

Chiara Leo

I graduated from Milan University (Italy) in 2003, and I spent my whole study time convinced to become an equine person.

Well... it did not really go that way, and, after a cytology course, I thought that cells were awesome and from cells to oncology the step was short. I started looking for a training path which was just not possible in Italy at that time, so I embarked myself in a change of life, also geographically speaking: I completed an oncology internship at the Tierspital University of Zurich (Switzerland) and then I started an ACVIM residency in Oncology at the Animal Oncology and Imaging Center in Zug (Switzerland), that included externships at the Washington State University (US).



From 2011 to 2016 I have been Lecturer in Oncology at the Royal Veterinary College (London, UK) and pointed "ad interim" Head of the Oncology service from 2015 to 2016 but, more importantly, I have become the proud owner of Arturo, a gentleman dog rescued from a London kennel, who has been with me ever since.

Switzerland, America, England: after almost 10 years the call of the homeland and of my beloved Alps was strong, so in 2016 I moved back to Italy, where I have become head of the Oncology service at the Istituto Veterinario Novara and scientific director of UNISVET, an Italian continuing education society for vets. Both positions have given to me the possibility of facing new challenges, such as the creation of an oncology service from scratch, opening the first Italian 3-year oncology residency program in Italy and learning how to organize post-graduate education congresses for veterinarians.

And, above everything, all these learning experiences have taught me the most important lesson: been part of a good team is always the best way to achieve success or to rise back from failures. ESVONC is a fantastic community and I wish I will have the chance to be useful for it, therefore I candidate myself for the position of Secretary.