



Nordic Pancreas and Islet Transplant group



Date: 8th April 2025

Location: Digital meeting with Zoom

Participants:

Torbjörn Lundgren surgeon Stockholm, Hanne Scholz Islet lab Oslo, Olle Korsgren Islet lab Uppsala, Trond Geir Jensen diabetologist Oslo, Kine Anita Lindstrøm, transplant coordinator Oslo, Kristine Fasting surgeon Oslo, Marko Lempinen surgeon Helsinki, Carola Schauman transplant coordinator Helsinki, Anna Boserup Scandiatransplant, Christina Andreasson transplant coordinator Uppsala, Bengt von Zur-Mühlen nephrologist Uppsala, Anna Högvall research nurse Uppsala, Lydia Junebjörk research nurse Uppsala, Paul Suno Krohn transplantsurgeon Copenhagen, Marie Engman transplant coordinator Copenhagen, Lara Aygen Özbay nephrologist Århus, Marie Felldin nephrologist Gothenburg, Johan Nordström transplant surgeon Gothenburg,

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

Torbjörn Lundgren welcomed participants and was elected chairperson for the meeting. Bengt von Zur-Mühlen was elected secretary.

2. Introduction of participants

3. Agenda was approved with addition highly immunized – virtual crossmatch or sharing blood

4. Previous protocol – 15th October 2024

At the previous meeting, all centers were asked to submit their pancreas protocols so that they could be harmonized, but not all have been submitted. Torbjörn Lundgren sends a new reminder.

Torbjörn was to invite prof Gabriel Oniscu to the meeting to talk about how allocation of pancreases/islets is done in the UK. Not done. Will invite to next meeting

5. Short report from centers on advances and problems since the last meeting.

Transplantation and donation figures for 1st quarter of 2025					Version: April 3rd, 2025										
Population		1966853	1240386	2899561	Denmark					Sweden	Norway	Finland	Iceland	Estonia	Scandiatransplant
Transplant center		Aarhus	Odense	København	6106800	Skåne	Göteborg	Uppsala	Stockholm	Oslo	Helsinki	Reykjavik	Tartu		
Pancreas															
DBD donation			0	0	1	4	0	0	5	2	9		0	16	
DCD donation			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	
Total			0	0	1	4	0	0	5	2	9		0	16	
PMP				0,00					0,47	0,36	1,60		0,00	0,54	
Islet															
DBD donation					0	0	1	0	1	0	0			1	
DCD donation					0	0	0	0	0	0	0			0	
Total					0	0	1	0	1	0	0			1	
PMP									0,09	0,00	0,00			0,03	

Each center presented briefly clinical outcomes. In addition to first quarter data Copenhagen performed their first pancreas in 10 months yesterday.

6. General information

EU-regulation Guide to the quality and safety of tissues and cells for human

application: The new guidelines are largely consistent with our current SOPs.

<https://www.edqm.eu/en/guide-to-the-quality-and-safety-of-tissues-and-cells-for-human-application1>

Auto – Oslo Publication with 15 cases: Implementation of a nationwide program for total pancreatectomy and islet autotransplantation in chronic pancreatitis: A Scandinavian single-center observational study Scandinavian Journal of Surgery
Anne Waage et al

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/14574969241298985>

"In conclusion: TPIAT was as a safe and effective treatment for a selected group of patients with chronic pancreatitis, providing substantial pain relief and enhanced QoL. Islet autotransplantation prevented complete insulin deficiency, reducing diabetes severity postpancreatectomy. Dedicated chronic pancreatitis MDT meetings were key factor in the success of the program."

Upcoming meetings:

- 20th world congress of IPITA 15-18 June 2025, Pisa, Italy
- 85th American Diabetes Association 85th Scientific Sessions, 20 - 23 June 2025, Chicago, US
- ESOT 29 June - 2 July, 2025, London, UK
- World Transplant Congress (WTC) August 2-6, 2025, San Francisco, USA
- 59th Annual Meeting of the Scandinavian Society of the Study of Diabetes 21st to 23rd of August 2025, Oslo, Norway

7. Islet lab

Difficulties with renewal of equipment to the COBE 2991, therefore ongoing evaluation/validation if other medical devices can replace the COBE 2991 is ongoing.

20 patients on the Swedish islet waiting lists – there has been a lack of pancreases forfilling our current criteria for clinical islet transplantation. Discussion to increase of the upper donor age limit of 65 last revised in 2018. Johan Nordström noted that suprisingly few pancreases are offered for pancreas transplantation or islet isolation of the more than 600 donors in Scandia per year.

Decision to more thoroughly record reasons why pancreas is not used for a limited period of time (approximately 12 months). Johan Nordström och Christina Andreasson will investigate if Yaswa can be used.

8. Pancreases for research.

Extended funding from Hemsley foundation to retrieve pancreases from donors with T1DM.

9. Studies -ongoing, planned, closed.

- a. **Vertex VX880 = *Forward trial*** with the use of pluripotent allogenic stem cell-derived islet cell therapy. The study has expanded to approximately 37 participants and has been approved by FDA to progress to a phase 1/2/3 pivotal trial. Follow up data is expected to be presented at the ADA meeting in June 2025.
- b. **Vertex VX264 = *Upward trial***. Last week the company decided to close the trial.
- c. **UP421 / Sana Biotechnology**: Generation of cells that can evade the immune system with hypoimmunized beta cells. 1 patient transplanted in December 2024 in Uppsala. 4 weeks data have been released and look promising
<https://www.uu.se/nyheter/2025/2025-01-15-lovande-resultat-efter-transplantation-mot-diabetes>
- d. **Clinical results pancreas transplantation** Torbjörn Lundgren will contact Bengt Gustavsson for an update.
- e. **Islet to the anterior chamber of the eye**: We discussed this in 2017 and were cautious while waiting for results from the ongoing clinical study in Switzerland. It was discussed again at the meeting. It was decided that we will refrain from participating due to 1) no results so far presented from the ongoing clinical studies in Geneva and Miami and 2) the shortage of clinical grade pancreases for ongoing clinical programs.

10. Registries/waiting list

Medscinet will be closed, and all data will be transferred to *Scandiatransplant*.

11. What can we do between meetings

For financial reasons, the possibility of physical meetings is increasingly limited. Hybrid meetings have certain weaknesses. Working groups could meet physically to a greater extent. The minutes should make work tasks more clearly visible, for example a "to do list" at the end.

12. Virtual X-match

The pancreas is often offered alone while the kidney is retained, which makes it difficult to exchange organs across borders because one usually wants an SPK. The coordinator group brought up the question whether virtual X-tests can contribute to more organs being exchanged. The question was a bit unprecise at this stage and they will come back to the PI group when a suggestion or question was prepared

13. CTR

The work to transfer our pre-CIT clinical transplantation records to CTR fail to comply with the GDPR legislation (the European General Data Protection Regulation). The informed consent signed did not include the necessary wording making it difficult to transfer this information retrospectively. The situation is similar situation in all Nordic countries, and it was decided that we are unable proceed with this export project.

14. Next meeting

Tuesday 14th October 2025, afternoon – digital meeting.

Secretary for the meeting

Chairman for the meeting



Bengt von Zur-Mühlen

Torbjörn Lundgren

TO DO LIST		
Torbjörn Lundgren	Paragraph 4. Reminder to send in pancreas protocols for harmonization	
Johan Nordström and Christina Andreasson	Paragraph 7. Can Yaswa be used for better/more detailed registration why a pancreas not is used for transplantation and if possible also the implementation within Scandiatransplant	
Torbjörn Lundgren (Bengt Gustavsson)	Paragraph 9d. Clinical presentation of pancreas transplantation – has this project started?	
Bengt von Zur-Mühlen	Paragraph 11. Create a to do list in the protocol	
Torbjörn Lundgren	Paragraph 13. Continuous communication with Eggerman	
Torbjörn Lundgren	will invite Prof Oniscu to the next meeting	
All	All participants are encouraged to send suggestions for new topics ahead of the next meeting.	