



Dear NOPHO and NOBOS friends, invited speakers and sponsors!

It is with a particularly great post-pandemic pleasure we welcome you all to the 40th annual NOPHO / biannual NOBOS meeting in Lund, Sweden. After a period of perhaps too much virtuality, we are longing to see all of you here in person, and to eat, chat and drink coffee together in the breaks, instead of closing the camera in the web browser.

The first meeting between Nordic pediatric oncologists that subsequently resulted in the formation of NOPHO took place 1980 at Örenäs castle just outside of Lund (NOPHO was formally established in 1984 in Reykjavik). The next time we hosted a NOPHO meeting was in 1994, again at the Örenäs castle. Since then, NOPHO, and particularly with the addition of NOBOS since 1998, has by far outgrown the castle, and we need a much larger venue.

The theme for the 1994 meeting was “Genetics, genetic technology and gen-ethics”, a theme that now, 29 years later, still is highly relevant for us in pediatric hematology and oncology. With the widespread use of whole genome sequencing and other -omics, and with precision medicine and AI just around the corner, it is of paramount importance that we all – physicians, nurses, researchers – are up to date with the development. It has, and will increasingly have, ramifications for diagnostics, prognostics, treatments, late effects, and care in general. But, recognizing that most of the challenges in medical ethics is the flipside of something good, this development will for sure put us, and our patients, in unexpected corners, and we will benefit if we are as open minded towards the challenges as possible. Hence, the theme for this meeting will be “Genes in cancer, child, and care”.

We plan to make the meeting as educational, inspirational, social, and fun as possible, and to have interventional sessions that will build us as multiprofessional teams ready to meet the future.

The meeting will take place in the heart of the city, in classical buildings belonging to the university and surrounded by beautiful medieval Lund, a location that facilitates walks and discoveries after (or before) the sessions. We hope you will have a pleasant stay.

Last, but not least, we would like to thank our sponsors for their contributions, which makes our meeting possible. We are also very grateful to the NOPHO webmaster Elisabeth Broby, who with her long experience and a firm but friendly hand has guided us through the “NOPHO/NOBOS meeting checklist”. Thanks also to the NOBOS board members and NOBOS webmaster Gitte Petersen and, finally, a big thank you to MKON and Sara Lago for all logistic help.

Welcome to Lund!

Anders Castor on behalf of the organizing committee