SCANDIATRANSPLANT COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES' MEETING MAY 20, 2025, COPENHAGEN AIRPORT



Helsinki:

Arno Nordin

Ilkka Helanterä Eija Tukiainen

Kaisa Ahopelto

Juha Peräsaari

Stockholm:

Gabriel Oniscu Gunnar Söderdahl

Carl Jorns

Skåne:

Grunde Gjesdal

Gothenburg:

Markus Gäbel Marie Felldin

Marie Felldin Ulrika Samuelsson

Andreas Schult

Aarhus:

Ulla Møldrup

Pernille B. Koefoed-Nielsen

Oslo:

Kristine Fasting

Morten Skauby

Espen Melum

Line Boulland

Odense:

Not present

Copenhagen:

Søren S. Sørensen

Reykjavik:

Runólfur Pálsson

Tartu:

Not present

Uppsala:

Not present

Scandiatransplant board:

Allan Rasmussen, Denmark

Michael Perch, Denmark

Marko Lempinen, Finland

Jóhann Jónsson, Iceland

Virge Pall, Estonia

Are M. Holm, Norway Johan Nilsson, Sweden

Scandiatransplant office:

Kaj Anker Jørgensen

Ilse Duus Weinreich

Anne Ø. Boserup

Observers:

Moises Suarez Zdunek, Copenhagen

Mads Hornum, Copenhagen

1. Welcome

Welcome by Scandiatransplant board member Michael Perch

2. Election of meeting chair, writer of minutes and controllers of minutes

Chair of the meeting: Mads Hornum Writer of minutes: Ilse Duus Weinreich

Controllers of minutes: Søren S. Sørensen & Carl Jorns

3. Any other business

No further topics

4. Registration of the present representatives/substitutes/observers

All present at the meeting are listed at the first page of these minutes

5. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Council meeting minutes May 2024

The minutes were approved without any comments

6. Report from the chairman of Scandiatransplant

Presented by Allan Rasmussen

Jóhann Jónsson (Iceland) and Johan Nilsson (Sweden) are stepping down from the Scandiatransplant board after six years of dedicated service. Both were warmly applauded and sincerely thanked for their significant contributions.

Medical Director Kaj A. Jørgensen will be leaving his position next year. He was sincerely thanked for his many years of dedicated and highly appreciated work. A process to find his replacement will now be initiated. This process will be conducted with full transparency.

The board has worked on a suggestion for a new structure of STS, see point 8.

Work towards Latvia becoming an associated member of Scandiatransplant has continued. In February, three members of the board visited Latvia. The visit left a very positive impression, and the main remaining requirement appears to be EFI accreditation of the laboratory.

There is a wish to increase diversity within the board, with the aim that all organ groups should preferably be represented. When needed, observers will be invited.

There has been discussion about whether board members should receive a small symbolic fee for their work. Board members represent all centers within their country, and attending meetings can sometimes be challenging due to local obligations.

Questions were also raised regarding representation: some centers are not present at the council meetings. Why this is the case remains unclear.

It was concluded that introducing a fee would not resolve the issue of attendance. Instead, efforts should focus on investigating the reasons why certain centers are not represented.

7. Suggestion to include uterus transplantation in Article 3 Articles of association

Gothenburg is starting a uterus transplantation program. Therefore, they have asked to have uterus transplantation included in the work frame of Scandiatransplant. The Board therefore suggest a small change in the articles (in red below).

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 to serve as a common organ exchange organization and allocation resource for its member hospitals including kidney, liver, heart, lung, pancreas, uterus, pancreatic islet, liver cells, composite graft, intestinal and multivisceral transplantation. This is done transparently, using ethical principles and in full compliance with the national legislation of the members' countries,

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The suggestion was approved by the Council

8. Board suggestion: Scandiatransplant Congress

Prior to the meeting, board material outlining the motivation for changes related to the Scandiatransplant Transplantation Society (STS) was distributed to all participants.

The material highlighted concerns with the current tradition, where the organization of STS congresses has taken place independently and without a formal link to Scandiatransplant. Identified challenges include financial responsibility, continuity, and knowledge transfer between congresses.

The Board proposed that the STS Congress (STSC) formally operate under the auspices of Scandiatransplant and be renamed the Scandiatransplant Congress (STC). The proposed STC Organizing Committee will consist of four members: one representative from the Scandiatransplant Board, one local organizer, one representative from the Office, and one from the consecutive STC. This committee will establish the necessary working groups to organize each congress.

With this change, Scandiatransplant will function not only as an operational but also as a scientific organization.

The proposal aligns with Article 3 of the Scandiatransplant statutes, which states the goal "to form a collaborative network for the member hospitals to promote research and development related to organ donation, allocation, and transplantation."

If decided, further work will now focus on defining the structure and execution of the new model.

The suggestion was approved by the Council

Next year at the Scandiatransplant Council Meeting the location for the Scandiatransplant Congress 2028 will be decided.

9. Accounts and Budget

Presented by Kaj A. Jørgensen

Documents from the independent auditor had been distributed to all council members prior to the meeting.

Last year there was a positive balance of 2.664.206 DKK, which leaves an asset of 12.488.510 DKK. The expenses where within the approved budget.

Liquidity as of January 1st 2025 was 4.108.510 DKK.

The fee is suggested unchanged and will be 4.000 DKK per transplanted recipient in 2025. Budget for 2026 was suggested to be 7.950.000 DKK.

Accounts and budgets were approved by the Council

It was suggested to have an annual index regulate increases of the fee in the future. The Board will look into this proposal.

10. Election of Board members/suppliants

Presented by Kaj A. Jørgensen

Allan Rasmussen was reelected as chair of Scandiatransplant

Jóhann Jónsson, Iceland was suggested to be replaced by Rafn Hilmarsson and Johan Nilsson, Sweden was suggested to be replaced by Vivan Hellström

Árni Sæmundsson was suggested to replace Runólfur Pálsson as suppliant

The suggestions were accepted by the Council

11. Report from the groups

Link to Group Reports

The reports were accepted by the Council

12. Next meeting

20th of May 2026, Tartu in conjunction with STS

Minutes are approved by controllers: Carl Jorns 20th of May 2025 Søren S. Sørensen 20th of May 2025

Minutes are respectfully submitted by Ilse D. Weinreich