Background
The first Baltic Nordic Cancer Symposium was held in Riga in 2007. The aim of the symposia is to gather young clinical oncologists in the Baltic and Nordic region for an annual update of the newest achievements in cancer management. The programme varies each year with focus on one or more themes based on the current development within the speciality. The scientific committee constitutes one member from each of the Baltic and Nordic countries.

The symposia were started as part of the ESMO/ASCO Global Curriculum for Clinical Oncology to encourage young oncologists to get continuous medical training. The Global Curriculum has been adopted in a number of countries worldwide, in full or as basis for starting a national training programme.

The 2011 event
The focus of this year’s programme depicted state-of-the-art treatment within selected diseases and concluded with a view into the future.

The diseases discussed were CNS tumours - primary and metastatic disease, melanomas, head and neck cancer, cholangiocarcinoma, and hepatic metastatic disease. Different treatment modalities were discussed and the newest approaches presented within radiotherapy (RFA e.g.), surgery (transplants and metastasectomy), and medicine (systemic treatment, cell therapy, and targeted treatment).

Patients were put into focus through lectures on “Patients’ rights to treatment within the EU”, and “Hope for patients, families, and doctors”.

The faculty comprised of regional and international cancer experts from Europe and Australia. Each of the disease lectures was organised with a state-of-the-art presentation by the senior expert supplemented by a case story presented by a young oncologist. This set-up resulted in a lively interaction with the audience, where options in the ideal and in the real world were discussed to mutual benefit.

The conference took place in beautiful surroundings at the Danish National Museum, which also provided the participants with a chance to get acquainted with Danish history during the breaks. In the evenings entertainment was offered with music and a boat trip through the Copenhagen canals taking the participants to a gala dinner in the museum central hall where the modern Danish cuisine and good company with colleagues were enjoyed.

The 90 delegates left Copenhagen filled with new knowledge after having experienced a 2-day scientific programme presented by a total of 23 speakers, who all gave well-prepared and inspiring lectures on cancer management 2011.
In 2012 the VIth Baltic Nordic Cancer Symposium will take place in one of the Nordic countries in May.

**Previous Baltic Nordic Cancer Symposia**

10 – 12 May 2007 1st Baltic-Nordic Symposium, Basic Aspects in Training and Research, Riga, Latvia

15 – 17 May 2008 2nd Baltic-Nordic Cancer Symposium, “Practical aspects of Clinical Cancer Research and Update on Treatment of Rare Tumours” Tallinn, Estonia

14-16th May 2009 3rd Baltic Nordic Cancer Symposium, ”Orphan Malignant tumours, Genetics

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**Baltic Nordic Cancer Symposium 2011 – Faculty list**

- Dr. Michalis V. Karamouzis, Ygia Hospital, Athens, Greece
- Christel Schaldemose, Politician, member of the EU Parliament, Denmark
- R. Stupp, University of Lausanne, Switzerland
- Morten Mau-Sørensen, National University Hospital, Denmark
- Henrik Schmidt, Aarhus University Hospital, Denmark
- Jan B. Vermorken, University of Antwerpen, Holland
- Martin Tattersall, Clinical Trials Centre, New South Wales, Australia
- Lars Henrik Jensen, Vejle hospital, Denmark