

1st meeting of the Nordic Network of Fetal Medicine 14-16th of April 2015

The objective of the Nordic Network of Fetal Medicine is to enhance collaboration in fetal medicine and genetics between the countries in the Nordic and Baltic area. The ultimate goal is to increase the quality in prenatal diagnosis, counseling and management of certain maternal and fetal conditions. One of the aims with the meeting was to create a nonprofit organisation. The intention is to take advantage of the differences between the countries perspectives on fetal medicine and genetics. We want to create a scientific platform for discussion, collaboration across borders and improvements for our pregnant women and patients by establishing networks for education and competence developments.

The first meeting in Gothenburg this year was a great success with 108 participants from all the Nordic countries as well as from Latvia and Lithuania. The first day was dedicated to invasive testing and invasive fetal therapy. The participants discussed the current situation in the different countries as well as challenges for the future, specifically training of junior colleagues.

Next day, the participants discussed the proposed idea of establishing a Nordic Network of Fetal Medicine and all agreed that the work should continue. Three working groups as well as a nordic steering committee was founded. The new era of prenatal genetic testing using CGH array and NIPT and specifically how these techniques should be implemented in routine practice was discussed. The ongoing cervical length measurement studies in Denmark and Sweden were presented.

The entire last day was dedicated to prenatal diagnosis of myelomeningocele, fetal surgery for myelomeningocele and postnatal outcome in general.

An email group was set up for the participants to enable ongoing discussions regarding clinical challenges and difficult cases. The email group has been very active already.

The full program of the meeting as well as news and more information about the Nordic Network of Fetal Medicine can be found on our website: www.nnfm.org

The collaboration within the network will continue and next years meeting is planned to be held April 6-7 in Copenhagen, Denmark.