

Chairman, NUF
Prof. Anders Mathiasson
Universitetssjukhuset i Lund
Sverige

Report from NUF-working group on “Ablative treatment of urological tumours”

A working group on ablative treatment of urological tumours was recognised by the General Assembly and the board of NUF on the occasion of the biannual meeting in Aarhus 2007, and was given temporary approval as a working group. The group had already existed for several years as a self established Scandinavian working group on cryosurgical ablation.

This Scandinavian working group assembled for the first time on the occasion of the congress of the European Association of Urology in Vienna in 2003. Since then we have had annual scientific meetings sharing clinical experience and discussing the role of cryoablation in urology. Members from different hospitals have shared the responsibility for the scientific program and chairmanship of these meetings.

Several members of the group have also served as members of an international proctor's group for cryosurgical ablation of kidney and prostate tumours, sponsored by Oncura, later Galil Medical, UK. Among the key objectives of this group was to describe the technique of cryosurgical ablation and to establish European registries for patients undergoing cryosurgical ablation.

In 2009 the proctors group will publish a paper in a recognised urological journal on the technique of cryosurgical ablation in prostate cancer. Several abstracts originating from the group have been presented at the annual congresses of the European and American Associations of Urology this year.

In 2008 the Scandinavian working group co-organised the first European meeting on focal therapy of prostate and kidney cancer in Ebeltoft, DK in collaboration with the Urology department at Skejby Hospital and the University of Aarhus as well as the clinical research office of EAU. During this meeting we agreed on a Scandinavian protocol for cryosurgical ablation of kidney tumours.

In 2009 the working group will act as co-organiser of a European registry for cryosurgical ablation in prostate cancer (EU-CAP). The registry is owned by the European study group on cryosurgical ablation, originating from the European proctors group. The registry is internet based and structured as a separate, international arm of the official Danish cancer registry. It is hoped that a similar registry taking advantage of the structural work already done, will also be established for kidney cancer. Leif Händler at Karolinska is one of the key persons behind this initiative.

In 2009 members of the working group acted as chairman and speakers at a symposium on cryosurgical ablation on the occasion of the Congress of the European Association of Urology. Leif Händler gave a state of the art lecture on cryosurgical ablation of kidney tumours with special focus on robot-assisted cryosurgical ablation of kidney tumours.

The ambition of the working group is to engage in other ablative techniques than cryo, such as HIFU, RFA and brachytherapy.

The following urologists from the Scandinavian countries have taken part in our activities:

Peter Nylund, Leif Händler, Peter Elfving, Eduard Baco, Victor Berge, Göran Ahlgren, Leonard Kukk (Thallin), Niels Svolvegaard, Lars Lund, Thomas Barsi, Øyvind Østraat, Ulla Møldrup, Michael Borre, Knud Venborg Pedersen, Truls E. Bjerklund Johansen

Truls E. Bjerklund Johansen, MD PhD
Dept. of Urology, Århus University Hospital, Århus 8200, Denmark
e-mail: tebj@ki.au.dk

We kindly ask for a formal approval as an official working group under NUF.

Århus, Denmark 04. June 2009

Truls E. Bjerklund Johansen
Acting chairman

PS.

The reason why I am not attending the NUF congress in Iceland is that I was invited as a faculty member to the 2. International Meeting on Focal Therapy on Prostate and Kidney Cancer scheduled in Amsterdam from June 10-13.

Peter Nylund will chair the meeting in our working group in Iceland.