

Agenda for Cancer Research KI Strategy meeting and Executive Board

Monday December 16, 2024, 13:00-14:55 <https://ki-se.zoom.us/j/68662491187>

(IP= information point, D=discussion point, DP=Decision point, A=Attached document)

Board members	<p>Chair and Director Elias Arnér, Department of Medical Biochemistry and Biophysics Co-Director Yvonne Wengström, Department of Neurobiology, Care Sciences and Society, Co-Director Marco Gerling, Department of Clinical Science, Intervention and Technology – CLINTEC Simon Ekman, Department of Oncology-Pathology Linda Lindström, Department of Oncology-Pathology Päivi Östling, Department of Oncology-Pathology, SciLifeLab Margareta Wilhelm, Department of Microbiology, Tumor and Cell Biology Matthias Löhr, Department of Clinical Science, Intervention and Technology Renske Altena, Department of Oncology-Pathology Keith Humphreys, Department of Medical Epidemiology and Biostatistics Ninib Baryawno, Department of Women's and Children's Health, Junior faculty representative Eva Jolly, Karolinska Comprehensive Cancer Centre coordinator Patrik Rossi, Managing Director, Cancer Theme Karolinska University. Jonas Fuxe, Department of Laboratory Medicine, Reference Group Chair Lise-lott Eriksson, Chair of the Blood Cancer Forum, Patient Group Joakim Dillner, Department of Clinical Science, Intervention and Technology, Cancer Prevention Europe. Lena Sharp, RCC Stockholm-Gotland Dina Dabaghie, Department of Medical Biochemistry and Biophysics Liselotte Bäckdahl, Department of Medical Biochemistry and Biophysics Stefina Milanova, Department of Medical Biochemistry and Biophysics Johanna Mayer, Department of Medical Biochemistry and Biophysics</p>
Invited Guests	
Not attending	Yvonne Wengström, Päivi Östling, Ninib Baryawno, Patrik Rossi, Jonas Fuxe, Lena Sharp

- 1) Welcome to the meeting and approval of minutes from the previous CRKI Executive Board meeting 2024-11-18 (A) (E. Arnér, 1 min) DP

Comment on previous meeting minutes: Postpone the decision on CRKIs support for CKC until Johanna Vernersson can join a meeting and report on their activities.

All EB meeting minutes are available for download on the CRKI website: [About Cancer Research KI | Karolinska Institutet](#)

EB meeting minutes from November were approved.

- 2) New CRKI Vice-director (Elias Arnér, 5 min) IP

Linda Lindström has been nominated as new co-director of CRKI. All CRKI EB members approved. Next, the committee for research will decide on officially endorsing Linda Lindström as new co-director.

3) Junior Faculty representative Ninib Baryawno voted in as Board Member (E. Arnér, 3 min)
DP

Ninib is no longer part of the junior faculty and therefore cannot continue on the EB as a junior faculty representative and a new junior faculty member needs to be elected to the EB. It has been suggested that Ninib could continue on the EB as a regular member. In between mandate periods, Ninib could be directly voted into the EB by a decision of the EB and then the committee for research would be notified about the decision.

All EB members agreed to elect Ninib as an ordinary EB member and the committee for research will be informed about the decision. The mandate period for Ninib needs to be investigated and the EB members will be informed about it.

4) Scientific advisory board end of term, suggestions for experts and competence areas (Elias Arnér 10 min) D

The scientific advisory board (SAB) is shared between CRKI and KCCC. The KCCC Board of Directors asked CRKI EB to propose new SAB members. To aid the task, CRKI has received a gap analysis from the KCCC board of directors including a list of competencies that should be represented in the joint SAB. CRKI will also receive a short description on what is expected from the SAB members. There is also a need for a new chair of the SAB, that potentially should be selected based on a similar type of expertise to the current chair. The SAB members could be part of a CCC, but it is not a requirement. The European Academy of Cancer Sciences could also be tasked with providing suggestions on new SAB members based on the list of competencies.

There are already ideas and suggestions on the SAB, which will be distributed before the next EB meeting, so that all EB members can already start reading and thinking about potential candidates.

This will be further discussed at the next EB meeting.

5) Mayo-CRKI Task Forces and the Synergistic collaboration grant (Elias Arnér, 5 min) IP

The synergistic collaboration grant is a new, large initiative for funding synergistic projects between KI and the Mayo clinic and will be based on REDI in the fields of breast cancer, hematological malignancies and advanced technologies. Potential funding sources for the grant are currently being investigated. This new grant will not replace the ongoing Mayo-KI collaborative grants.

Co-Chairs from KI and Mayo clinic have been identified for all task forces. The task forces are currently working on a description of research areas with great synergistic potential (deadline 14 February 2025). Those descriptions will be discussed and will result in the final identified research areas, which will be the basis for opening the grant call. The submitted applications for KI-Mayo synergistic projects will be evaluated by reviewers. The number of projects to be funded will be determined based on the available funding. The call will be open to everyone at KI. It is important to note that the members of the task force are not guaranteed funding, but they will identify areas for synergistic projects in which the grant calls will be opened.

6) CRKI budget for 2025 (Liselotte Bäckdahl 5 min) IP

The budget for 2025 is now finalized after adding the following additional points: Swedish Cancer Research Meeting, NIO workshops, European Academy for Cancer Sciences, and NatiOn requested 2M SEK. In the balance that will leave 991 000 SEK and therefore there will be less agency capital. We are still waiting for the regleringsbrevet.

There will be a presentation by NatiOn in the EB meeting in January and it should be kept as a routine to ask those requesting funding to present at an EB meeting.

7) "En dag för Cancerforskningen" Nov 6, evaluation (Renske Altena, 5 min) IP

"En dag för cancerforskning" was a half-day online event with excellent speakers with a strong focus on having understandable presentations for the general public. It was moderated by Marc Levengood. 961 people registered for the event and 372 viewers were watching the live stream at the same time. We are waiting for the number of total individual viewers, as some only watched parts of it. There was engagement with mentimeter and Q&A during the live stream. The event was very well appreciated, and the participants took home hope, inspiration and knowledge.

We are discussing aiming for an annual event to make it recognizable and establish consistency. It will also be important to not only focus on the live event, but also the online availability of the lectures afterward.

8) Evaluation and follow up on the Ethics seminar 22 November "Navigating the regulatory landscape at ease" (Marco Gerling, 2 min) IP

We hosted an online seminar about ethics called "Navigating the regulatory landscape at ease", which has not been done previously by central KI or other SFOs. The seminar featured engaging discussions with 45 online participants and more than 45 questions being pre-submitted or asked during the seminar. Due to the large interest, it is planned to repeat the seminar (during early spring 2025) potentially in collaboration with other SFOs. The seminar was not recorded, but we are considering recording the next seminar to make it more accessible.

The seminar was very positively appreciated, and EB members are encouraging a follow-up seminar.

9) Towards a Cancer Mission Hub in Sweden (Dina Dabaghie 10 min) IP

Dina Dabaghie presented about the EU project "Establishing of Cancer Mission Hubs: Networks and Synergies" (ECHO-S). The project includes six different work packages and CRKI/KCCC is part of WP6 on dissemination and communication. The project includes work on how the structure and governance of the national cancer mission hub (NCMH) will look like, which can be different in different countries. All of them try to bring together all different stakeholders: policymakers, healthcare professionals, researchers, industry, patients, and citizens. Activities of the NCMH aim to sustain cancer as a national priority, raise public awareness and advocacy, effective communication strategies, as well as continuous improvement and innovation.

Several countries already have established hub-like structures. The first NCMH will be launched in May 2025 in Poland. In Sweden the NCMH is managed by Socialstyrelsen. Discussions about the Swedish NCMH are ongoing.

In WP6 we are currently planning the 1st Cancer Mission Fair that will take place 20-22 May 2025 in Warsaw. It combines the launch of the Polish NCMH, a citizen engagement event and a meeting about synergies between different EU projects. The cancer mission fair is open to citizens, researchers, policymakers, healthcare professionals and other stakeholders from diverse backgrounds. Please let us know if you would like to attend the meeting or have a suggestion for an interesting initiative on citizen engagement to be showcased during the fair.

10) CCE update (Elias Arnér, 5 min) IP

Cancer Core Europe is a collaboration between 7 cancer centers in Europe. The visit of CCE leadership/ representatives to Stockholm in January was postponed and a new date will be announced.

11) Karolinska Comprehensive Cancer Center Update (Eva Jolly, 10 min) IP

KCCC is waiting for the report from the OECl audit. It is expected for the new year and will be shared with everyone. There will be one month for working on the improvement plan.

The work for the yearly report of KCCC is ongoing, which is led by Ann-Britt Johansson.

The KCCC day will be in conjunction with the awarding of the Sjöbergpriset. It will be a half-day meeting on Monday, 31 March, starting at 11 am.

Currently, proposals for two EU joint actions are being written: Personalized Cancer Medicine and Pediatric Palliative Care with representatives from KI and KS.

Furthermore, KCCC and CRKI will coordinate a joint response to the updated Swedish Cancer Strategy with involvement of the different Swedish cancer centers.

12) Cancer Research KI organization: IP

All WG leaders, update on working group progress (3 min each, 18 min total) IP

- WG1 Research (L. Lindström)

Currently planning the PI retreat lead by Dhifaf Sarhan and Ninib Baryawno. We are soon starting the planning for the CRKI retreat and the KI-Mayo meeting.

- WG2 Education (M. Wilhelm)

There is an increased budget of 2 M SEK for FoTO. Therefore, it will be possible to add new activities.

- WG3 Outreach (R. Altena)

Renske presented the outcome from En dag för cancerforskning earlier (point 7).

- WG4 Precision Cancer Medicine (P. Östling)

Päivi Östling is not present in the meeting. Elias Arnér informed us about the involvement in the new JA PCM and the PCM course with NIO in March.

- WG5 Industrial Collaboration (S. Ekman)

The last academia-industry collaboration seminar about biomarkers with LIF had 60 in-person participants and was very well appreciated. The seminar was followed by an afterwork event, where attendance can be further improved. The upcoming seminars are being planned, the next seminar in March will focus on AI. Please reach out with ideas for seminars. The industry website has been updated ([Cancer Research KI Industry Collaboration | Karolinska Institutet](#)). Discussion with KIPA is ongoing regarding a PostDoc/industry matchmaking event. With Cancer Research Horizons discussions are ongoing to plan a joint meeting in the spring.

- CPE Cancer Prevention Europe (J. Dillner)

CPE just had their annual meeting, a delegate from CRKI to the junior network of CPE attended the meeting online. The outcome document from the meeting will be distributed to the EB members. There is a webinar series on cancer prevention across Europe, and now the junior research network is tasked to plan the next webinars.

There is ongoing work with position papers regarding primary, secondary and tertiary prevention. KI is currently only represented in the secondary prevention. There is a possibility that Joakim Dillner could be part of the primary prevention and Yvonne Wengström in the tertiary prevention.

Note: It is important to establish communication between CPE and the participation in European projects, as all the different EU projects do cover prevention.

13) Cancer Research KI administration (L. Bäckdahl and D. Dabaghie, 5 min)

Johanna Mayer is leaving CRKI and hiring a new research administrator is ongoing.

14) Seminar and workshops by CRKI and relevant organisations:

- a. PI retreat Djurönäset, 17-18 February 2025
- b. PCM course with NIO 24-28 March Stockholm
- c. KCCC Day, Aula Medica, 31 March 2025
- d. Radiotherapy workshop with NIO, 12-13 May Stockholm
- e. Swedish Cancer Research Meeting SCRM Malmö, 22-23 May 2025
- f. Djurönäset retreat, 22-23 September 2025

15) Any other issue?

16) End of meeting

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