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Full Reference: **Tuba N. Gide**, Nurudeen A. Adegoke, Ines Pires da Silva, Xiaohang Fu, Nabila Zulkapeli, Yizhe Mao, Serigne N. Lo, Richard A. Scolyer, Alexander M. Menzies, Georgina V. Long, and James S. Wilmott. P083: Characterizing the Spatial Transcriptomic Landscape of Metastatic Melanoma Patients Treated with Combination Anti-LAG-3 + Anti-PD-1 Immunotherapies.
Conference/Meeting Name: Society for Melanoma Research 22nd International Congress
Location: Amsterdam, Netherlands
Dates: October 25-28, 2025
Presentation Type: Poster flash talk

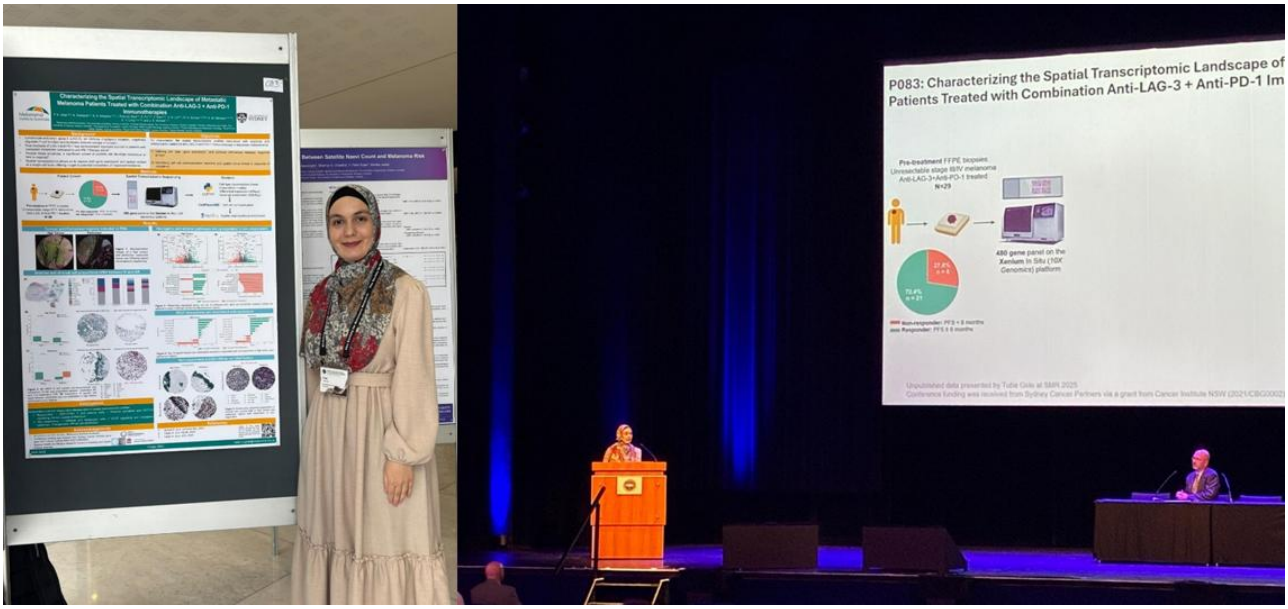


Photo 1: Me at my poster at the SMR 2025 congress. Photo 2: Me presenting my flash talk at the conference.

I am very grateful to have received the Sydney Cancer Partners conference travel award to help me travel for the Society for Melanoma Congress 2025, held in Amsterdam Netherlands from Oct 25th to 28th. The conference was a fantastic opportunity to gain knowledge and insight into all of the current research in the melanoma field, and meet international colleagues and collaborators.

As the study I was presenting leveraged spatial transcriptomics to identify potential biomarkers of response and resistance to anti-LAG-3 combination treatments, I was particularly excited to see all of the research in this area. I was pleasantly surprised at the number of presentations and posters that involved high-plex state-of-the-art techniques, highlighting the rapid progress in melanoma research and the advent of spatial multi-omics. One such talk that I greatly enjoyed was presented by Dr Tuulia Vallius from Harvard University which combined high-plex protein staining with spatial transcriptomics to profile primary melanoma specimens, identifying key features of tumour cell dedifferentiation and plasticity. Another interesting talk was given by Professor Mitch Levesque from the University of Zurich, which focused on understanding the spatial context of tertiary lymphoid structures in melanoma.

During the poster session I was able to meet with several leading experts in the field, including from the MD Anderson Cancer Center and Harvard Medical School, and have in-depth discussions regarding our research. The feedback I received was very helpful and provided some very important thinking points for the next steps of my project.

One of the highlights of the conference was attending the SMR Congress dinner, held at the National Maritime Museum. Traveling there via boat allowed us to see the lovely night views from the canal. The dinner was organised in a way whereby each table had an invited speaker, and the attendees could choose where to sit during dinner based on who they wanted to get to know and learn from. At my table, I was able to meet and converse with the esteemed Professor Liz Patton, Group Leader/Chair of Chemical Genetics at the University of Edinburgh, and the current SMR president. Excitingly, during the night our colleague Professor Anne Cust was awarded the prestigious Estela Medrano Award for her long-standing contribution to melanoma research.

In addition to the conference, a personal highlight was trying out authentic Dutch desserts, such as Stroopwafels and of course, the OG Dutch pancakes!



Photos of the scenic canals on a (rare) sunny occasion in Amsterdam.

Overall, this conference was a wonderful opportunity to gain insights into the ground-breaking research that is moving the field of melanoma and melanoma treatment forward and to network and establish connections that will facilitate collaborations between different research groups. I would like to sincerely thank Sydney Cancer Partners for enabling me to attend this conference.