



**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](mailto:post@nordicclinicalgenomics.org).

## Workshop agenda

Scandic Aarhus City Hotel, Denmark			
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> November		
<b>8:30 Coffee</b>	<b>8:30 Coffee</b>		
<b>9:00 Welcome</b> Dag E. Undlien, OUS Department of Medical Genetics, NO, NACG chair  Ole Halfdan Larsen, Head of Department of Molecular Medicine/MOMA, AUH, DK	<b>8:35 NACG knowledge sharing</b> NACG members		
<b>09:30 Keynote: Covid sequencing and monitoring in DK</b> Morten Rasmussen, Statens Serum Institut, Denmark	<b>9:50 Coffee break</b>		
<b>10:15 Coffee break</b>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td> <b>10:00 Transitioning to hg38 reference genome</b>            Sharmini Alagaratnam, DNV, NO, and Kaisa Kettunen, HUS         </td> <td> <b>10:00 Detection of somatic SVs and fusions with NGS-based cancer diagnostics</b>            Nordic participating laboratories         </td> </tr> </table>	<b>10:00 Transitioning to hg38 reference genome</b> Sharmini Alagaratnam, DNV, NO, and Kaisa Kettunen, HUS	<b>10:00 Detection of somatic SVs and fusions with NGS-based cancer diagnostics</b> Nordic participating laboratories
<b>10:00 Transitioning to hg38 reference genome</b> Sharmini Alagaratnam, DNV, NO, and Kaisa Kettunen, HUS	<b>10:00 Detection of somatic SVs and fusions with NGS-based cancer diagnostics</b> Nordic participating laboratories		

<p><b>10:30 National updates from Nordic representatives</b></p>		<p><b>11:00 Identification of complex biomarkers (e.g. HRD, MMR, TMB, MSI or other similar biomarkers) for NGS based cancer diagnostics</b> Nordic participating laboratories</p>
<p><b>12:00 Lunch</b></p>	<p><b>12:00 Lunch</b></p>	
<p><b>13:00 Implementing sharing of variant classifications via the Variant exchange API</b> Tony Håndstad, Department of Medical Genetics, OUS NO</p>	<p><b>13:00 Challenging clinical cases</b> Maria Rossing, Center for Genomic Medicine, Centre of Diagnostic Investigations, Rigshospitalet DK</p> <p><b>14:30 IVDR: status update, knowledge sharing and potential Nordic collaboration</b> Cathrine Høgseth Nordhus, Department of Medical Genetics, OUS NO</p>	<p><b>13:00 Conclusion of workshop</b></p>
<p><b>16:00 Wrap up and classification implementation workshop results</b> Tony Håndstad, Department of Medical Genetics, OUS NO</p>		
<p><b>17:00 Conclusion of day 1</b></p>		
<p><b>19:00 Workshop dinner</b></p>		

# Workshop session details

Topic	Description	Contact person
<b>National updates from Nordic representatives</b>	At this session, representatives from the Nordic countries will provide national updates related to clinical genomics.	NACG Nordic representatives
<b>Implementing sharing of variant classifications via the Variant Exchange API</b>	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 ( <a href="mailto:tony.handstad@medisin.uio.no">tony.handstad@medisin.uio.no</a> ), Øyvind Evju and Tor Solli-Nowlan
<b>Challenging clinical cases</b>	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.	Maria Rossing ( <a href="mailto:caroline.maria.rossing@regionh.dk">caroline.maria.rossing@regionh.dk</a> )
<b>IVDR: status update, knowledge sharing and potential Nordic collaboration</b>	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 ( <a href="mailto:cahnor@ous-hf.no">cahnor@ous-hf.no</a> )
<b>Transitioning to hg38 reference genome</b>	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 ( <a href="mailto:Sharmini.Alagaratnam@dnv.com">Sharmini.Alagaratnam@dnv.com</a> ) & Kaisa Kettunen ( <a href="mailto:kaisa.kettunen@hus.fi">kaisa.kettunen@hus.fi</a> )
<b>Identification of complex biomarkers (e.g. HRD, MMR, TMB, MSI, or other similar biomarkers) for NGS-based cancer diagnostics.</b>	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
<b>Detections of somatic SVs and fusions with NGS-based cancer diagnostics.</b>	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
<b>NACG Knowledge Sharing</b>	An interactive session where NACG members will share projects and learnings.	NACG members

# Practical information

---

## Registration

Please register that you will attend the NACG workshops here: [Sign up](#)

Deadline for registration is Wednesday 17th November 2021.

This will be an interactive workshop and therefore no virtual component is currently planned.

## Venue

The workshop will take place at the [Scandic Aarhus City in Denmark](#).

## Accommodation

Scandic Aarhus City have made 60 x standard rooms available for DKK 922,- (including breakfast and VAT)

To receive this rate please book your accommodation by the 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2021 using one of the methods below and this code: BAAR241121

Email the hotel at [LoneAmby.Andersen@scandichotels.com](mailto: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 Århus domestic airport. Please book your flights as soon as possible to ensure you can attend. Due to flight arrival times on the 25<sup>th</sup>, it is recommended that you arrive the day prior to the workshop on the 24<sup>th</sup> of November.

The hotel is one hour with the airport bus X925 from/to the Århus 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 25<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:post@nordicclinicalgenomics.org)