



Minutes SHLG meeting April 9-10, 2026

Carlsberg Museum & Business Centre, Valby Langgade 1, DK-1799 København V

Attending members

Malene Johnson, Copenhagen
Michael Perch, Copenhagen
Christian H. Møller, Copenhagen
Kasper Rossing, Copenhagen
Are Martin Holm, Oslo
Arne Andreassen, Oslo
Kaspar Broch, Oslo
Inga Leuckfeld, Oslo
Tom Hoel, Oslo
Arnt Fiare, Oslo
Jesper Magnusson, Gothenburg
Petra Vestlund, Gothenburg
Hillevi Larsson, Lund
Johan Nilsson, Lund
Oscar Braun, Lund
Tanel Laisaar, Tartu
Karl Lemström, Helsinki
Peter Raivio, Helsinki
Markku Pentikäinen, Helsinki
Hans Eiskjær, Aarhus
Rudolfs Vilde, Observer from Latvia
Anne Ørskov Boserup, Scandiatransplant Office

1. Formalities and Governance

- The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
- Any updates to the board member list was requested. **Centres are requested to submit revised contact details to the Scandiatransplant office.**
- Karl Lemström was unanimously re-elected as Chair for a next two-year term.
- Are Holm and Michael Perch were elected to the Executive Board.

2. News from SCTP Board (Michael Perch, Are Holm)

- Ilse Duus Weinreich appointed Managing Director for Scandiatransplant.
- Scandinavian Transplant Society Meeting will be restructured into the Scandiatransplant Congress. Application deadline for having the congress in 2028 is May 1st 2026.
- Pauls Stradins Hospital (Riga) obtained EFI accreditation and is expected to apply for Associate Membership in May 2027.

3. Registry

- Anne Ørskov Boserup presented the Annual report 2025 on heart and lung transplantation.
- Publication of the data was discussed; however, significant data quality issues were identified that need to be addressed prior to publication.
- A manuscript group was formed (Christian H. Møller, Oscar Braun, Jesper



Magnusson, Markku Pentikäinen, Are Holm).

- The current status of the Thoracic Registry was presented. Data completeness has improved in recent years; but survival data and causes of death require further attention. **It was highlighted that no updates had been made on missing data presented at the meeting in April 2025.** Norway and Sweden currently lack automated death registry linkage.
- Decline in heart transplant notifications discussed (LVAD use, selection criteria, HF therapies).
- The use of single lung transplantation and age-related considerations discussed.
- The persistently low number of heart–lung transplant procedures over recent years also noted.

4. Organ exchange

- High rejection rate of offered donor hearts and lungs identified; further analysis planned.
- There is currently no formal Scandiatransplant-level pathway for offering surplus organs to Eurotransplant. However, if an organ is declined within Scandiatransplant, centres are encouraged to consider offering it outside the network, including to **Eurotransplant**, independently.
- “Poor organ quality” classification requires refinement.
- Need for more precise documentation of reasons for organ decline.
- Allocation timelines to be optimized.

5. Upcoming scientific meeting

- Reminder Scandinavian Transplant Society Meeting in Tartu, Estonia

6. Proposal from SPedHLG (Priority 0 age limit)

- **Decision:** Proposal to increase age limit from 16 to 18 years was not accepted.
- **Key points:**
 - Criteria for Priority 0 require further clarification.
 - Inotropic support alone may not justify urgent status.
 - Long-term MCS should primarily be considered as bridge to transplant.
 - Only the criterion for <25 kg patients on long-term VAD after 90 days was considered potentially acceptable.
 - Age-based cutoff remains difficult to justify clinically.
- **Action:** SPedHLG to submit revised analysis and proposal.

7. DCD activities

- All centres are actively developing DCD heart transplantation using varying approaches.
- DCD lungs: Copenhagen (2024) 8; Oslo (2023) 7; and Göteborg (2018) 35 lungs.

8. Donor-derived Cell-free DNA in Heart Transplantation

- Marie Skougaard (Aarhus University Hospital) presented an ongoing multicentre study on the use of donor-derived cell-free DNA in heart transplantation.
- Helsinki experience highlighted: dd-cfDNA-based monitoring has largely replaced routine biopsies.

9. Ongoing studies and technologies

- Leonardo-trial (liquid biopsies after lung tx) (Jesper Magnusson)
- Göran Dellgren presented an update on the ScanCLAD study. The main study phase



has been completed, and the project will continue as a follow-up study.

- OCS (Organ Care System) – 10-year results. Thomas Nikolaj Bang Lilleør (Copenhagen) presented the 10-year results on the use of the Organ Care System (OCS) in heart transplantation.
- Tom Hoel (Oslo) presented the experience with the Paragonix transport system in heart and lung transplantation.
- Christina Eckenberg presented Rigshospitalet's vaccination guidelines for solid organ transplant recipients.

10. VGCV study proposal in heart and lung transplantation

- Reduced valganciclovir dosing strategy proposed.
- Preliminary plans and feasibility analysis to be presented at the autumn meeting.

11. Static Cold Storage at +10°C in Heart–Lung Transplantation

- Initial Helsinki experience suggests potential benefits compared to conventional ice storage.

12. Centralization of Donor Management (Helsinki)

- Donors transferred to Helsinki after death declaration and required evaluations.
- Observed benefits:
 - Reduced ischemic times
 - Improved graft function
 - Shorter ICU and hospital stays
 - Approach generated interest; however, family acceptance discussed but has not been issue in Helsinki.

13. Upcoming Meetings

- Fall 2026: one-day meeting, Copenhagen airport hotel (date TBA)
- Next two-day meeting: Oslo on March 11–12, 2027.