



UPDATE FROM MATRIX

Welcome to the October 2025 newsletter

MATRIX, the Norwegian Centre for Clinical Cancer Research, officially opened in August 2022. News and events are published on the [MATRIX website](#) regularly. In addition, we send out quarterly newsletters. If you would like to share any updates, such as publications or funding news, or would like to be added to the subscriber list, please contact [Nina Ånensen](#).

KNIGHT OF PALLIATIVE MEDICINE



His Majesty the King has appointed deputy director of MATRIX, Stein Kaasa, Knight 1st Class of the Royal Norwegian Order of St. Olav. The honour was presented during the 14th International Seminar of the European Palliative Care Research Centre (PRC) held in Oslo in September. The appointment is in recognition of his lifelong contributions within palliative medicine.

[Learn more >](#)

NEW COMPANY JOINS MATRIX-RARE



The company BeOne Medicines has entered into an agreement with the in-house developed clinical study MATRIX-RARE to make available the PD-1 inhibitor Tislelizumab. This opens the possibility for immunotherapy for patients with rare cancers in the trial.

[Learn more >](#)

ACTA Oncologica NORDIC PRECISION CANCER MEDICINE SYMPOSIUM 2025



The second ACTA Oncologica Nordic Precision Cancer Medicine Symposium took place in Oslo on 15.-17. September with the topic Merging Clinical Research and Standard Healthcare.

The conference was hosted by Oslo University Hospital and MATRIX, and had around 180 participants from 15 countries.

Over three days the participants enjoyed three keynote lectures, presentations from 15 invited speakers, as well as eight short talks selected from submitted abstracts. 34 posters were also presented.

The scientific organizing committee consisted of Åslaug Helland, Kjetil Taskén, Hege Russnes and Sigbjørn Smeland, and they put together an excellent and inspiring program. The conference was well organized and ran smoothly thanks in no small part to the major effort by Elisa Bjørge.

[**Learn more >**](#)

PRC SEMINAR IN OSLO: PIONEERING PALLIATIVE CARE



The 14th International Seminar of the European Palliative Care Research Centre (PRC) took place in Oslo on 16.-18. September.

The participants enjoyed an excellent program with more than 30 presentations within the topic Pioneering Palliative Care: Digitalisation and Transformation.

The EU-projects JANE and MyPath were actively involved and also held meetings in connection with the seminar.

[**Learn more >**](#)

SIGRID SKÅNLAND RELEASED THE BOOK "PEOPLE WITH CANCER"



Sigrid Skånland, project leader at Institute for Cancer Research (ICR) at Oslo University Hospital and researcher in MATRIX, was awarded the prize Researcher of the Year back in 2023. The prize was a 100,000 NOK that allowed Sigrid to combine her research background with her artistic side as a photographer.

She has now launched her book "People with cancer" where she presents portraits of 50 cancer patients along with snippets of their life story.

The book is available on [Kolofon](#). The project will also be presented in a photo exhibition to open in the cafeteria in the Radium hospital on 14. November.

[Learn more >](#)

KNUT SMELAND APPOINTED ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR II AT OSLOMET



Knut Smeland, Oslo University Hospital, has been appointed associate professor (20% position) at the Faculty of Health Sciences at OsloMet. The position is linked to the area of clinical studies and is a collaboration between MATRIX and OsloMet.

Knut joined OsloMet on 1. August.

[Learn more >](#)

MYPATH IN AFTENPOSTEN



MyPath sponsored an article about the project in Aftenposten in September. The article highlights how MyPath can improve patient follow-up and provide cancer patients with a better quality of life. It also offers a good insight into the clinical and technological work they are currently doing in the project, both in Norway and across Europe.

[Learn more >](#)

FUNDING FROM THE NORWEGIAN CANCER SOCIETY



Jo-Åsmund Lund, Ålesund Hospital, has been awarded a grant from the Norwegian Cancer Society for his project "Patient Centred Care in Ålesund".

The project aims to develop patient-centered cancer care pathways and measure patient-perceived quality using PROMs (Patient-Reported Outcome Measures) before, during, and after treatment.

[Learn more >](#)

NOMINATE CANDIDATES



The Award for Outstanding Contribution to Clinical Trials is a new national recognition established to highlight and honour those who truly make a difference for research in Norway. The award has been initiated by LMI, Melanor, Inven2, NorCRIN, CONNECT and NorTrials, in collaboration with national and regional stakeholders in clinical research.

Candidates can be nominated in the following categories:

1. Clinical Research Centre of the Year
2. Best Investigator-Initiated Trial
3. Best Industry-Initiated Trial
4. Most Innovative Research Environment
5. Young Researcher of the Year
6. Dedication Award ("Ildsjel" of the Year)

Deadline for nominations 1. November.

[Learn more >](#)