

Biography of

Professor Stephen Langley MBBS(Hons) MS FRCS Urol Urological Surgeon

Stephen Langley is Professor of Urology at the Royal Surrey Hospital and the St Luke's Cancer Centre in Guildford. He became a Consultant in 1998 and after 6 years was appointed as Professor of Urology at the University of Surrey, where he co-leads a major research program in the field of prostate cancer.

He has an international reputation as an expert in the diagnosis and treatment of early prostate cancer. In 1999 he pioneered the treatment of LDR brachytherapy for prostate cancer in the UK. To date he and his team have successfully treated over 5500 men with this therapy#, the largest experience in Europe. The excellent long term clinical results have been prospectively recorded and widely published ¹²³.

In 2012 he published the technique of 4D Brachytherapy ⁴, a novel method to perform prostate brachytherapy using both stranded and loose seeds in a one-stage procedure with real-time dosimetry. This technique delivers an improved radiation dose to the prostate whilst reducing the side effects compared to earlier techniques. 4D Brachytherapy is quick to perform, reducing the anaesthetic time and allows patients a quicker recovery. The technique has now been adopted by centres worldwide.

The 4D technique has been adapted to perform focal brachytherapy. Following an international consensus meeting he convened ⁵, he set up and published the results of the first focal LDR brachytherapy study to be performed with 5yr outcomes ⁶⁷⁸.

His passion to improve the care for prostate cancer patients led him to invent the technique of transperineal prostate template biopsy, using brachytherapy techniques, which he was first to publish in 2004 ⁹. The technique coupled with mpMRI of the prostate is now used throughout Europe and has been considered the gold standard way of biopsying the gland.

He has also pioneered the use of Space OAR in patients under going LDR brachytherapy as either monotherapy or in combination with EBRT. He has inserted over 500 gels either pre-EBRT or at the end of an implant and has run a number of courses for colleagues on the procedure.

In 2010 Professor Langley conceived the idea of creating a state of the art urology centre at the Royal Surrey. He enrolled the help of his local charity and over 10 years raised £3m which was matched by the NHS. He was intimately involved in every aspect of the design and development of the building which received its Royal opening in 2019 and was awarded the RICS HealthCare Building of the Year in 2020.

Professor Langley has been the Director of Cancer Services for the Royal Surrey Hospital and is the Chairman in Urology for the Surrey and Sussex NHS Cancer Alliance. He has received a number of awards and prizes for his work in prostate cancer including a NHS Gold Clinical Excellence Award in 2021.

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