The search for excellence

When we held the first NRC conference in 2006, our goal was to create a forum for everybody involved in clinical research in the Nordic countries. We wanted to demonstrate best practices and ensure that we learn from each other.

Since then a lot has happened. Clinical research, innovation and development are in focus politically, and many now work to promote health research and innovation in all of the Nordic countries. But there is still a need for a common body that can coordinate these efforts.

That is why we have established the umbrella organisation NRI Networks: Nordic Health Research and Innovation Networks. Our aim is to develop the NRI conferences as an arena for exchange of knowledge and transfer of competency from one country to another. In addition we will work to resolve common issues, develop common rules and common practices and strengthen the interaction between the hospitals and the industry.

We have a lot to learn from each other. I believe building on our common cultural and professional heritage will enhance both clinical practice and secure our competitiveness as a region.

Stener Kvinnsland,
CEO, Haukeland University Hospital,
Chairman of NRI Board

Promoting better health services

“Active research is a prerequisite for the quality of the health services”
Norwegian Minister of Health,
Anne Grethe Strøm- Erichsen, NRC 2011

The overall goal for NRI-Networks is to ensure the best health services possible for everybody in the Nordic countries.

The organisation is built on the conviction that in order to do this we need to strengthen research, innovation and development at Nordic hospitals.

NRI - networks has six focus areas:

• Nordic cooperation in health research and innovation
• The organisation of health research and innovation
• The financing of health research and innovation
• The politics of health research and innovation
• The implementation of health research and innovation
• The relationship between hospitals and the industry
A Network of Networks

NRI is supporting existing networks within health research and innovation in the Nordic countries and is in the process of developing new initiatives in areas where there is a need for more Nordic cooperation.

A Nordic Monitor Network, (NORM), has been established and the framework has been set for a Network for nurse researchers in Nordic University Hospitals. NRI is also supporting a Nordic network for hospital innovation and a Nordic network for paediatric research - hoping these will be launched in 2013.

We invite you to contact us if you are involved in activities which would make you a natural partner for NRI.

Please visit our website: www.nordicnetworks.org for the latest news of our activities.

Our Members

NRI is a membership organisation. Our members are University Hospitals, Universities and other research organisations, The Pharmaceutical Industry, The Medical Technical Industry, Governmental bodies and Patient organisations.

As a member you and your employees get benefits such as reduced prices for the NRI-conferences, newsletters and access to our communication resources.

The Organisation

NRI-networks are governed by a board of four:

- **Stener Kvinnsland**, CEO, Haukeland University Hospital, Norway (Chairman)
- **Olav Flaten**, Medical director, GlaxoSmithKline & representative of Legemiddelindustriforeningen (LMI), Norway
- **Birgir Jacobsson**, CEO, Karolinska University Hospital, Sweden
- **Kristján Erlendsson**, Director R & D Landspitali University Hospital, Iceland

An advisory group with two members from each country is responsible for planning the conferences and developing the other network activities.

The NRI secretariat is based in Bergen, Norway.
What do we do?

Conferences:
The NRI network started as a conference, and maintaining the NRI-conferences as a primary arena for the Nordic health research community will always be at the core of our activities.

Development:
NRI acts as a catalyst and facilitator for initiatives that our members find challenging. We are currently exploring the possibility of developing niches of competency within research, such as Nordic network for paediatric research. We have also started a process looking into the possibility of Nordic registry research.

Projects:
NRI initiates projects in order to develop our knowledge base. We have in 2012, with support from Nordic Innovation, done an extensive survey trying to elucidate the dynamics between the hospitals and the industry when it comes to clinical trials. We are in 2013 doing a survey of innovation activities at Nordic University Hospitals.

Information:
NRI is developing www.nordicnetworks.org as a common website for information about health research and innovation in the Nordic countries. You may reach all our membership organisations through the site and find information about the various networks and organisations working in this area - and about their activities. A newsletter for our members will be launched shortly.

The NRI-Conferences

The NRI-conferences have become the central arena for solving problems, promoting new ideas and exchanging knowledge across national borders and different disciplines.

Each year in April or May professionals from Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Norway and Iceland gather for three days of inspiring lectures, discussions and workshops covering all NRI-networks focus areas: Nordic research cooperation, the relationship between hospitals and the industry, the organisation, financing, politics and implementation of health research and innovation.

There is always a central theme and there is ample time for networking between sessions.

The speakers are prominent professionals from all over the world, many of them representing the world's top research institutions.

The NRI-conferences have mostly been arranged at Solstrand Hotel in Norway, but there are plans to hold conferences also in other venues in the Nordic countries.

From 2013 one day at the conference is reserved for Nordic meetings of all our membership organisations.
Nordic Health Research and Innovation Networks

Web: www.nordicnetworks.org
Telephone: + 47 55 97 09 52
Email: info@nordicnetworks.org
Postal address: NRI-networks, Møllendalsveien 65C, 5009 Bergen, Norway