

DO NOT DELAY 
FOR YOURSELF AND FOR THOSE WHO LOVE YOU!

Fifth Biennial Eastern Europe/Central Asia Breast Cancer Education, Outreach and Advocacy Summit

Connecting the United States, Eastern Europe, and Central Asia to improve women's health
by exchanging perspectives, resources, and strategies

Vilnius, Lithuania
Parliament Conference Hall

Saturday, August 27, 2011
9:00am-6:00pm
Registration begins at 8:00am

Simultaneous translation provided in Russian, English and Lithuanian



Sponsored by:

VšĮ 'Azzara'
University of Washington
Seattle Cancer Care Alliance
Susan G. Komen for the Cure
The Resource and Policy Exchange
Committee on Health Affairs
The Institute of Oncology Vilnius University
Lithuanian Senology Association

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8:00am Registration

9:00am Opening Session

Agnė Zuokienė, 'Do Not Delay' initiator, member of Parliament
Audrius Klišonis, Health Vice-Minister
Jonathan Berger, Counselor for Public Affairs, USA Embassy Vilnius
Dr. Julie Gralow, University of Washington/Seattle Cancer Care Alliance, USA
Hab. Dr. Valerijus Ostapenko, Lithuanian Senology Association President
Jennifer Jensen, Susan G. Komen for the Cure, USA
Dr. Jo Anne Zujewski, National Cancer Institute, USA

9:40am Keynote Address

Breast Cancer in Eastern Europe and Central Asia

Dr. Elona Juozaitytė, professor, Head of Lithuanian Health Science University,
Oncology Clinic, Lithuania

10:05am Breast Cancer Advocacy Through Women's Empowerment

Moderated by Agnė Zuokienė, Lithuania

*The Breast Cancer Advocacy Movement in Eurasia – Women's NGOs Cooperation
Across Borders*

Shakhnoza Umarova, Uzbekistan

A Model for Policy-Level Advocacy; the United Nation CEDAW Program

Lyudmila Petina, Belarus

Question and Answer Session

10:45am Break

11:15am Breast Cancer Advocacy Through Screening and Prevention

Moderated by Dr. Jo Anne Zujewski, USA

Breast Cancer Risk Factors

Dr. Julie Gralow, USA

A Model for Partnership; the Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention Program

Dr. Levan Jugeli, Georgia

Mobile Units in Breast Cancer Early Detection for Remote Areas

Nagima Polchih, Kazakhstan

Strides in Breast Cancer Prevention

Agnė Zuokienė, Lithuania

Clinical Breast Exam by Family Practitioners

Nadeja Godoroja, Moldova

Assessment of family physicians performance doing mammography examination

Dr. Rūta Briedienė, Lithuania

Question and Answer Session

1:00pm Lunch

2:15pm Breast Cancer Advocacy through Diagnosis and Treatment
Moderated by Dr. Tanya Soldak, USA/Belarus

Using the Breast Health Global Initiative for Setting Minimum and Appropriate Standards

Dr. Tanya Soldak, USA/Belarus

Obtaining Minimal Standards in Pathology/Immunohistochemistry

Dr. Taailugul Sabyrbekova, Kyrgyzstan

The Importance of Registries and Accurate Data

Tiina Pajula, Estonia

Treatment Access Barriers in Breast Cancer - NGO Role in Patient Assistance

Dmitry Borisov, Russia

Patient to Patient Support During Treatment

Katja Bashta, Russia

Question and Answer Session

3:45pm Break

4:15pm Breast Cancer Advocacy Through Palliative Care and Survivorship
Moderated by Ksenia Koon, MS

Providing Quality Palliative Care

Lidya Chashina, Kaliningrad

Improving Quality of Life After Cancer

Firuz Abdullaeva, Tajikistan

Working with International NGOs to Create Support Opportunities

Simona Ene, Romania

Breast Cancer Survivorship Opportunities

Alicja Tomczyk, Poland

Creating Awareness; The Breast Cancer Walk and Celebrating Survivorship

Larisa Lopata, Ukraine

Question and Answer Session

5:45pm Closing Remarks; Dr. Julie Gralow and Agnė Zuokienė
Conference Adjourns

Fifth Biennial Eastern Europe/Central Asia Breast Cancer Education, Outreach and Advocacy Summit

Conference Discussion, Objectives, and Goals

The goal of the biennial Eastern Europe/Central Asia Breast Cancer Advocacy Summits is to provide a forum which fosters the exchange of ideas, information and resources across borders. We strive to provide a continued and sustainable platform to bring together government officials, physicians, researchers, health care professionals, support group leaders, media, and patients from Eastern Europe and Central Asia to discuss breast cancer advocacy, education and outreach efforts and progress throughout their own countries. It is our belief that enhanced dialogue can stimulate progress and bring about sustainable outcomes in breast cancer prevention, screening, diagnosis, treatment, palliative care, and survivorship.

Past biennial breast cancer advocacy conferences have been held in Vilnius, Lithuania in 2003; Kiev, Ukraine in 2005; Minsk, Belarus in 2007; and Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan in 2009. August 27, 2011 marks the Fifth Eastern Europe/Central Asia Breast Cancer Advocacy Summit which will again be held in Vilnius, Lithuania. The University of Washington and Seattle Cancer Care Alliance are thrilled to be hosting this program with their partner, Do Not Delay. This year's Summit will connect breast cancer advocates from various Eastern Europe and Central Asia countries including Romania, Russia, Kaliningrad, Ukraine, Belarus, Lithuania, Moldova, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan. Our Summit will provide a platform for candid sharing of ideas and perspectives. We hope this type of exchange will bring attention to breast cancer as an emerging, and greatly unrecognized, public health issue for women in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

The World Cancer Report from The World Health Organization (WHO) suggests that cancer rates are set to increase globally at an alarming rate over the next decade. The report states that the incidence of cancer could increase by 50 percent to 15 million new cases diagnosed annually by 2020. Cancer is a leading cause of death worldwide: it accounted for 7.9 million deaths (around 13% of all deaths) in 2007.

Breast cancer is the most common cancer in women worldwide, comprising 23% of the estimated annual 4.7 million female cancer diagnoses. It is also the leading cause of cancer-related death in females. There are more than 1.35 million cases of breast cancer diagnosed each year and by 2020 it is estimated that 1.7 million women will be diagnosed with breast cancer annually. This change represents a 26% increase from current levels and will be seen mostly in countries of the developing world. Although breast cancer continues to be most prominent in affluent countries, the incidence of breast cancer and the death rate due to breast cancer are increasing worldwide. Low and middle-income countries are reporting approximately 45% of the more than 1 million new cases of breast cancers diagnosed each year, and more than 55% of breast-cancer-related deaths. Such countries now face the challenge of effectively detecting and treating a disease that previously was considered too uncommon to merit the allocation of precious health care dollars. Despite shouldering a majority of the burden of cancer, currently only 5% of global spending on cancer is aimed at low and middle-income countries. Inarguably, breast cancer is an increasing public health burden for developing nations across the globe.

In the United States, the Breast Cancer Advocacy movement gained momentum in the 1970s and 1980s, working in tandem with the women's rights and HIV/AIDS movements. Breast cancer advocates utilized grassroots strategies to effect mobilization, create coalition building, influence public policy, lobby officials, shape research and federal agendas, and perhaps most importantly to empower women as patients and citizens. Strides in breast cancer advocacy are also being made in developing countries around the world, with some countries and regions more developed than others.

Despite obstacles in adequate health-care infrastructure, access to services and expertise, and barriers in social stigma, breast cancer in the developing world can become a treatable disease. Change takes time and increased dialogue is necessary to ultimately transform the relationship between the public and private sectors into one of partnership and cooperation. As in most countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, advocacy and awareness-building are an integral step in curbing the emerging trend of breast cancer as a significant public health threat to women worldwide.

Across the spectrum of breast cancer screening and prevention, diagnosis and treatment, palliative care and survivorship, the 2011 conference objectives are to:

- 1) share information, best practices and “lessons learned” in building breast cancer advocacy networks
- 2) educate advocates on how to work with local government, medical professionals, and both private and public sectors to further breast cancer advocacy efforts
- 3) provide support to regional Eurasia breast cancer advocacy networks, to empower women, and to facilitate communication

By the conclusion of this conference, participants will have had the opportunity to collaborate with delegates from various countries across Eastern Europe and Central Asia and to gain valuable insights and ideas for their own countries of origin. Delegates will also have had the opportunity to meet leaders in the field of breast cancer and breast cancer advocacy, share information on the advocacy movement in their own country, hear patient experiences of the effect that support has had on their treatment course and recovery, build bridges of support between countries, explore ways to partner with government and corporations, and discuss what will be the next steps in the advocacy movement throughout the region.

Our 2011 breast cancer advocacy summit is organized and sponsored by representatives from the University of Washington, Seattle Cancer Care Alliance, Do Not Delay, and the Resource & Policy Exchange. Susan G. Komen for the Cure is the platinum sponsor of this Summit, providing travel support for our international participants. We thank our conference sponsors and organizers for their generous support.