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To:
The Danish Minister of Health, Ms Astrid Krag,
The Folketingets Sundhedsudvalg, Denmark

Vilnius, 8 October, 2011

It was with surprise and concern that we heard about the potential closure of the only Epilepsy Centre in Denmark.

In addition to the central role in the treatment and care for people with epilepsy in Denmark, Dianalund has an outstanding research profile. In fact, it has become a recognized research focus in Europe. For the international scientific community, the Danish Epilepsy Centre stands as a reference for all those interested in the field of Epilepsy. Ultimately, it means an institution that represents Denmark.

In this sense, I could mention its role in the development and leadership of at least two international research projects. One is about an investigation the provocative and inhibitory properties of different cognitive and sensory stimuli with respect to epileptic seizures and a second one – a large prospective European multicentre research of *epilepsia partialis continua*. These two big international groups have not only made several communications during the recent International Epilepsy Congress in Rome, but have also established different lines for ongoing and future investigations. Several more sub-projects are being developed. The Danish Epilepsy Centre is an important for coordinating the various projects in these consortiums and providing methodological advice. Without the continuous input from Dianalund these entire promising researches will stop.

We therefore very kindly ask you in the interest of the people with epilepsy and important research activities in this field to take the necessary steps to save the existence of the Danish Epilepsy Centre as an irreplaceable epilepsy centre in Denmark and as an important contributor to international epilepsy research.

On behalf of
*the Epilepsy Centre of the Department of Neurology, Vilnius University Hospital
Santariškių klinikos, Vilnius, Lithuania,
the Epilepsia partialis continua (EPC) international research group*

Yours sincerely,

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