

Minutes

Meeting No.: 101
Time: 16th & 17th March, 2023 in Aarhus

Participants: The Board of Scandiatransplant:
CHAIRMAN: Allan Rasmussen, Copenhagen
DENMARK: Michael Perch, Copenhagen
SWEDEN: Johan Nilsson, Lund
NORWAY: Are Martin Holm, Oslo (*alternate for Morten Hagness*)
FINLAND: Marko Lempinen, Helsinki
ICELAND: Jóhann Jónsson, Reykjavik
ESTONIA: Virge Pall, Tartu

DENMARK: Medical director:
Kaj Jørgensen

Absent: Morten Hagness, Oslo

Leader of meeting: Allan Rasmussen

Writer of minutes: Kaj Anker Jørgensen

Agenda:

1. **Welcome:** Allan bid everybody welcome to this physical meeting, a special welcome to the new members. He explained that Are was participating instead of Morten Hagness, who was ill.
2. **Issues for any other business:** Kaj said that he had 2 issues under any other business.
3. **Minutes of last Board Meeting** No: 100 on Zoom 24.01.2023
(http://www.scandiatransplant.org/about-scandiatransplant/scandiatransplant-board/Minutes_Board_No_100_24.Jan.2023_Zoom.pdf): The minutes of the last Board meeting were accepted.
4. **Accounts and budget:** The documents in draft form had been sent out before the meeting. Kaj gave an overview of the current financial situation with a negative balance for 2022 of about 400,000 DKK and total assets of about 8.5 million DKK. We had used about 300,000 DKK less than the given budget. Kaj will at the Council meeting ask for the same budget for 2023 of 6.5 mill DKK which the Council accepted in 2022, thus expecting a negative balance of about 900,000 DKK. For 2024 he would ask for a budget of 6.8 million DKK, which would give a negative balance of 1.4 million DKK if the number of transplanted patients remains unchanged. The Board discussed this matter and decided to ask for a raise in pay to 4,000 DKK per transplanted patient in 2024. We should gradually increase the assets until the assets in cash were about the same as one year's budget. The documents from the independent author were signed.
5. **Travel and Research Grants:** The current rules for prioritizing the grants as they appear on the home page were discussed. The Board felt there was a need for clarifications and also giving quality a priority in the Research Grants. Allan, Marko, and Are will look at the rules and come up with suggestions for a change at the next Board meeting.
 - a. Travel grants: There were 10 applications for a total of 496,851 DKK. The following seven applicants were granted: Sigridur Sigurdardottir 9,000 DKK, Stella

Hrafnkelsdottir 9,000 DKK, Stockholm coordinators 24,000 DKK, Jenni Klppola 8,000 DKK, Niina Peltonen 8,000 DKK, E. Jetsonen & T. Saarinen 5,000 DKK, and Laura Knudsen 17,500 DKK.

- b. Research Grants: There were 4 applications for a total of 1.4 million DKK. The following 2 applicants were granted: Marie Skougaard 362,000 DKK, and Kathe Meyer 150,000 DKK.

- 6. **Further plans for Riga:** Kaj went through the actions that had been taken as decided at the last Board meeting. Riga was asked to seek EFI accreditation and they should send us documents related to the donation process in English. They are in the process of doing the translation. They have sent to us the ISO certification their laboratory has. Two coordinators from Latvia will be invited to the coordinators' group meeting, and a mail has been sent out to all the groups in Scandiatransplant with the name and e-mail address of a Latvian doctor to invite to the group meetings.

The Board had received a letter about getting a Latvian patient lung transplanted in Lund. It stated that Lund had kindly agreed to help with this patient, but it turns out that the department in Lund has not heard of this patient. Kaj had responded to the request stating that "The request to the Board to perform such a transplantation should come from the hospital or department, that is going to perform the transplantation. They will be the responsible party towards Scandiatransplant".

- 7. **The Board after Council meeting 2023:** Morten Hagness will leave the Board after serving 6 years. Oslo suggest Are Martin Holm to follow him as the Board member from Norway. We then need an alternate for Norway.
- 8. **Council meeting in Tallinn May 19th:** This will be held as a hybrid meeting from 12:30 to 14:30 Estonian time at the "Hotel Swissôtel Tallinn" 3 km from Airport.
- 9. **Any other business:**

- a. At Board meeting No: 99 on December 8th, 2022, it was decided that Morten and Kaj should make a draft for a change in article 12 defining the infectious group and present it at the next Board meeting. Due to Morten's illness, this had not been done until now, but they now presented such a suggestion for changes in article 12. These were accepted by the Board and will be put forward at the Council meeting in May for adoption. The Board also decided to change the rules for support to Group meetings, so that the infectious group also could get transport covered. This is because these people are not employed at transplantation departments, and they may have difficulties in getting their departments to pay for the transportation. The Board then again discussed why one coordinator from each center gets the travel paid to the group meeting. The members of the Board will ask the bosses at the transplant departments, if it is more difficult for coordinators than for doctors to get the travel to group meeting paid.
- b. Kaj presented a case, where a company had used an internal working document in the kidney group to promote their drug to the authorities making it look like it was the association Scandiatransplant, that stood behind these as guidelines. The authors of the document had retracted the document and asked the company to retract it from wherever they had used it. This is illegal, but if the document has been on the Scandiatransplant homepage, they could have used a reference to it and that would have been OK. Allan will consult a lawyer about this, and then Kaj and Allan will decide if they should write a mail to the Scandiatransplant groups with some clarifications.

- 10. **Next Board Meeting:** Tallinn May 19th, 2023 at 9:00-11:30 local time. There will be a dinner for the Board at 19:00 on the 18th May.

After the Board meeting, the Board visited the Scandiatransplant office and had lunch together with the staff. Ilse Weinreich told the Board how the work with programming is organized at the office.