

NorPEN executive committee - minutes

Skype-meeting 3/2020

13.00, April 27 2020

Present: Hedvig Nordeng (NO, chair), Björn Pasternak (SE, notes), Lotte Rasmussen (DK), Vera Ehrenstein (DK), Helle Kieler (SE), Sirpa Hartikainen (FI), Carolyn Cesta (NorPEN 2020), Mikkel Højlund (PhD students) Miia Artama (pharmacoepi societies), Maarit Leinonen (registry holders)

1. Hedvig welcomed all.
2. Notes from the February 2020 call meeting were approved.
3. Carolyn updated on the NorPEN 2020 meeting.

Given current uncertainty, the organizing committee proposes to postpone the meeting to 2021. The ExCom was in agreement. Also, having the full meeting online was not regarded an option, given that the essence of the meeting is networking.

The organizing committee asked for the ExCom's opinion on arranging a short online activity in November 2020. ExCom was positive, with the preferred alternative being the G-methods course and the backup-plan consisting of a hot topic webinar targeted at COVID pharmacoepi research.

4. No specific news from national pharmacoepi societies. The Norwegian (general) epidemiology network will arrange a pharmacoepi-focused meeting in 2021.
5. No specific webpage updates.
6. COVID-related activities in the Nordic countries were discussed. In Denmark there are activities related to a potential European grant for research related to COVID vaccines as well as several projects from the SDU group. Other countries report issues with relevant data availability and efforts to accelerate data availability are ongoing in Finland. Norway has recently launched an adverse event register, which will enable linkage of spontaneous reports on individual level.
7. NorPEN papers on drug utilization (PI Wettermark) and Nordic countries as cohort (PI Nordeng), writing in progress.
8. Funding opportunities have been circulated.
9. Next Skype meeting: June 22, 13.00 CET. Chair: IS, notes: NO. Please remember to inform your substitute.

The chair and the note-keeper for the TCs take turns by country: DK, NO, IS, SE and FI. The chair of one meeting will take notes at the next meeting.