

NFOG Board Meeting Minutes 4/2017

Place: Odense 26th, April, 2017, Copenhagen, Bella Sky Center 27th, April 2017
Time: Wednesday, 26th April, 12.00-17.00, Thursday, 27th, 09.00-11.00.
Friday 28th 07:30.-08:30.

Present: Karen Reinhold Wøjdemann (President), Espen Berner (Treasurer), Maija Jakobsson (Secretary General), Anderas Herbst (SFOG, on Wednesday and Thursday), Hannu Martikainen (SGY, on Wednesday and Thursday), Thomas Larsen (DSOG), Nils-Havdan Mørken (NGF), Alexander Smáráson (FÍFK), Ganesh Acharya (Chief Editor AOGS), Lars Ladfors (Webmaster, on Wednesday), Bjarne Rønne Kristensen (President NFOG 2018, on Wednesday and Thursday), Ulrik Schiøler Kesmodel (Scientific Committee Chairman, on Wednesday), Katrin Kristjánsdóttir (Educational Committee chairman), Niels Uldbjerg (Guidelines Committee chairman, on Wednesday and on Thursday), Elisabeth Fredrika Rosen (NFYOG)

1. **Opening of the meeting** Karen Reinhold Wøjdemann opened the meeting.
2. **Approval of the agenda** The agenda was approved.
3. **NFOG 2018.** Bjarne Rønne Kristensen introduced the meeting venue, visual impression and arrangements for the NFOG congress from Sunday 10th- to Wednesday 13th June, 2018. Advisory board is consisting of both younger and older doctors from all over the Denmark. Board considered that it is essential that local advisory board and scientific committee will create programme together.

Pre-congress courses were not well attended in Helsinki and therefore they are still under consideration. Congress will start on Sunday evening. Board discussed how to encourage Swedish, Dutch, Baltic and especially young doctors to join the meeting. Programme was presented. CS rates in Nordic countries are quite stable and this subject was suggested to the programme. Abstracts will be evaluated by the scientific committee and local organizing committee, like in Helsinki. Electronic posters and breakfast symposiums were discouraged. Lunch symposiums will be arranged like in Helsinki. First announcement and advertisements were presented.

Social programme. Get Together Reception will be relaxed. Opening ceremony will have a honorary speaker. Gala Dinner will be in harbour, which is in walking distance from congress venue. Speakers dinner will be on Monday evening.

PCO will arrange sponsors and exhibition, they will charge 15% of the income. Budget was also discussed. Total expenditure is 4 408 600 DDK aiming to surplus of 1 400 DDK.

4. **Approval of the minutes from the previous Board meeting.** Minutes from the previous Board meeting were approved.
5. **NFOG webpage.** Lars Ladfors presented the visual impression of the new website. Some adjustments for webpage were introduced. Board supported new, totally electronic travel reimbursement system. Ulrik Schiøler Kesmodel promised to make a proposal what information is needed for NFOG fund reimbursement.

Thesis Registry is open for all thesis, but thesis lottery is only for NFOG members. NFOG activity calendar could be useful. Minutes of NFOG meeting are also in the open area, because closed pages do not exist.

6. **Educational Committee (EC)** Katrin Kristjánsdóttir told about specialist course will be held 27th-28th April, 2017 with about 130 participants. Last EC meeting was in October, 2016. Subsequent meeting will be in Faroe Islands, 22th, September, 2017. Board discussed what kind of education will needed in the future. There is a strong interest in harmonizing specialist training in Nordic countries. For the next Board meeting EC will suggest some ideas for future courses.
7. **Scientific committee (SC)** Ulrik Schiøler Kesmodel presented 21 NFOG Fund applications of which 17 were approved. Clinical and scientific visits were the most popular. A) Some applications from Sweden were for Entog exchange: The Board decided that SC will create instructions how to apply money for Entog exchange. B) The Board decided that clinical visit with option of observation only should be limited in time (about one week). C) Application deadline after initiation of visit: The Board decided that if the application specifically relates to events taking place after the application deadline, money can be granted to such events, even if they are part of a total visit initiated before the application deadline. D) Clash of interests: If a Nordic collaboration includes work on one or more Nordic guidelines, it is a prerequisite for funding that the NFOG Guideline group be included in the process of producing new guidelines. E) Application for software for specialized study needs only cannot be approved.

SC has made a visit to NVOG Consortium, Amsterdam, started in 2003. The reason for creating such a consortium was common study problems: no coordination in planning and performing clinical studies, unnecessary duplication of studies and slow recruitment processes. The Consortium provides a trial bureau with epidemiologists, statistician and economist. It is a network of physicians and research nurses. They have completed 94 trials, 24 studies are ongoing. They have more than 400 publications. Costs have amounted to an average 350 000 €/ project of which 85 000 € have been paid directly to the bureau. The specific aims are: define knowledge gaps by doing meta-analysis, write protocol to fill in knowledge gaps, apply for and get funding, perform trials, revise meta-analysis. Write/ revise guidelines. In Sweden a similar consortium has been created, which is called SNAKS (Svensk Nätverk for nAktionella Kliniska Studier www.sfog.se/start/forskning). In the future researchers are interested in Nordic-Dutch-(Australian) collaboration. Nordic registers provide excellent opportunities to further improve impact of such a consortium in a Nordic context. Next research meeting will be during next the ESHRE congress. NFOG cannot employ people, but the Board was very fascinated about this kind of collaboration. National Societies should also discuss this topic in their meetings. The Board suggested that a special working group led by Ulrik Schiøler Kesmodel will be created to further work with this idea.

The Scientific committee 2017-2018 composition will be changed. The current chairman will continue until the next congress. Many members of the SC will be replaced in the near future.

The Board decided that a declaration of interest form from members of the SC and Board members should be filled in. The Board decided to use the English version of the current

DSOG declaration of interest with NFOG logo. Ulrik Schiøler Kesmodel will send a Word-version to Lars Ladfors who will replace the DSOG logo with that of NFOG.

- 8. NFYOG** Elisabeth Fredrika Rosen is the new president of the NFYOG. The whole board is very new. The aim of the NFYOG is to increase Nordic collaboration. Website has been recreated. NFYOG Facebook group has been created and it has become very popular. On-line video library on surgical procedures has been under discussion. NFYOG board would like to create also some research network and collaboration. They are planning also platform for people enthusiastic for global health issues. Board discussed about performing education course on scientific writing for young doctors. NFYOG will collaborate with EC to further evaluate educational needs.

9. News from the National Societies.

Sweden-SFOG In Sweden there is the intention to create more complete registers. One large is national pregnancy and delivery register, Graviditetsregistret (new website: <http://www.kvalitetsregister.se/hittaregister/registerarkiv/graviditet.2376.html>). Another large register consists of gynaecological procedures and possibility to combines it to Cancer Registry. There has been discussion about subspecialization in fetal medicine. In Sweden there is baby boom with around 13% increase in the birth rate. Some extra money for limited time has been received some to solve this problem. There is also shortage of midwives, since many of them are retiring and often prefer to work daytime.

Finland- SGY In the Finland number of deliveries is still declining. The huge reform combining social sector and health services is still going on with a lot of challenges. Maternity care will be left out from freedom to choose. SGY made a statement against vaginal rejuvenation procedures. Audit process in trainee education in different hospitals will start soon.

Iceland- FÍFK Alexander Smárason presented the lowest calculated fertility rate ever in Iceland- 1.79 last year. Part of the residence training is still abroad. Check lists are being implemented.

Norway-NFG. Responsibility for residence training has been transformed to from universities to health care authorities. Speciality committee has no place in this reformation. Instead of list of procedures residents are encouraged to assess their learning in a new way- learning of objects. Intimal surgery has been discussed also in Norway. In a survey roughly 400 women admitted to had cosmetic vulvar surgery last year.

Denmark-DSOG The number of births is still increasing even by 25%, which causes huge problem in resources and funding. It is challenging especially for the delivery departments. The birth boom is caused by the large age groups that are now fertile aged. Danish parliament has discussed with health care professionals about extra funding. Parturients have also nowadays more diseases and also more CS are being performed. There is shortage of midwives, since they are also doing ultrasounds and are employed elsewhere than hospitals. Young women who apply to midwifery are too ambiguous and do not want to do hard work in shifts and in the night time. Delivery unites are already midwife-led. Midwives want, however, to have separate midwife-led free standing own units. Due to the IT problems around 30% of all birth is not transferred to the MBR at the moment.

Economy, budget, and accounts Espen Berner and president have had meeting with accountant Ildals. General assembly (GA) makes the big decisions with Budget. Approval of the NFOG accounting 2016 will be made by the GA in 2018.

Budget for 2016 committees it was 325 000 DDK, but it was not used completely. There was additional cost of 200 000 DDK for the new website. Board budget was 300 000 DDK, but it was exceeded due to expensive meeting in Stockholm. Income comes from capital income low-risk investment bonds. The income from Helsinki congress was 52 295,47 DDK. New website costed 108 219,00 DDK. NFOG get high income from AOGS. NFOG has too much money in the bank account with negative interest. Fortune is 13 689 610,91 DDK. Surplus is still 126 058 DDK. In general, 67% of the surplus is transferred to the fund.

Reimbursement will be totally electronic in the future.

Nordic textbook Niels Ulbjerg told about Nordic textbook. Editorial board has had a meeting: Ulla Breth Knudsen, Oskari Heikinheimo, Jone Torvik, Þóra Steingrimsdóttir. Budget is estimated to be 1 595 000 DDK and follow-up is 200 000 DDK per year. Reynir Geirsson volunteer to edit the book. Technical editor will be paid 6 months salary. In Sweden people has discussed this idea in the National Board and they have considered that there is no need for this kind of textbook. However, we need a Swedish editor to this project. Anderas Herbst will find a Swedish editor for the project.

Common textbook would increase collaboration. GA will decide on this project in 2018. The Board decided to use board initiative money for this pilot phase, which would be around 335 000 DDK. Editorial Board will work to make couple of chapters ready for the GA.

10. Guidelines Committee (GC) is in the process of making new guidelines.

11. Education in leadership in OBGYN National societies did not support this project, therefore it is not continued.

12. Next Board meetings

Oslo, Thursday-Saturday 3-4, November, 2017. Venue is already booked. Everybody should arrive already on Thursday evening to be able to start early in Friday morning.

Abstract submission for NFOG 2018 deadline is 28th February, 2018. SC will meet soon after that. Subsequent Board Meeting will be held Thursday 19th -21th April, Borneholm, Denmark. We will start at 9:00 on Friday morning. Flight takes 30 min or ferry takes approximately 1h 30min.

13. AOGS. IF is currently 2.191, it has been quite stable. Time to first decision is 31.5 days. Acceptance rate for Nordic countries is 56%. Economy is very positive. There are 3 Editors from each country, except one from Iceland. From International Editorial board inactive Editors are frequently be replaced to active ones. There are two new Editors prof Ingibjörg Harðardóttir from Iceland and Ying Cheon from UK. Of 934 submitted articles, 45% is rejected by the Chief Editor himself. Number of submission is increasing, which

increases also the number of rejections. Submissions comes from 55 countries, whereas accepted articles from 22 countries. Theme issue endometriosis and its impact on fertility will be published soon. The next special issue will be on epidemiological research. Education of the editors. Add positive statistics in journal and NFOG website. Learn from other journals and cooperate. Social media, advertising, Journal club, improve the quality of reviewers. AOGS prize is issued in the NFOG congress. In Norway NSG are publishing AGOS abstracts in their national paper to promote the journal. The same is encouraged also in other Nordic countries.

14. FIGO

In the Budget there is 100 000 DDK reserved to FIGO symposium. According to the FIGO tradition NFOG Board decided to cover registration fee for speakers, not accommodation nor travel expenses. Finnish society had made a proposal of the NFOG symposium. Board discussed on the topics and considered that abortion will be FIGO topic anyway. Board decided to focus on two subjects: How to maintain low caesarean section (CS) rate? and How to avoid cancer? In the CS symposium focus will be also on Nordic registers and on low perinatal mortality rates. In the HPV topic focus will be more on organized cervical cancer screening systems than on HPV vaccination only. Board decided to arrange two NFOG sessions of 90 minutes. There will be 3 to 4 speakers in each session. Ganesh Acharya will send an email to other members of the FIGO committee (Oskari Heikinheimo and Rhea X) to further suggest topics and Nordic speakers for the symposium.

15. **EBCOG** Maija Jakobsson will present Finnish society in the EBCOG in the future.

16. **Other business** Board members were reminded to use economical travel options.

Copenhagen, 28th April, 2017.

Karen Reinhold Wøjdemann
President

Maija Jakobsson
Secretary General