

Scandiatransplant Pediatric Heart and Lung Group (SPaedHLG) meeting 2021

April 16th, 2021

Zoom-meeting at 3-4.45 pm Helsinki time

Meeting participants:

Jesper Reimers (Copenhagen/Denmark) - National Key Contact Person 2020-2022

Maria Hurskainen (Helsinki/Finland)

Anu Kaskinen (Helsinki/Finland)

Jaana Pihkala (Helsinki/Finland)

Taisto Sarkola (Helsinki/Finland) – SPaedHLG Chair 2020-2021

Thomas Möller (Oslo/Norway) - National Key Contact Person 2020-2022

Michal Odermarsky (Lund/Sweden) - National Key Contact Person 2020-2022

Karin Tran-Lundmark (Lund/Sweden)

Jens Böhmer (Gothenburg/Sweden)

Håkan Wåhlander (Gothenburg/Sweden) - National Key Contact Person 2020-2022

Meeting minutes

1. Taisto Sarkola opened the meeting and kept minutes during the meeting.
2. Meeting participants were registered as listed above.
3. The agenda for the present meeting was approved.
4. The minutes from the previous meeting (231020) was briefly reviewed.
5. SHLG and SCTP information. Taisto Sarkola briefly informed about the SHLG meeting 150421 were approved SPaedHLG bylaws were briefly mentioned, but no other pediatric subjects were discussed. The consensus of the meeting was that Latvia and Lithuania are not entering Scandiatransplant as members at this stage. Data exchange with ISHLT is being updated, issues with data transfer agreements between Scandiatransplant and ISHLT are being resolved. Importance of updating SHLG registry information in Yaswa at least once per year (including timely reporting of deaths), preferably at the beginning of the year.
6. Report from studies within SPaedHLG region and projects in progress
 - a. An update of the ongoing Heart transplantations in Nordic countries between 1984-2020 was briefly presented by Michal Odermarsky. Some sites are still pending ethics approval. Direct contact between national key contact persons is recommended for ethics and data collection details.

7. Suggestions for new joint studies within SPaedHLG
 - a. No projects to present
8. Other business meeting presentations and proposals
 - a. The BIODRAFT-study (biodraft.net) on the investigation of cell-free DNA after heart transplantation was presented by Jens Böhmer, and discussed.
 - b. Presentations of EMB protocols and rejections were briefly provided by all SPaedHLG centers. The discussion included the still unclear role of gr1 rejection findings and low incidence of gr 2 rejections in all centers beyond 3 years from Htx, the increasing number of routine EMB procedures over time, and rationale for long-term routine EMB surveillance protocols (variance in center practice). There were also discussions regarding the international trend to limit long-term use of steroids in HTx immunosuppression protocols.
9. Next meeting. The autumn SPaedHLG meeting will primarily be arranged face-to-face in conjunction with the Nordic Pediatric Cardiology Meeting September 22-24th 2021 in Gothenburg. If the pandemic does not allow the arrangement of the NPCM 2021, the SPaedHLG meeting will be arranged as a virtual Zoom meeting Friday October 29th 3 pm Helsinki time.