



## **Presidential Report 2024 and 2025**

The SSHNO board continues their regularly work with two meetings – both digital and physical - every year.

In 2024 the SSHNO meeting 2024 was successfully arranged in Lund, Sweden in April.

Advances in head and neck surgery, radiotherapy and salivary gland cancer were important tasks in the program, as well as quality of life and recurrent or secondary primary in head and neck.

On the last day of the meeting, we discussed prognostic factors and we also had a session focusing on training of new specialists. The NoRthDip (Nordic diploma course in radiotherapy) was presented. And a surgeon and an oncologist shared their experience from fellowships outside Europe. This was an interesting part of the program – and hopefully inspiring for the young SSHNO members!

The SSHNO is still focusing on how we can attract and recruit new members to society, to continue and strengthen the Scandinavian network and collaboration.

In 2025 SSHNO gave a travel grant to a young member of SSHNO, Øyvind Vesterfjell, a surgeon at St Olavs Hospital in Trondheim Norway – so he could visit Rigshospitalet in Copenhagen Denmark and learn robotic surgery.

We look forward to hearing about his stay when he gives a presentation at the SSHNO meeting in Oslo in September 2026.

After the meeting in Sweden there were some changes in the board, Þorsteinn Hreiðar Ástráðsson – (surgeon) Iceland; Borghild Ljøkjel (surgeon) Norway, Kaisa Lehtio (oncologist) Finland, Henry Blomster (surgeon) Finland, replaced Arnar Gudjonsson, John Sigurd Lybeck, Hanna Maënpää and Taru Ilmarinen.

Thank you for your important work to all the “old” board members and welcome to the new ones. I look forward to further collaboration!

In 2025 the ECHNO meeting was arranged in Amsterdam in March. The Danish Society/DAHANCA arranged a session in “Patients in clinical trials – DAHANCA experience”. This session showed the organization of the public health care system in the Nordic countries and how this could strengthen inclusion in clinical trials. Well done by our Danish colleagues!

We are already in March 2026 and ready for a new and active year in the head and neck cancer society! This moth the ICHNO meeting will be arranged in Sevilla, Spain and last but not least – in September the SSHNO meeting 2026 will be held in Oslo, Norway.

I hope to see many of the SSHNO members there!

Åse Bratland

President of the SSHNO

March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026