Eric Van Cutsem trained in internal medicine and gastroenterology in Leuven and specialised later in GI oncology in Leuven, Belgium. He is currently Professor of Internal Medicine at the University of Leuven (KULeuven) and is head of the Digestive Oncology Unit at the University Hospital Gasthuisberg in Leuven, is board member of Leuven Cancer Institute and of the Department of Oncology at the University of Leuven. He obtained his degree of MD and PhD at the University of Leuven.

He has a large clinical activity in Leuven and is involved and leads many national and international clinical and translational research projects on gastrointestinal cancer. Prof. Van Cutsem has published more than 350 peer-reviewed articles (on pubmed; H-factor: 70; >20000 citations) in prestigious journals including New England Journal Medicine, Journal of Clinical Oncology, Lancet, Lancet Oncology, JAMA, Annals of Oncology and European Journal of Cancer. He is co-editor of the reference textbook on gastrointestinal cancer: Principles and Practice of Gastrointestinal Oncology: Second edition, 2008, and is/has been an editorial board member of numerous prestigious journals, including Journal of Clinical Oncology, Annals of Oncology, and European Journal of Cancer and is associated editor of Targeted Oncology and editor of European Journal Cancer since January 2011. Eric Van Cutsem is a member of several scientific organizations. He is/was a member of the Scientific Program Committee and/or educational committee of ASCO, ASCO-GI cancers symposium, ESMO and ECCO. He is also a member of the ESMO faculty and joined the ESMO executive board on July 1, 2011. He served as secretary of the European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer – Gastrointestinal Cancer (EORTC-GI) group from January 2000 to 2003, and was chair of the EORTC-GI group from 2003 to 2007 and is chairman of PETACC (Pan-European Trials on Adjuvant Colon Cancer) since 2008, board member of the EORTC since 2009 and president of European Society of Digestive Oncology (ESDO) and is cochairman of the European NeuroEndocrine Tumour Society (ENETS) registry. He is also chairman of the governmental colon cancer prevention task force in Flanders, Belgium and is president of BGDO (Belgian Group Digestive Oncology) and FAPA (Familial Adenomatous Polyposis Association). Eric Van Cutsem has been the founder of and is chair of the Scientific Committee of the World Congress on Gastrointestinal Cancer in Barcelona (in partnership with ESMO since 2005).