



MINUTES

Meeting of the Executive Board with observers Friday 13 April 2018 - 09.00-11.00

Venue

Venue: [Scandic Palace Hotel](#), Rådhuspladsen 57, 1550 København V

Participants

The Executive Board

Observers: Editor-in-chief and chairman of the Congress Committee

Johann Sigurdsson, Niels Saxtrup, Salome Arnardottir, Hans Thulesius (substitute for Hanna Åsberg), Anders Beich, Petter Brelin, Seija Eskelinen, Helena Liira, Jette Kolding, Elinborg Bardardottir, Olav Thorsen, Svein Kjosavik, Christina Svanholm & Gudrun Sigurdardottir (chairmanship of NYGP), Sanne Bernard (secretary)

AGENDA

1. Election of chair of the meeting

Johann Sigurdsson was appointed chair of the meeting

2. Appointment of person to take minutes of the meeting

Sanne Bernard was appointed to take the minutes.

3. Approval of the agenda

Agenda approved.

4. New Vision and Mission of NFGP (introduced last year)

The new proposal was introduced last year and has been introduced to the executive boards in the five Nordic Countries.

The suggestion for an updated new version has been distributed, e.g. NYGP has been added in the new edition since last year.

The new version of vision and mission was accepted by the entire executive board, - the NFGP website will be updated accordingly.

5. "Core values of Nordic General Practice" and preparation for Nordic Leader Seminar in August

To describe the ideology of general practice, - Norway introduced the "7 teser" back in 2001, and Denmark created "7 pejlemærker" in 2016. The "pejlemærker" were based on a larger work process among the DSAM members, identifying the GP core values and creating a GP vision. It is interesting to learn that the values are more or less the same after 15 years.

In 2019 we plan to create a common NFGP opinion paper with Nordic core values and principles. The opinion paper will hopefully be presented to WONCA Europe when ready, e.g. in an article in SJPHC and other relevant channels.

The aim is to deal with the common challenges in general practice in the Nordic countries, as we share history, culture, system of society - and the same challenges in general practice, e.g. the role of the GP in the balance between person and state, data collection, recruitment etc.

The Nordic leader seminar in august:

The leader seminars started up in the sixties, initiated by the medical associations in the Nordic countries, with the main aim to promote general practice. At that time it was the only common "union meeting" for general practice in the five Nordic countries. Later, when the national colleges of general practice/family medicine started to take shape, the medical associations handed the administration and financing of the leader seminars over to the colleges of general practice. The Nordic Federation of General Practice, the Nordic academic union of general practice was established in 2005. By that we had got a continuous and organized union which has automatically been more and more involved in the planning of and the content of the leader seminars.

Today the leader seminar is a meeting for both NFGP and the unions.

At our meeting in Copenhagen, the idea was put forward to unite our country unions (AF (Allmennlegeforeningen), FIH (Félag íslenskra heimilislækna), DLF (Distriktläkarföreningen), PLO (Praktiserende Lægers Organisation) and GPF ry (General Practitioners of Finland) under the umbrella of Nordic Union of General Practice = NUGP, - this is to be discussed further both within NFGP and between the college and union in each country.

If a common network consisting of NFGP and NUGP is created, it will be important to maintain the distance between tasks of the unions and the colleges.

The majority of the NFGP board is interested in professionalizing the Nordic leader seminars, by making an aim for an outcome e.g. a common position paper. Niels Saxtrup, Johann Sigurdsson and Sanne Bernard will continue the work preparing for the leader seminar in august 2018.

6. Nordic congresses in the nearest future

The Nordic Congresses of General Practice have, almost without any exception, since 1979, been held biannually, hosted in a rotating order between the Nordic Countries in the following order: Denmark, Norway, Finland, Sweden and Iceland, as shown on our homepage (http://www.nfgp.org/flx/nordic_congress/previous_congresses/).

The time of the year is usually in June or August with few exceptions. NFGP is in favor of this routine. Accordingly, the upcoming congresses the next decade will be arranged in the following order.

no	year	Host country	Town	Time of the year
21	2019	Denmark	Aalborg	June
22	2021	Norway	Stavanger/Bergen	June
23	2023	Finland	Turku	June
24	2025	Sweden		
25	2027	Iceland		
26	2029	Denmark		

If the College of the host country, for some reason, wants to change this order of our time schedule, the decision must be taken in co-operation with the Nordic Congress committee and the Executive Board of the NFGP.

The College of the Host Country is the main responsible for the arrangements and organization of the congress, but as stated earlier in close co-operation with the Nordic congress committee. Opening and closing ceremony of the congresses are also planned in co-operation with the NFGP.

The College of upcoming congresses will, by some years ahead, suggest which town will be suitable host town of the congress, having in mind all transport possibilities, venue, accommodation etc. The final decision regarding the host town has to be taken in co-operation with NFGP. The time of year also has to be discussed within the Nordic congress committee and EB of NFGP.

When the local organizing committee decides about weekdays for a Nordic congress, they should also have the young doctors in mind (which weekdays will be convenient for them to have their pre-congress).

The aims, quality and the content of the congress will be according to the vision and mission of the Nordic Congresses as well as the vision and mission of NFGP (the NFGP website will be updated accordingly).

The possibility of influencing WONCA Europe not to choose the same period as Nordic Congresses, has not shown possible (both Iceland/2017, Denmark/2019 and Norway/2021 have tried). However, as this will probably mainly affect the number of participants for the WONCA congresses, no further action will be taken at this stage.

7. Evaluation of NCGP in June 2017 in Reykjavik (Elinborg Bardardottir)

Elinborg presented their report from the work of the congress in Reykjavik in 2017.

1468 delegates attended the congress, inclusive 513 young doctors. 89% of the delegates were from the Nordic countries - all in all 27 countries were represented in Reykjavik in June 2017.

The planning started back in 2012 with reservation of Harpan congress hall, in 2013 a contract was signed with a congress organizer, in 2014 the congress committee began with their meetings, and in 2017 the meetings took place on a regular monthly basis.

Especially the Swedish young doctors were well represented; 277 trainees from Sweden, 90 from Denmark, 40 from Norway and then 25 and 26 from Finland and Iceland. How do we attract more young doctors for 2019 from **all** Nordic Countries?

300 abstracts were submitted. The scientific committee met one weekend in the end of January 2017, where they put the entire program together (Emil was in charge – in case any further information is needed). Iceland accepted more or less all abstracts, but not all presenters were offered their preferred way of presentation.

The quality of the Nordic congresses becomes better and better each time. As for NCGP 2017 in Reykjavik, no PR took place outside the Nordic countries due to a limit of maximum 1500 persons in the congress hall.

The biggest challenge in Reykjavik was the size and amount of break out rooms, and it was also too crowded at the welcome reception. The congress came out with an economical surplus.

8. Congress matters re. NCGP in June 2019 to be discussed (Jette Kolding)

The three main themes for NCGP 2019 are core values, current challenges and changing practice.

The opening ceremony will take place in "Musikkens Hus" by the Aalborg harbor on Monday 17 June 2019 at 16:00. There will be full day program Tuesday and Wednesday and half day program Thursday. Jette presented the draft for the program for the opening and closing ceremony.

There will be 6 keynote speeches, - two speakers are in place, a third is invited, and for the remaining three sessions the scientific committee has plans of whom to invite. There will be speakers from both the Nordic Countries and outside, and both male and female speakers.

The dinner party will be a sit-down dinner, - announcement of paper of the year-winners, and poster of the year-winners will take place at the dinner party. It will therefore be important to ensure a good quality of both sound and conferencier for the evening.

We will consider handing out the Nordic Prize in plenary (before or after a keynote), and hereafter having a "special session" for the Nordic Prize winner, in order to give him/her the opportunity to present their work in a proper way for those who are interested (and not hand out the Nordic prize at the dinner as originally planned).

SC wishes to have a high-quality level for the scientific program and can therefore not guarantee to accept all abstracts.

As part of the congress, there will be a "GP Quality Lounge" dedicated to presenting grassroot projects arising from general practice and it will be located in an area with a large participant flow. This way GPs can learn from their colleagues' experience and be inspired to go home and start projects in their own practices. For researchers, this will be a unique opportunity to be updated on and inspired by the current trends in general practice.

We will consider if there should be a kind of schedule, showing when it will be possible to meet the author/owner of a quality-lounge presentation (an alternative could be writing the authors name and contact information on the first (mandatory) slide of the presentation).

Should professor lunch be continued? – The Danish HOC have mandate to decide whether to continue with this (e.g. with associate professors as well).

A great suggestion about bicycling in groups to Aalborg came up a while ago. All practical arrangements for possible national bicycling-teams should be done by the national colleges. The Danish Host Organizing Committee can of course assist by sending out newsletters and write information at the congress website if interested.

9. NYGP – mission, vision and future for our Nordic Young Doctors organization

NYGP's definition of "young doctor" is until 5 years after specialization.

NYGP is a network for young GPs in training and medical students with an interest in general practice, but also for researchers in general practice, who are not necessarily doctors.

[Vision and mission can be seen here.](#)

The NYGP chairmanship asked if an amount from the budget could be used for funding for NYGP members to apply for grants to participate in Nordic congresses, or other events in the Nordic countries (e.g. the POD conference in Copenhagen in August).

The executive board could inform that the amount budgeted for NYGP (provided by NFGP) is not meant to be used for grants for different events.

The next NYGP seminar will take place after the Nordic Leader Seminar in Elsinore in August (to be partly covered by the budgeted amount from NFGP).

Costs as hotel and transportation for NYGP participants in the Nordic Leader Seminar in August must be covered by the NYGP budget. A possible "loss of income" for NYGP members participating in NFGP annual meetings and/or leader seminars should be covered either by the NYGP budget or by the relevant national young doctor organization.

The NYGP board must work further on the draft for by-laws, and also present a 2018-NYGP budget to the NFGP board in the first half of 2018.

10.If there are any matters to be discussed before the Annual General Assembly, they can be presented at this item.

Helena Liira is suggested to continue for a new 3 years period.

11.Information of current matters (Johann Sigurdsson)

None.

12.Presentation and discussion of the annual financial account (Niels Saxtrup)

- [Annual Financial Report 2017](#)
- [Audit Records 2017](#)
- [Internal Annual Financial Report 2017](#)

The accounts were presented by our new accountant Birgit Sode. Accounts are very close to last year. The expenses are divided into 3 areas, - board meetings, - SJPHC and office expenses. A positive result of 14.000 will be transferred to next year.

Income comes from subsidies from member countries, royalties from SJPHC (when people are publishing), and a set fee per persons from Nordic Congresses.

13.Preparation of the discussion of the budget 2018 and 2019 (Niels Saxtrup)

- [Budget 2018 and 2019](#)

In the budget for 2018 and 2019, there has been calculated with an editorial board meeting in the autumn in Scandinavia, - costs for participation in congresses/meetings (e.g. Johann to WONCA, and/or more internal meetings), and NYGP has been granted 50.000, - for both 2018 and 2019.

14.Any other business

The executive board suggests 4-5 April 2019 to be the dates for the Annual NFGP meeting in 2019.

A proposal from our Icelandic representatives was put forward that NFGP could focus on what is common or what is different in the specialist training in general practice in our Nordic countries. Furthermore, that NYGP could be involved in such analysis. The EB decided to establish a committee, with representatives from each country and NYGP to make a report on the present system in each country, which could then be discussed at our NFGP meetings. Johann will write a letter to the Nordic chairs regarding such committee

NYGP Facebook group will be open for NFGP board members.

NYGP wishes to cooperate with VdGM, too. The idea is to establish networks in the Nordic countries, - to gather the Nordic people, - to share ideas, - to get a structure and an identity to share, before sharing (at this stage mainly the Danes are participating in VdGM conferences).

The NFGP EB questioned the value of cooperation with VdGM, - the NYGP chairmanship informed they wish to inspire VdGM with a Nordic identity, to get influence.

A relevant issue could be how to optimize specialist training around Europe based on the Nordic model.