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To the Nordic Fund

Hereby the summary of our CoNARTaS meeting in Copenhagen, Hotel Ocean, April 12-13, 2012

Participants

Denmark: Anja Pinborg, Anna-Karina Henningsen, Ditte data technician, Julie statistician

Finland: Mika Gissler, Aila Titiinen

Norway: Liv Bente Romundstad, Rolv Skjaerven, Oivind PhD student

Sweden: KG Nygren, Ulla-Britt Wennerholm, Christina Bergh, Karin Källen, statistician, Ingunn Jonsdottir, PhD student

Place: Hotel Ocean, Copenhagen; Thursday afternoon (April 12) to Friday afternoon (April 13).

The following points were discussed:

1. The CoNARTaS group had been invited to the NFS conference in Helsingfors in August 6-8 2012, to present their work in a 2 h symposium. It was discussed and decided that the following persons should be the presenters:

Mika Gissler to present the feasibility of research on the Nordic health registers

Anna Karina Henningsen to present the CoNARTaS work and especially the data on perinatal mortality in IVF pregnancies.

Ulla-Britt Wennerholm to present data on children born after cryopreservation from the Nordic countries within the CoNARTaS work.

Liv Bente Romundstad to present data on sibling analysis.

2. The perinatal death paper with Anna Karina Henningsen as the first author was discussed. The paper will be prepared and probably submitted within the next months.

3. The cryo paper was discussed and the Swedish and Finnish group will be responsible for the preparation of the manuscript and the paper will probably be submitted before the end of 2012.

4. The cancer paper was discussed and the Swedish group will be responsible for the analysis and preparation of the manuscript and the paper will probably be submitted before the end of 2012 or the beginning of 2013.

5. The “old track” design will be replaced by the “new track” design. The strategy for this with the possibilities and applications in the different countries were discussed. The design in the “new track” is that the control group will consist of all non IVF children, which will not be matched. The “old track” design had a control group consisting of 4 controls per IVF child, matched for maternal parity and year and month of birth. Advantages and disadvantages were discussed. New ethical applications will be needed. Some of the countries have already started the applications.

6. KG Nygren had been contacted by a Swedish research group at Karolinska Institute that wanted collaboration about the cancer data. This is not possible with the “old track” design but the group was positive to a future collaboration when the “new track” has been established.

7. Next meeting will be in Copenhagen November 15-16, 2012. Everybody was satisfied with the possibility to meet during two days. For those attending NFS in Helsingfors a lunch meeting was planned.

We sincerely appreciate the contribution from the Nordic Fund that has made this very constructive meeting possible.

For the CoNARTaS group

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