

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

The Nordic Association for Clinical Physics (NACP) was founded in 1962. The last and final general assembly of the NACP was held on June 10th 2004. At this meeting the NACP was reorganised, got a new constitution, and since then the NACP is an umbrella organisation for the five Nordic Medical physics societies.

According to the constitution, the Annual Report shall be prepared by the president, approved by the council and sent to the presidents of the national member organisations (NMO). This Annual Report includes the year 2020, and was approved after the 2nd council meeting in 2021.

Aims and purposes of the NACP

- a) To foster and co-ordinate the activities of the Nordic member organisations in the field of clinical physics in all its aspects.
- b) To establish relationships and collaboration where appropriate with national, regional and international societies and bodies in the fields related to clinical physics.
- c) To improve the standard of clinical physics activities within the Nordic countries.
- d) To promote Nordic co-operation within the field of clinical physics in scientific work, developments and education.
- e) To promote the exchange of scientific information on clinical physics and related fields of science.
- f) To recommend standards for education, training and accreditation programmes within the fields of clinical physics.
- g) To encourage scholarships and the exchange of scientific experts within appropriate fields.

The NACP strategy

The council has decided to establish a structure for the organisation based on need and simplicity. This means we will not start any activity without explaining why this activity is within the aims and purposes for the NACP. It also means we will try to make a “self-driven” organisation where the council plan, organise and make decisions and where task groups do most of the scientific and practical work. We will work towards making a solid foundation for a prosperous Nordic Association for Clinical Physics.

The council of the NACP:

In 2020 the members of the council were:

President:	Marianne Leirdal Stokkan	Norwegian Association of Medical Physics
Secretary:	Toni Ihalainen	Finnish Association of Medical Physicists
Treasurer:	Asger Greval Petersen	Danish Society for Medical Physics
Webmaster:	Anders Tingberg	Swedish Society for Radiation Physics
Delegate:	Gardar Myrdal	Icelandic Society of Medical Physicists

Under normal circumstances, the tasks have been rotated every three years at the time of the NACP symposium. However, as the 2020 symposium was postponed until 2021, the council decided not to rotate tasks before the symposium.

Work within the council:

The council had four meetings in 2020; in April, June, September and November. All meetings were online meetings.

The president prepared agendas for the meetings. The secretary took minutes. Approved minutes can be found on NACP web pages. The secretary also sent the minutes to the presidents of the NMOs.

It is important that each NMO will continue their responsibility to appoint delegates to the council.

In 2020 the council has worked on the following tasks:

- Organizing the 5th official NACP Symposium, intended to be in May 2020 in Reykjavik but was postponed due to COVID-19
- Supporting the NACP Radiological Physics Committee
- Supporting the NACP Nuclear Medicine Committee
- Declaring the winner of the Varian grant, steering the use of the grant and preparing application for the next year's grant
- Continuing cooperation with Acta Oncologica and Acta Radiologica
- Website transfer to a webhotel One.com

Some results of this work can be seen by visiting the NACP website: www.nacp-nordisk.org

NACP Symposium 2020

The council participated in discussions concerning the NACP 2020 symposium which was postponed due to COVID-19.

Grants

The NACP has established a cooperation with both Varian and Elekta in order to support clinically working physicists in the field of radiation therapy and to encourage research and development in the field.

VARIAN-NACP grant

The announcement of a \$2500 grant was released in November 2019 and the deadline for applications was in December; however, no applications fulfilling the criteria were received, and the application deadline was postponed until January 2020. The winner was Dr. Eero Hippeläinen from Helsinki, Finland. The money was transferred to the grantee; his project was delayed, however, because the university labs were closed due to COVID-19. An interim report was sent to Silicon Valley Community Foundation in September 2020.

ELEKTA-NACP grant

The Elekta-NACP grant was established in 2012. Unfortunately Elekta did not support the grant in 2020.

NACP Travel grants

No travel grants were announced in 2020. It was decided that the travel grants already awarded for the 2020 symposium (10 x € 500) will be valid for the postponed symposium. [It was later decided that the NACP council will pay the registration fee of the 2021 virtual symposium for those attendees that were originally entitled to the 2020 symposium travel grant.]

Scientific Committee

The members of the 2020 NACP Scientific Committee are listed in the table below

Field	Finland	Sweden	Norway	Denmark
Radiation therapy	Jan Seppälä	Joakim Medin	Turi Danielsen	Stine S. Korreman
Nuclear medicine	Mika Teräs	Sigrid Leide Svegborn	Marianne Leirdal Stokkan	Søren Baarsgaard Hansen (Secretary)
Radiology/MRI	Matti Hanni	Angelica Svalkvist	Daniel Aadnevik	Ahmed Jibril Abdi

The NACP Radiological Physics Committee (RPC)

Hans-Erik Källman (Sweden) and Anne Catrine Martinsen (Norway) initiated the Radiological Physics Committee in 2009. The members in 2020 were:

Angelica Svalkvist, Sweden
Joanna Sierpowska, Finland
Daniel Austigard Aadnevik, Norway
Ahmed Jibril Abdi, Denmark

The committee had three virtual meetings in 2020. The primary activity of the committee has been planning of the CT QA / Dosimetry course in Helsinki. The course has been postponed until May 2022.

The NACP Nuclear Medicine Physics Committee (NMPC)

The NMPC was initiated in 2014. The members of the Committee in 2020 were:

Poul-Erik Braad, Denmark
Pasi Korkola, Finland
Jan Axelsson, Sweden
Caroline Stokke, Norway

The level of activity of the committee has been low in 2020. To read more on the NMPC, visit their home pages linked from the NACP pages.

Establishing cooperation with scientific journals

Acta Oncologica sponsored the NACP 2017 Symposium in Oslo the same way as in Århus 2008, Uppsala 2011, and Turku 2014. Discussions for sponsoring the 2020 symposium were ongoing in 2019-2020, but no agreement was made. However, an open access peer-reviewed journal MDPI Diagnostics will publish a special issue with selected papers of the 2021 symposium.

Website matters

New pages were launched in 2013 and have during 2020 continuously been updated by the webmaster. Transferring of the NACP pages to a web hotel One.com was completed in autumn 2020.

NACP

Nordic Association for Clinical Physics

An umbrella organisation for: Danish Society for Medical Physics • Finnish Association of Medical Physicists • Icelandic Society of Medical Physicists • Norwegian Association of Medical Physics • Swedish Society of Radiation Physics

Future strategies

The council continues to discuss the following strategies for the future:

- Initiation of a NACP dosimetry task group
- Co-operation with Acta Oncologica and Acta Radiologica
- Common job advertisement on the NACP web-pages
- Further development of the web pages
- Organisation of the 2021 digital symposium and future symposia
- Discussion and improvement of medical physics staffing levels in the Nordic countries

Account

The NACP has a bank account in Nordjyske Bank, Denmark. The financial status by January 2021 was the following:

Bank account:	42.235 DKK
Varian NACP Grant:	3.266 DKK
Total balance:	45.501 DKK

Marianne Leirdal Stokkan
President 2017-2021