. I am very family oriented and I love travelling. So when we have free time, we visit my parents in Spain, or my parents-in-law in Brazil. I also love discovering new places with my husband and my kids. For example, we're traveling to Norway by car this summer and we're already excited about it.