



Dear Colleagues, Friends!

I wish to express my cordial thanks to all of you for coming to Istanbul and contribution to the program of Educational Course of the International Stereotactic Radiosurgery Society (ISRS) organized here on December 18-20, 2023.

ISRS educational initiative was launched in December 2016 due to a widespread demand for training in radiosurgery and stereotactic radiation therapy, as well as for dissemination of related knowledge among professionals of various medical fields. Up to date, 22 such courses were organized in 13 different countries (Brazil, China, Costa Rica, Egypt, Finland, Georgia, Hungary, India, Italy, Latvia, Russia, Switzerland, and United Kingdom). Now, for the first time we are gathering in the beautiful Istanbul, a megapolis located exactly at the border between Europe and Asia. Organization of this event has become possible thanks to enormous efforts of colleagues from Koç University Hospital led by professor Selçuk Peker, good will of our speakers both from Turkey and overseas countries, who voluntarily agreed to come and to share their professional knowledge and experience, and generosity of our sponsors kindly providing their support.

ISRS educational courses have become famous for their truly democratic atmosphere, particularly reflected in friendly and informal style of presentations and discussions. From the most beginning of this project, we put every effort to eliminate any possible barrier between those who “teach” and those who “learn,” and strongly encourage all participants to follow the same tradition during current event. You are most welcome to ask questions, express personal opinions, highlight concerns, and declare disagreements, as long as it helps to clarify related issues and to facilitate search for answers to questions under discussion. It is always a pleasure to see among participants of our courses not only experts of radiation treatment, but colleagues from other medical specialties, and to exchange knowledge with them in parallel to learning from their experience. Obviously, in modern medicine, appropriate decisions considering unique needs of a certain patient cannot be done without comprehension of alternative management options beyond one’s own field of expertise.

I really hope that you will find 3-day program of the ISRS Educational Course in Istanbul scientifically interesting and practically useful, and wish you a great and enjoyable time!

Mikhail Chernov, MD, DMedSci

Ex Officio ISRS Board member and former Chairman of the ISRS Education Committee
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