

Short Biography

Mr J Meirion Thomas MS FRCP FRCR

Mr J Meirion Thomas is a Consultant Surgeon at the Royal Marsden Hospital where he is responsible for surgery on the Soft Tissue Sarcoma and Melanoma Units. His private practice is based at HCA's The Lister Hospital in Chelsea. His areas of research in melanoma include the treatment of in-transit metastatic disease in melanoma by carbon-dioxide laser, and the necessary width of excision of primary cutaneous malignant melanoma. (He was Chairman of the Working Party which recently published a paper in the New England Journal of Medicine 2004;350:757-766.) He has contributed to research on isolated limb perfusion using Melphalan and TNF α . He and his colleagues at the Royal Marsden Hospital have entered large numbers of patients into various EORTC adjuvant studies in melanoma. Mr Thomas is one of the lone voices who argues against the routine use of sentinel node biopsy in melanoma until the results of randomized controlled trials are known. He has recently published a paper in the European Journal of Surgical Oncology (EJSO 2004;30:686-691).

With regard to soft tissue sarcoma, the Unit at the Royal Marsden Hospital is referred more than 400 patients per year. It is the only comprehensive Sarcoma Unit in the United Kingdom fully staffed by a multi-disciplinary team with all necessary diagnostic and treatment facilities in-house. This large clinical workload is accompanied by on-going clinical research and regular publications in peer review journals.

Mr Thomas retains an interest in salivary surgery and has more than 15 publications on the subject. He has performed approximately 500 parotidectomies together with other procedures in the treatment of salivary disease.