

MEET IASA GRADUATE
RUTH PERETS
Physician-Researcher
(CLASS OF 1993)



Ruth Perets graduated from IASA in 1993 as a science major. She is a medical oncologist and a physician-researcher. She combines clinical work in the field of gynecological oncology with being a basic researcher in the field. Ruth is also an Assistant Professor in medicine at the Technion- Israel Institute of Technology.

Dr. Perets graduated from the Faculty of Medicine of the Hebrew University at Hadassah Hospital, Jerusalem, where she completed both her MD and PhD degrees. Her doctoral thesis focused on the molecular role of the androgen receptor in prostate cancer. She completed her medical oncology residency at Rambam in 2015. During her residency she performed a post-doctoral fellowship at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, MA.

She is the Deputy Director, in the Division of Oncology, in charge of medical education and Director of Phase 1 clinical trials in oncology and Head of the Women's Cancer Research Lab at Rambam Health Care Campus. Dr. Perets focuses her clinical work on gynecological malignancies (ovarian, cervical and endometrial cancers) and breast cancer, and she is the author of several highly cited scientific publications in the field of ovarian cancer, and performs peer review for oncology and pathology journals. She is also interested in drug development – from bench to bedside.

Community Service at IASA:

Ruth worked with an elderly couple who lived alone, trying to attend to all their needs in life. After doing this for one year, she was offered the opportunity to work with an autistic child. She did not want to abandon the elderly couple with whom she was working, so for two years she did “double” community service, both with the elderly couple and with the autistic child. The community service program inspired her to help people by becoming a doctor. During the course of her community service, she believes she got to know the world of autism quite well.

Dr. Perets is very fulsome in her praise of the education IASA offers, and specifically the impact on her life. Some of the friends she made at IASA became life-long friends and believes that the interdisciplinary education offered at IASA is very important.

Specifically for her, IASA has significantly broadened her horizons in the field of knowledge that she would not have been exposed to otherwise. She remarks about the interesting way Philosophy, History and other Humanities were presented. She feels that she has a better knowledge of these “outside medicine” areas, than her physician colleagues.

IASA gave her confidence as a scientist and as a person. Life at IASA taught her how to live on her own and be an independent young person. She credits her biology teachers and their “discovery-based” method of teaching that inspired her interest in medicine, which has become her career and main goal in life.

To this day, she has close friends who were IASA classmates and has professional connections with some others. She attributes this to the very special people who are accepted to IASA and the life-changing events they experienced together during a very formative part of her life.