Nordic Alliance for Clinical Genomics

INVITATION

NACG 11th physical workshop
Århus, Denmark 25.-26. November 2021

About NACG

The Nordic Alliance for Clinical Genomics is an independent, non-governmental, not-for-profit, Nordic association open for organizational and individual members.

Our overall mission is to work together and learn from each other to lift performance standards. We aim at responsible sharing of trustworthy data for improved diagnosis and treatment, and as a resource for research.

Our goals are to

- Facilitate the **responsible sharing** of genomic data, bioinformatics tools, sequencing methods and best practices for interpretation of genomic data.
- **Enhance quality** of genomic data and processes and explore methodologies to provide assurance.
- Understand **legal barriers** to the implementation of personalised medicine and to engage with key stakeholders that influence these barriers
- Develop **demonstration projects** that challenge perceived legal barriers that limit responsible and ethical sharing of genomic and health data.
- **Build bridges** between research and clinical communities, technologies and practices to foster innovation

To learn more about the Nordic Alliance for Clinical Genomics please visit our website at https://nordicclinicalgenomics.org/ or contact us at post@nordicclinicalgenomics.org.

Workshop agenda

<table>
<tr><th>Thursday 25th November</th><th colspan="2">Friday 26th November</th></tr>
<tr><td>8:30 Coffee</td><td colspan="2">8:30 Coffee</td></tr>
<tr><td>9:00 Welcome
Dag E. Undlien, OUS Department of Medical Genetics, NO, NACG chair</td><td colspan="2">9:00 NACG knowledge sharing
NACG members</td></tr>
<tr><td>09:10 Keynote: Covid sequencing and monitoring in DK
Morten Rasmussen, Statens Serum Institut, Denmark</td><td>10:00 Transitioning to hg38 reference genome
Sharmini Alagaratnam, DNV, NO, and Kaisa Kettunen, HUS</td><td>10:00 Detection of somatic SVs and fusions with NGS-based cancer diagnostics
Nordic participating laboratories</td></tr>
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<tr><td colspan="2">10:15 Nordic updates: high and low level
Nordic country representatives</td><td></td><td>11:00 Identification of complex biomarkers (e.g. HRD, MMR, TMB, MSI or other similar biomarkers) for NGS based cancer diagnostics
Nordic participating laboratories</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">12:00 Lunch</td><td colspan="2">12:00 Lunch</td></tr>
<tr><td>13:00 Implementing sharing of variant classifications via the Variant exchange API
Tony Håndstad, Department of Medical Genetics, OUS NO</td><td>13:00 Challenging clinical cases
Maria Rossing, Center for Genomic Medicine, Centre of Diagnostic Investigations, Rigshospitalet DK</td><td colspan="2">13:00 Conclusion of workshop</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2"></td><td>14:30 IVDR: status update, knowledge sharing and potential Nordic collaboration
Cathrine Høgseth Nordhus, Department of Medical Genetics, OUS NO</td><td colspan="2" rowspan="4"></td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">16:00 Wrap up and classification implementation workshop results
Tony Håndstad, Department of Medical Genetics, OUS NO</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">17:00 Conclusion of day 1</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">19:00 Workshop dinner</td></tr>
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Workshop session details

Topic	Description	Contact person
Nordic updates	At this session, representatives from the Nordic countries will provide updates both at national and local levels.	NACG Nordic representatives
Implementing sharing of variant classifications via the Variant Exchange API	Variant Exchange is a solution for sharing variant classifications. This workshop will give an introduction to web APIs in general and how to communicate with them using the Python programming language. We will then have a practical session where the purpose is to learn how to use the Variant Exchange API to automatically upload variant classifications. The general introduction should be accessible to everyone, and the practical session will provide bioinformaticians from each lab with the foundation to more easily get started with sharing variant classifications.	Tony Håndstad (tony.handstad@medisin.uio.no), Øyvind Evju and Tor Solli-Nowlan
Challenging clinical cases	The session will cover case presentations from various clinicians &/or bioinformaticians on clinical diagnostic unsolved cases. If you have an interesting case you would like to share, please contact Maria Rossing and/or register your interest in contributing in the registration form.	Maria Rossing (caroline.maria.rossing@regionh.dk)
IVDR: status update, knowledge sharing and potential Nordic collaboration	This interactive workshop will focus on sharing updates and knowledge around compliance to the requirements for in- house exemption as it applies to a) the documents that might fulfill General Safety and Performance Requirements (procedures, validation reports, etc.) and b) risk assessments of inhouse methods. The workshop will also focus on IVD performance assessment for inhouse methods and compare how various labs plan to monitor performance for their in-house methods.	Cathrine Høgseth Nordhus (cahnor@ous-hf.no)
Transitioning to hg38 reference genome	This interactive session will allow participants to share experiences, identify common issues and pitfalls, and discuss strategies and approaches to overcoming these that clinical genomic labs can apply for a smooth transition to the hg38 reference genome. This includes for example issues such as dependencies with external resources and which methods to transition when.	Sharmini Alagaratnam (Sharmini.Alagaratnam@dnv.com) & Kaisa Kettunen (kaisa.kettunen@hus.fi)
Identification of complex biomarkers (e.g. HRD, MMR, TMB, MSI, or other similar biomarkers) for NGS-based cancer diagnostics.	A number of new sequencing techniques, like variations of single cell sequencing and long read sequencing, are currently in use in research. We will explore the clinical potential for the most interesting techniques and their impacts on workflows (lab and bioinformatics), focusing on experiences, feasibility and future clinical perspective.	Nordic participating laboratories
Detections of somatic SVs and fusions with NGS-based cancer diagnostics.	Structural variants comprise a large fraction of variation in cancer genomes and play a significant role in cancer development. Nevertheless, identification of these variants is challenging due to tumour heterogeneity and sample purity. This session aims to facilitate sharing knowledge on calling SVs and fusions, and identify issues that need to be addressed by the NACG community.	Nordic participating laboratories

Practical information

Registration

Please register that you will attend the NACG workshops here: Sign up

Venue

The workshop will take place at the Scandic Aarhus City in Denmark.

Accommodation

Scandic Aarhus City have made 40 x standard rooms available for DKK 922,- (including breakfast and VAT)

To receive this rate please book your accommodation using one of the methods below and this code: BAAR241121

Email the hotel at LoneAmby.Andersen@scandichotels.com

Alternatively

Call the hotel on +45 89 31 81 47 • Or: +45 89 31 81 00

Travel

The nearest airport is Åarhus domestic airport. Please book your flights as soon as possible to ensure you can attend. Due to flight arrival times on the 25th, it is recommended that you arrive the day prior to the workshop on the 24th of November.

The hotel is one hour with the airport bus X925 from/to the Åarhus domestic airport.

Requirements for entry to Denmark

Information about entry requirements for Denmark can be found here: https://en.coronasmitte.dk/

Covid

Due to covid restrictions, meeting participation is currently limited to 80 attendees.

Travel to the NACG meeting should be undertaken in accordance with covid travel recommendations. NACG and NACG meeting organisers are unable to accept any liability for inability to attend due to covid restrictions (or other reasons for inability to attend). All activities will be carried out in accordance with local regulations.

Workshop dinner

Details about the workshop dinner will be announced prior to the workshop, and will be held on the evening of Thursday 25th November. Please register participation and any dietary requirements in the registration form.

Resources

Workshop reports from previous events, NACG papers and governing documents are available at https://nordicclinicalgenomics.org/resources

Contact us

If you have questions about the workshop, please contact us at post@nordicclinicalgenomics.org