

Forum for Nordic Dermato-Venereology is a publication for the dermato-venereologists in Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. It is published by Society for Publication of Acta Dermato-Venereologica.

Forum for Nordic Dermato-Venereology was founded in 1996 by Professor Lennart Juhlin, Uppsala, Sweden.

The former Editor-in-Chief was Professor Jørgen Serup (1996–2007).

This journal aims to cover all interests of the Nordic dermato-venereologists, to spread information and news and act as the natural way of communication among the Nordic dermato-venereologists.

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Carpe Diem

This well-worn, but apt, phrase will open this issue of Forum. When the unthinkable happens and a loved person is taken away from us, the meaning of this Latin phrase becomes clearer than ever. We are reminded how precious life is and the importance of living each day to the full. The following two pages describe two of our very prominent dermatologists, Associate Professor Seija-Liisa Karvonen and Professor Ulpu Saarialho-Kere, who have been taken from us prematurely. They are infinitely missed and remembered for their valuable contributions to Nordic and international dermatology. Our thoughts go to their families.

On a more positive note, starting from this issue, venereology is back in Forum. As you all know, for a long time we have suffered from non-existent material dealing with venereal and sexually transmitted diseases. Now the drought is over. Carin Anagrius, Chairperson of the Division of Venereology (a subsection within the Swedish Society for Dermatology and Venereology, presents their work on page 108. Add to this the guideline on anogenital *Chlamydia trachomatis* infection, by Lars Falk and we have a two interesting articles regarding venereology in this issue.

This issue also contains a fair share of writing about nature. Klaus E. Andersen and Tonny Karlsmark have been on a consultant dermatologist's visit to Greenland; enjoy the splendid view of the magnificent Greenlandic landscape on page 105.

The Botanical Dermatology Course and Workshop engaged many dermatologists, who learned about medicinal plants and plant dermatitis. Evy Paulsen et al. give us a thorough report from this meeting on page 109.

Much more is to find in this issue of *Forum* and I am happy to be able to provide you with such a wide variety of content. If, however, there is any topic you feel is missing, I am only a phone call away.

Uppsala October 31, 2009

AGNETA ANDERSSON

Managing Editor

The photo on the front cover shows an iceberg in Greenland (read more on p. 105)

Icebergs are unique works of nature whose magnificence and majesty cannot be adequately captured on film – they must be experienced first hand! No two icebergs are alike, and when you see an iceberg for the first time, you may be seeing shapes and sizes that no-one has seen before.

Icebergs consist of heavily compacted snow that fell on the Greenlandic ice cap several thousand years ago – in some cases more than 15,000 years ago. The ice cap is in a constant state of change and movement, and every year it produces thousands of icebergs that are primarily formed in the sea from glaciers in the central and north-western region of Greenland and on Greenland's east coast.

You can only see the top of the iceberg, whilst the remaining 7/8 is left to your imagination. The tallest icebergs tower over the surface of the ocean at a height corresponding to a 15-storey building, whilst the smallest are only about the size of a hut. They are present throughout Greenland's waters, but the areas around Ilulissat and Uummannaq are particularly well-known as the source of many large icebergs that break off the glaciers in the deep fjords. Icebergs are found in countless different shapes and sizes – it is not uncommon to see icebergs that contain beautiful openings that form tempting passages to sail through.

From www.greenland.com