

# Arrhythmia Alliance Sweden Conference

World Trade Center

Stockholm, Sweden

A-A Sweden is gradually building its organization since becoming an A-A National Partner with Arrhythmia Alliance in the UK a year ago. Dr. Thomas Fahraeus, Chairman of A-A Sweden, presented the background of A-A Sweden and how it will work to deliver their plans for the future during the arrhythmia conference for cardiologists and nurses at the World Trade Center in Stockholm, on 28th January 2010. This is the first time A-A Sweden had a chance to meet a broader audience from all regions of Sweden.



This annual conference, organised by Medtronic in Sweden, was very popular with approximately 150 delegates gathering over two days including neighboring countries, Denmark and Norway. Topics covered the diverse field of treatments for arrhythmias.

Following the presentation of Dr. Fahraeus, there were many questions about Arrhythmia Alliance, particularly among nurses who showed interest in more effective ways to provide information to patients. As in many hospitals abroad, Sweden also lacks arrhythmia specialists in many parts of the country. The waiting time for an ablation is over a year in some hospitals and staffing restraints lead to less time with the patients. A-A Sweden aims to provide information and to be an advocate for arrhythmia patients by supporting them with advice and guidance.

Arrhythmia Alliance patient and medical information was available to participants of the conference. The Blackouts Checklist produced by A-A sister charity, STARS (Syncope Trust And Reflex anoxic Seizures) received special interest. The Blackouts Checklist and other related A-A materials have been translated into Swedish.



Mrs. Trudie Lobban MBE, Founder and Trustee of Arrhythmia Alliance, was scheduled to give a presentation but was cancelled at the last moment due to unpredictable circumstances.

Conference participants were very positive about the introduction of Arrhythmia Alliance in Sweden. There is a big demand for more knowledge and information to patients and their relatives as in many other countries in Europe. The success of Arrhythmia Alliance has encouraged many to work towards improving this service for arrhythmia patients around the world.