

## Minutes Nordic Pancreas and Islet Transplant Group

**Date:** 14<sup>th</sup> of April, 2026

**Location:** Digital meeting on Teams

**Participants:** Torbjörn Lundgren surgeon Stockholm, Øystein Jynge coordinator Stockholm, Karin Fransson research nurse Stockholm, Kristin Emilsen Wahlö coordinator Oslo, Monika Olofsson Storrø coordinator Oslo, Harald Haugenschmidt surgeon Oslo, Anna Högvall research nurse Uppsala, Lydia Junebjörk research nurse Uppsala, Amanda Skogh research nurse Uppsala, Shinji Yamamoto surgeon Uppsala, Henrik Benoni surgeon Uppsala, Olle Korsgren Islet lab Uppsala, Oleg Slivca surgeon Malmö, Marko Murruste surgeon Tartu, Bengt Gustafsson surgeon Gothenburg, Ilse Duus Weinreich Scandiatransplant.

**1. Welcome, decision on chairperson and secretary for the meeting**

Torbjörn Lundgren welcomed participants and was elected chairperson.  
Anna Högvall was elected secretary

**2. Introduction of participants**

**3. Possible additions and approval of the agenda**

The agenda was approved without additions.

**4. Is the invitation list/member list we use accurate?**

Each center is to review the e-mail list sent out, update it and send it to Ilse.

**5. Previous protocol 14<sup>th</sup> of October 2025**

Status of the To do-list from previous protocol:

Working group for national allocation: The group has had one meeting (commented further below).

List to YASWA why pancreas is not used for islet isolation: work is ongoing

The Nordic Experience – publication: See point 9

Change from Zoom to Teams: Done

Decide date for next meeting: Done

**6. Short report from centers on advances and problems since the last meeting (Data on production can also be found in Scandia documents attached to the agenda)**

Stockholm: 2 SPK, working fine. 2 on waitlist for islets, a few on waitlist for pancreas.

Uppsala: 1 islet, no pancreas transplants. 6 on waitlist for islets whereof 4 active, 4 on waitlist for pancreas.

Oslo: 4 SPK, all fine. 1 exported to Copenhagen. 3 on waitlist, one is highly immunized. No islets.

Gothenburg: 21 pancreases last year and 8 so far 2026, 1 graft removed due to bleeding, was a re-transplantation. 1 on waitlist for 2<sup>nd</sup> dose islets.

Malmö: 1 SPK, some bleeding after reperfusion, doing well now. 1 on waitlist.

Estonia: 1 PAK, pancreatic fistula which closed in February (2 months post-transplant). Patient and graft are doing well now.

Copenhagen and Helsinki: no representative present.

## 7. Info

### **Entering Norwegian autotransplantation data (TPIAT) into YASWA (Monica)**

Oslo will start shortly. 22 patients since 2017, basic data like date of transplant and blood type.

Plan is that all centers should register auto islet transplant data.

To generate a Scandianumber, enter them as both a living donor and recipient.

Auto islets are isolated for and sent back to centers which are not transplant centers.

They should also register in YASWA; how can this be facilitated? Ilse recommends that 1 or 2 persons at each of these centers would get access and enter relevant data.

Regarding access to YASWA, it may be possible to restrict it to only the relevant parts (similar to follow up of living donors).

Olle will contact the sites that have done auto islets to remind them that registration needs to be done.

### **New transport boxes for pancreas in Norway (Monica)**

Attempts to find new boxes due to unavailability of the old ones. For pancreas retrieval, sterile intestinal bags on ice are used rather than the boxes in Oslo.

The boxes need to be upright due to risk of leakage. Unpractical because of many details that need to be checked for the box to work properly. The net from the old boxes does not exist in the new ones.

Concerns that if leakage occurs unless handled properly, that means the organ could be contaminated from the air.

Coordinators have been in contact with the manufacturer who has instructed on how to fasten the lid and when done correctly, there is no leakage. However it occurs.

Pancreases in plastic bags on ice coming to the islet lab can be partially frozen. Oslo uses saline in the intestinal bag and tissue between the plastic and the ice, which should solve the freezing problem.

Suggestion to have a uniform way of packing pancreases. Coordinators to make a common instruction of what to do and send out for approval from the centers.

## 8. External news/proposals

### **Wish from Lithuania to use Islet lab in Uppsala for isolation of pancreas from Lithuania to specific patient in Lithuania. Contract? At what level? (Torbjörn)**

Legislative issues in Lithuania making it illegal to send a pancreas abroad. They need to find a solution and when this is done discussions with islet lab can start. No obstacles from Scandiatransplant or the islet lab.

## 9. Studies - ongoing, planned, closed.

### **Hypoimmunized beta cells and stem cells. Status (Olle)**

Patient transplanted to muscle in the forearm with small dose of hypoimmunized

human islets in December 2024. Poor metabolic state with HbA1c of 85 at 1 year, likely due to inadequate diabetes treatment. HbA1c 60 after optimizing diabetes treatment. At 14 months islets are there and still working properly. The patient from this trial should be registered in YASWA.

Entering patients from the Vertex trial might be tricky due to requirements of donor data when there is no specific donor.

#### **Clinical results pancreas - status (Johan/Bengt)**

One meeting has occurred discussing obstacles on data retrieval. Fewer parameters will be collected to streamline the process. The data should be retrievable from YASWA. Work in progress

#### **Fungal prophylaxis – status**

Emanating from the Infection group of ScandiTransplant. No new information. Ongoing work.

#### **Report from meeting regarding Swedish WL/ Islet donors 65-70 years of age? Ethics application?**

Most apparent is that several not very immunized planned islet recipients have long waiting list duration. The current age and BMI recommendations (<50y/<BMI 30) for age of whole pancreas transplantation donors have in practice become higher. This is probably partly influencing the islet waiting time. To expand the number of possible donors for clinical islet transplantation we would like to put a maximum age of 70 years for donation instead of present 65. This is outside the span used by other centers and would preferably be done as a trial. Torbjörn will take the lead on the ethical application. It was also discussed if patients with more than 1 year on the waiting list for islets somehow could get a kind of priority concerning donors >55 y (or so) considered for whole pancreas donation. No decision on this at this meeting.

#### **Other clinical projects?**

Oslo are evaluating changes to their protocol (mainly anticoagulants) over there years and planning to present the results in the Norwegian doctors journal

#### **10. News from The Islet Labs, Oslo and Uppsala.**

The technical department at the hospital in Uppsala needs to approve the new isolation system (based on Cell Saver hardware replacing the Cobe) for clinical islet transplantation. When compared with the old system the new one seems to be equally good. Hanne has presented data on the planned new system at the EPITA symposium in January.

The lab in Oslo is being inspected by authorities today.

- 11. Registries/waiting list** –MedSciNet (OMDA) is now ready to be closed and the preexisting data from NIR is secured in Excel. Import of data to the new registry in YASWA is preferable and likely possible. Torbjörn will contact Ilse/OMDA later this week to evaluate and hopefully start this process.

12. **Any other business** none

13. **Next meeting**

13<sup>th</sup> of October 2026, 1 pm, digital meeting on Teams

**Secretary for the meeting**

Anna Högvall

**Chairman for the meeting**

Torbjörn Lundgren

<b>To do list</b>		
All centers	Update and send the e-mail list to Ilse (using Excel file accompanying the meeting agenda)	
Olle Korsgren	Contact clinics that have performed auto islet transplants and provide information on registering data into YASWA.	
Transplant coordinators	Agree on proposal on how to package pancreases and send to all centers for review and comments.	
Torbjörn Lundgren	Start the ethical application for utilizing older donors for clinical islet transplantations	
Torbjörn Lundgren, Ilse D. Weinreich	Start the process for hopefully importing data extracted from NIR into YASWA	