Professor Maurice Aalders was born in 1969 in Leiden, Netherlands. He started at the Laser Center as a trainee in 1991, and obtained his BSc title. From 1993, he studied physics at the Free University, from which he graduated (Msc) in 1996 after a traineeship at the Laser Center. After completing an Msc, he became a PhD student of a European Union project on Photodynamic detection of cervical and ovarian neoplasia. This work, performed at the AMC Laser Center and the Netherlands Cancer Institute, resulted in a PhD thesis, successfully defended in august 2001. Aalders worked as a staff member of the Department of Biomedical Engineering And Physics at Academic Medical Centre, since 2008 as a lecturer and researcher. On November 1, 2012, he was appointed professor by special appointment in Forensic Biophysics. Aalders does research at the interface of applied physics, chemistry and biomedical sciences. He worked in various optical techniques for diagnostics in medical oncology, such as fluorescence imaging and optical coherence tomography. After obtaining a Vidi grant from NWO (in 2006), Aalders began his research in the medical-forensic field. He focused his research on the age determination of bruises to aid in identifying child abuse. Aalders published many articles in scientific journals such as Journal of Forensic Sciences, Forensic Science International, Paediatrics and Journal of Biomedical Optics Letters.