

OPASCA and OPASCA GOS revolutionize oncological care in Central Asia

Construction of the German Oncology Clinic (GOC) in Uzbekistan has begun

24.09.2019 Cancer is one of the acute medical and social challenges in our modern society. In the course of life, almost every other person is diagnosed with cancer. In Europe, the infrastructure for the treatment of cancer is well to very well developed and the chances of cure are therefore high. In 2018, around 600 linear accelerators were in operation in Germany alone. The situation is different in regions of Central Asia, among others. In Uzbekistan, for example, there are currently only two modern functional linear accelerators for around 33 million inhabitants. Other Central Asian countries such as Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan also have very few modern radiation facilities.



Completion of the clinic planned for 2021

With the construction of the German Oncology Clinic (GOC) in Uzbekistan's capital Tashkent, OPASCA and OPASCA GOS are making a valuable contribution to the development of oncological care in Central Asia. The construction phase has just begun. The aim of the project is to complete the construction of the oncological clinic complex within the next two years. The complex consists of a centre for diagnostics and early cancer detection as well as a separate day clinic — according to German standards of interdisciplinary tumour centres. The radiotherapy area will be equipped with an inviting patient hotel, eight modern radiotherapy units and the corresponding infrastructure. In addition, a spacious conference centre will be attached. The goal is to be able to treat more than 4,500 patients annually in radiation therapy alone.

Financing and implementation

The multi-million project is supported by numerous experienced clinic experts from Germany, and renowned partners from all over the world are involved in the realisation of the project. Financing is provided by a private investor. Care is also taken to ensure that medical concepts and technical equipment comply with German standards.



The commitment and support of the GOC project by the government of Uzbekistan are guaranteed as well. As of today, it is estimated that Uzbek citizens abroad spend \$600 million annually on medical treatment. During his last visit at the end of May, the German Federal President emphasized the importance of a sustainable development of the oncological service in the region.

OPASCA GOS coordinates know-how transfer

Since technical equipment alone is not sufficient for the treatment of cancer patients, OPASCA is also significantly involved in transferring the corresponding know-how of German medical experts to Central Asia. This is done primarily by supervising the project. German experts and the training of local specialists in Germany ensure the high standard of treatment in Uzbekistan. In the long term, an autonomous qualification of the local specialists is to be ensured. For this purpose, the GOC provides a large training centre for all professional groups involved in radiation therapy and oncology processes. The centre serves as a basis for imparting the necessary specialist knowledge and for the promotion of a sustainable development of medical, technical and process-related oncology know-how in the Central Asian region.



CARO Congress supports the development of radiooncology in Central Asia

At the end of September, the second CARO Congress takes place in Uzbekistan. Organized by OPASCA GOS, this annual event serves as a platform for the exchange of local parties in Central Asia and leading radiation therapists and medical physicists from Germany. Representatives from WHO, GIZ, IAEA and other international institutions as well as representatives from the industry will participate in the congress. The aim remains the pursuit of radiooncological expansion in the region and its sustainable safeguarding. The progress of the GOC project will be discussed there in detail.

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