

Minutes from Scandinavian Sarcoma Group`s Board meeting

**Conference room, Kamprad, Barngatan 2B, Lund, time 11.00 – 16.00,
2017-01-31.**

Attendees

Kirsten Sundby Hall

Eva-Mari Olofsson (meeting secretary)

Mikael Eriksson

Thomas Baad-Hansen

Jukka Kanerva

Fredrik Mertens

Hans Kristian Haugland

Chairman Kirsten Sundby Hall wished the new board warmly welcome.

I. SSG activities through the year: What needs to be done and by whom?

Working committee meeting

This is a yearly 2-day-meeting that starts with a general session before the subcommittees have separate meetings. The meeting ends with a session on visceral and retroperitoneal sarcomas on day 2. Preparations for the meeting start approximately 8 months earlier. The meeting costs are covered by a registration fee.

Plenary meeting

This is a bi-annual 3-day-event that starts with a separate program, e.g. workshops, and an opening session. The next 2 days there is a general program, one for medical doctors and one for nurses and physiotherapists . A common session for all disciplines is included. Preparations for the meeting have to be initiated approximately 2 years before the meeting. The structure of the organizing committee is detailed in the SSG bylaws. The meeting costs are partly covered by a registration fee, partly by the industry.

During the board meeting, the main purposes of the plenary meeting were discussed. It was concluded that the plenary meeting probably constitutes a valuable forum because of the opportunities to attend overview lectures, to meet colleagues from the other Nordic countries, and to meet international experts.

II. Economy

Fredrik Mertens, treasurer, gave a report of the economic status for SSG.

The main income sources are the trials that SSG run or participate in. In addition, there was a large donation to SSG in 2016, and an application to the Swedish Cancer Society was given 100.000 SEK. SSG is also sponsored by a yearly amount of 150 000 NOK by “Nasjonal Kompetansetjeneste for sarkomer”, Norway . The meetings by the pathology review group has been sponsored from this amount. The main expenses concern the SSG secretariat and costs related to initiating and

running the clinical trials. Within the next few years, attempts have to be made to achieve funding from other sources.

III. Status of the plenary meeting in Aarhus 2017

- a) Invitations to speakers: Eva-Mari and Kirsten are responsible.
- b) Before deciding on the final registration date and fee, Eva-Mari needs to contact the travel agency, Reachem AB, involved in the meeting. The registration fee was decided to be lower for nurses/physiotherapists than for physicians/others. There will be no option to pay with invoice due to bad experience from the last meeting in Malmö.
- c) The registration page needs a few more corrections before publishing – Eva-Mari and Thomas will make the final changes.
- d) Poster prizes and gifts to foreign speakers: Kirsten will ask the local committee to supply these (expenses covered by SSG).

IV. Morphology/tumor biology/molecular genetics subcommittee

The future work in the Morphology/tumor biology/molecular genetics subcommittee, with focus on the pathologists, was discussed. At the moment there are no SSG studies that need pathology review. There are some concerns related to the activities in the future by the group. Hans Kristian as a member of the group, will bring this up for discussion at the forthcoming pathology meeting in Tampere. The group is asked to present proposals for projects. SSG supports the meetings, both with help in organizing the meetings and with some economical support. There are some concerns for how long time this support can be maintained.

V. Pathology review meeting in Tampere, Finland

Next meeting is planned to be held in Tampere, Finland.

VI. SSG member list/book (Nurses/Physiotherapist

The SSG members address book needs to be updated. We decided that one representative/country should be responsible for maintaining the contact details (Denmark – Thomas Baad-Hansen, Finland – Jukka Kanerva, Norway – Hans Kristian Haugland, Sweden – Fredrik Mertens). The nurses/physiotherapists can apply to become a member of SSG and will get their contact details in the SSG address book.

VII. SSG homepage – Updating etc.

The homepage needs to be updated and Fredrik Mertens will be responsible, together with Eva-Mari.

VIII. SSG protocols – future studies

Mikael briefly summarized the clinical trials and the differences between them.

IX. Photo board members

A photo of the board was taken and will be published on the homepage.

X. Next SSG board meeting

The board decided to have a telephone conference in May 2017. The next face to face meeting for the board will be in connection to the meeting in Aarhus in September, 2017(Sept 19, 2017, 17:00).

Eva-Mari Olofsson (sign)
Meeting secretary