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**European Leadership Development Program Class of 2013-2015**

***Title of Project: Introducing Internet-Based Learning to Residency Training Courses.***

The Internet is increasingly being used for the distribution of educational material and distance learning. Internet-based education allows learners to study at their own pace, access the information at a time that is convenient for them, and provides learning at a distance. Other advantages are the capacity to reach a large number of learners and the possibility to reuse the teaching material. A variety of technologies are currently being used to deliver education on the Internet such as online lecture notes, streamed lectures, newsgroups for collaborative discussions, correspondence between students and instructors, and interactive video over the Internet for remote participation in classes and discussions.

Currently in Sweden, the number of Residents in Ophthalmology is steadily increasing. This is of course a nice trend, but at the same time places higher demands on supervision and educational courses. The Swedish Society of Ophthalmology (SSO) offers ten residency courses yearly. The courses are increasingly popular and are optional for the Residents during their training. Since there are no other ophthalmology training courses for residents offered in Sweden, it is essential to increase either the number of course participants or the number of courses, in order to meet the augmented demand for education.

As the person responsible for educational issues at SSO, my project has been to introduce internet-based learning to our Residency courses. By offering education in internet-based learning for course givers, learning platforms have been introduced as a teaching tool. Using these platforms, course attendants can easily access the learning material linked to the platform, and parts of courses can be held online, thus allowing for a reduced number of face-to-face lecture days.

Hopefully in the future, the workload for course instructors will be reduced, enabling courses to be held more frequently to address the increasing demand for educational courses. In addition, the same internet-based learning material can be used for Specialists in Ophthalmology, for further training.