Hub and network for oncology (preparation of treatment of patients)

Nikola Milašević, Oncologist
Clinic for oncology and radiotherapy, Clinical Centre of Montenegro

Definition of the South East Europe (SEE)

- The first known use of the term "Southeast Europe" was by Austrian researcher Johann Georg von Hahn (1811–1869) as a broader term than the traditional “Balkans”
- Southeast Europe or Southeastern Europe (SEE) is a geographical region of Europe, consisting primarily of the Balkan peninsula. There are many overlapping and conflicting definitions as to where exactly Southeastern Europe begins or ends or how it relates to other regions of the continent.

SEE population: 42 000 000

This is a large population that shares similar problems in health policies and similar life expectancy

State	Population (2016)[70]	Density/km2 (2013)[71]	Life expectancy (72)
Republic of Albania	2,886,026	100	78.3 years
Bosnia and Herzegovina	3,515,982	69	76.7 years
Republic of Bulgaria	7,153,784	65	74.5 years
Republic of Croatia	4,190,669	74	75.9 years
Hellenic Republic	10,783,748	82	80.5 years
Kosovo* [a]	1,771,604	163	71 years
North Macedonia	2,071,278	81	76.2 years
Montenegro	622,218	45	76.4 years
Republic of Serbia	7,076,372	91	75.5 years
Republic of Slovenia	2,064,188	102	78.2 years

70 "Eurostat – Tables, Graphs and Maps Interface (TGM) table". europa.eu.

71 "List of Countries by Population Density".

72 Country Comparison: Life Expectancy at Birth". CIA: The World Factbook. Retrieved 20 January 20 73."Kosovo". The World Bank. Retrieved 20 January 2016.

*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSC 1244/1999 and the ICJ opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence

South East Europe International Institute for Sustainable Technologies

The Institute shall operate with the mission of “Science for Peace”

Two main objectives:

1. To create new opportunities of cutting-edge research and technology for the welfare of the Region.

2. To help building mutual trust among scientists and engineers – and also among administrators and politicians.

Why do we need networks in oncology: FACTS

- Multidisciplinary tumor boards.
- Team work of doctors of different specialities.
- Second opinion in cancer treatment, from Center with high volume in treating some types of tumors. These Centers are likely to provide a **<u>better treatment which leads to better survival prognosis.</u>**
- Rare cancers/childhood cancers.

Meeting of the South East European Regional Network for Radiotherapy and Oncology

- Organized by the Clinical Centre of Montenegro in cooperation with the Ministry of Science of Montenegro on 07-08 September 2018.
- First step towards formation of a network of radiologists and oncologists of the region.
- Great opportunity to exchange experiences with leading experts and medical doctors from South East Europe.
- Aim: to link oncological institutions, not only with the future Institute, but also with European oncology institutions.
- Strengthening capacities

Networks within the framework of SEEIIST

- Establishment of the three networks was proposed: Clinical, Scientific and Industrial.
- These networks are essential for the success of the SEEIIST.

Networks within the framework of SEEIIST

- To reach the clinical, scientific and industrial goals these Networks will have to be set-up from the beginning of the project and continuously extended.

- The hubs of these Networks, should be placed in countries that are different from the one in which the Facility will be built.

- This will make the best use of all the expertise in the Region and facilitate the approval of the overall project.

Clinical Network

- It will give the opportunity to the Hospitals and Oncological Institutes of the Region to work more together, and to refer patients to the Facility and share clinical prospective investigations and patients' follow-up.

- It will allow the radiation oncologists of the Region to work together with their colleagues (in particular at HIT, CNAO and Medaustron) in multicentre prospective studies, to improve the knowledge both in hadron therapy and in classical radiation oncology, through clinical research practice.

- Every call to international projects (i.e. H2020, COST, IPA) is a new chance for development of clinical network.

Clinical Network should organize:

1. Identification of eligible cases.
2. the systematic and traceable discussion of these cases in a multidisciplinary centralized tumour boards.
3. Organization of a teleconference meetings to apply the same selection criteria in all participating centres.
4. Multicentre clinical studies.
5. Surveillance program (follow-up) by one of the Centres of the Network that can last from 5 to 10 years.

Education and training

- Training of the young oncologist and radiotherapist is an essential and integral part of the initiative.
- The realization of the project will take several years which gives sufficient time to train not only the future team (that will help to build and later operate the installations), but also to form a user community.
- The Facility will be linked to the Universities of the Region and will be an excellent partner for Master and PhD courses and theses.

- One of the main goals of the Facility is to **train highly competent experts** in numbers which exceed the needs of the Facility
- Part of these experts will be employed by other Hospitals and Institutions
- So in this way **the cultural level and the quality of the work** done in the Region will be raised.

Thank you for your attention!