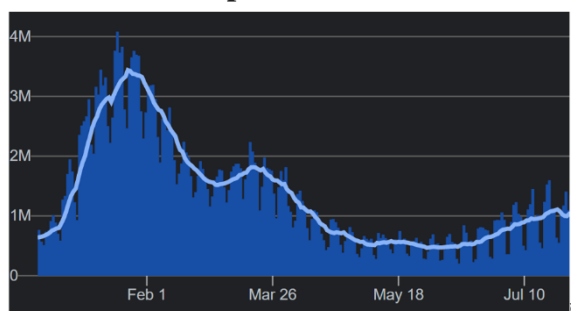


1. Febr. 2023/JAS

Annual report 2022 from the Chair of NFGP

The COVID-19 pandemic



Covid-statistics of new cases worldwide year 2022

As mentioned in my report for year 2021, the beginning of year 2022 was a difficult period for us all. We were observing a new wave of the Covid-19 pandemic (figure). Obviously, this affected future NFGP activities, especially threatening our plans to hold the next NCGP in Stavanger this spring. Further described below.

In January and February, several contacts and informal meetings were held within NFAs scientific and organizing committees as well as with NFGPs chair and secretary regarding this situation. Two main options were on the table. A) carry out earlier plans holding a congress in Stavanger 2022 or postpone it, B) Offer a hybrid congress, with combination of virtual and physical congress or both. Taking into consideration, that most of the citizens in the Nordic countries were now very well vaccinated against Covid and it seemed the Covid wave was declining in our countries, it was decided to continue with our old physical congress – deadline for abstract submission was expanded to January 31st. That was a moment of “*Alea iacta est*”.

Main tasks year 2022 - March 2023

Our main tasks were similar as the last years, now with main focus on:

- Arrangement of our Nordic Congress in Stavanger and in future
- Professional development within WONCA
- The Scandinavian Journal of Primary Health Care
- Core Values of Nordic General Practice
- Nordic Young General Practitioners
- Nordic Leader Seminar (NLS)
- NFGPs secretariat, administration, and economy
- Other matters

Meetings year 2022 to March 2023

NFGPs activities and involvement in different organizational tasks listed above have been increasing. Besides physical meetings, virtual meetings via Zoom or Teams have been very useful for these objectives. Number of Zoom meetings and tasks are shown in the table below.

Zoom/Team meetings 2022-2023

20/1 2022	Secretarial meeting - preparing annual meeting
24/2 2022	Secretarial meeting – preparing agenda for annual meeting
25/5 2022	General meeting - preparing WW in Oslo and WE in London
25/8 2022	SJPHC and secretary
29/8 2022	NLS Secretary preparing NLS

30/8 2022	NLS – secretary and SYLY. Preparing NLS meeting
1/9 2022	SJPHC and secretary
14/9 2022	NYGP and secretary
4/10 2022	SFAM and secretary internal matters and planning for NCGP 2026
2/11 2022	NFA and secretary internal matters
12/12 2022	SFAM and secretary - Planning NCGP 2026
19/12 2022	SJPHC and secretary - new Editor-in-Chief - Taylor & Francis
16/1 2023	SJPHC meeting with Anna Nager, Helena Liira and secretary
18/1 2023	Secretarial meeting, preparing agenda for annual meeting
30/1 2023	SJPHC meeting with Anna Nager
07/3 2023	Secretary, preparing NFGPs annual meeting

NFGPs annual meeting



Our annual meeting in Copenhagen 7-8 April 2022.

Our annual meeting 2022 was held in Copenhagen 7-8 April as planned, now finally a physical meeting. As by tradition, the meeting starts the first day with common gathering (figs), and then splits into four parallel sections.

The around the table reports were, as expected, much about the Covid pandemic, how our chairs were involved and what we could learn from each other how to deal with pandemics of this kind.

This time, our Nordic countries are in a special situation, as Anna Stavdal/NFA is now president of our global union, WONCA World (WW). NFA c/o the chair of NFA, Marte Kvittum Tangen, is willing to host the first physical meeting of the WW EB in Oslo this spring. NFGP is honoured to be a supporter of this meeting. See below.

Other topics of importance were our upcoming WONCA Europe Council meeting in London, our new contract with Taylor and Francis regarding Scand J Prim Health Care, and of course, our upcoming Nordic Congress to be held in Stavanger in June, further described below.

Detailed information can be found for the agenda and minutes of the meeting [here](#).



Executive board meeting with our international experts (Roar and Anna).
F.I. Roar, Bolette, Margrét, Magnus, Johann, Anna, Juha, Marte, Louise and Sanne



Nordic Congress Committee
F.I. Gunnar (NO), Ingvild (NO), Olav (NO), Jette Kolding (DK) Jaana (FI)



Editorial Board SJPHC
F.I. Jørgen (DK), Helena (FI), Svein (NO), Pauliina (FI), Hans (SE), Emil (IS)



Nordic Young GPs
F.I. Sandra (IS), Gísli (IS), Anne Mette (DK) Linn (SE); Katrina (NO), Ingvild (NO)



Visit at the Icelandic Embassy

This time the Icelandic ambassador in Copenhagen invited our whole group to the Embassy. The visit to the Embassy was a pleasant event, but different from other invitations connected to international WONCA meetings, as most of the scheduled time was spent on informative lectures on the tasks of the embassy itself, but little time spent on dialogue on our and their tasks as a common international contribution.



The Icelandic Ambassador, Hildur Hauksdóttir (to the right)

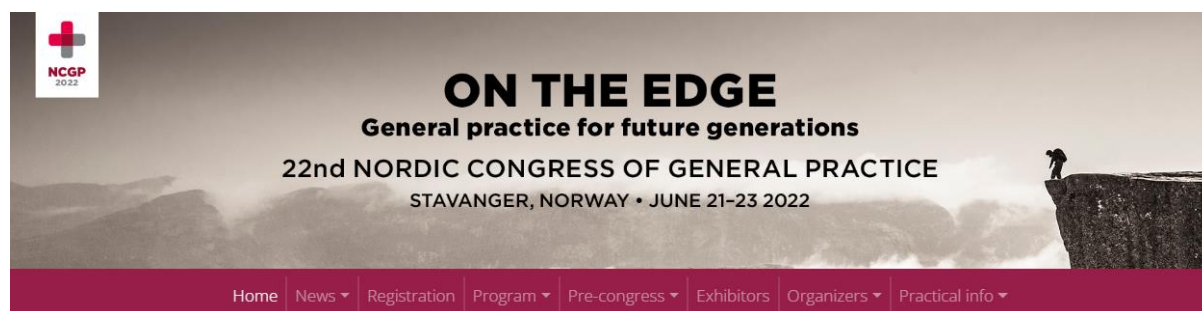


The embassy building



F.I. Hafþór (Hildur's husband), Margrét and Heiðar (husband)

Our Nordic Congress in Stavanger



After all the Covid struggle described above, our “biannual” congress was finally held in Stavanger, Norway, 21st – 23rd of June 2022.

The Stavanger congress was carried out successfully. The content, organization and venue were very well appreciated among participants. Details about the congress are available [here](#). Last but not least, the afterwork of the congress is of importance. Impressive, comprehensive and detailed report from the congress has been sent to NFGP, including evaluation and economic outcome. The report has been very well appreciated and will be useful for the organization of upcoming congresses.

The Stavanger Statement - Call for Action

The thread in the content of our Stavanger congress was about our Core Values. At the closing ceremony, the congress with nearly 900 GPs from 17 different countries delivered a strong message:

“The 22nd Nordic Congress of General Practice, held in Stavanger 21st - 23rd of June 2022, encourages politicians and all other stakeholders of the health care service to support and facilitate sustainable health systems that promote relational continuity.

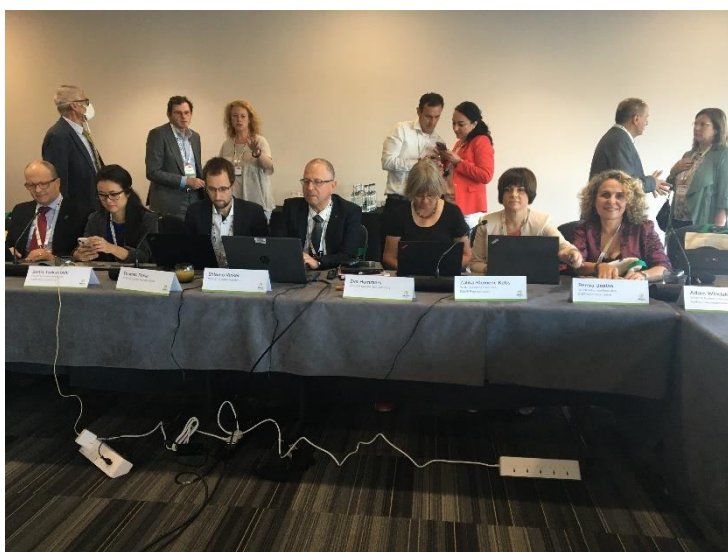
This implies that all patients should have access to a General Practitioner/Family Physician of their own choice who knows them and their circumstances”.

WONCA matters

WONCA Europe

The WONCA Europe Council meeting in London was the first physical meeting after Covid and the Bratislava meeting in 2019. As mentioned in earlier reports there have been some debates between the NFGPs board and WE board, mainly regarding governance issues. At this time our Nordic countries had four main issues on the agenda of the meeting:

1. As a part of a working party within WE, Anna Stavdal, Roar Maagaard, Johann Sigurdsson and others, proposed: **1a) New Vision and Mission** for WE, mainly based on



text from NFGP 2018. **1b) New Core Values and Principles of General Practice**, mainly based on our Nordic Core Value document from 2020. **1c) New eye catching poster** on the Core Values, mainly based on the NSAM/NFAs “sju teser” poster from 2001, later the Danish version 2016 and our NFGP version 2020. **All these suggestions were endorsed and accepted.** Now illustrated at WE homepage.

2. Proposal from Johann Sigurdsson supported by Eva Hummers on new “Guidelines for universities and academic units regarding qualifications for General Practice/Family Medicine university posts”. This document was introduced and generally endorsed. Four Council representatives wished to **suggest some minor changes on the document**. Shlomo Vinker WE president, suggested this could be pending between four persons later led by Adam Windak, Poland, with the aim to accept these guidelines on our next Council meeting in Brussels 2023.
3. Roar Maagaard (DK) has been chair of the WONCA Europe Congress Committee (WECC) since its establishment 2016. The WE EB had suggested changes of this arrangement, in disagreement with the WECC members. Roar proposed that this committee should sustain, NFGP supported Roar Maagaard’s arguments. Sorry to say, this proposal was denied.
4. NFGP did disagree regarding the method WE EB used regarding **By-law changes**.
5. Informal discussion started on our Council meeting regarding sponsorship of the pharmaceutical industry at our WONCA congress, especially this time in London. This became more obvious at the congress itself held directly after the Council meeting. NFGP and others think that **pharma sponsoring of WONCA Europe conferences is problematic**. Roar will work more on this issue the upcoming years.

27th WONCA Europe Conference 28 June – 1 July 2022, London

We are always striving to keep a high level of quality of the Nordic congresses, and we appreciate good feedback from European colleagues, like professor Nik de Wit from the Netherlands, who attended the Nordic congress as keynote speaker and the WONCA Europe conference a week later, thus able to compare these two.

One of the highlights on the program was lectures by Martin Marshall and Anna Stavdal on relationship based care and core values. As seen on the photo, Anna presented our Nordic statement on core values and principles.

As mentioned above many of the participants were concerned about the space the industry got in the program, both as sponsored symposia in lunch breaks and in the entrance hall.

WONCA World

WONCA World held a short *hybrid council meeting in London June 27th*, divided into a brief business session followed by an interactive session, during which delegates had the opportunity to engage and interact with each other. Our NFGP leaders participated partly virtually and partly physically. The interaction phase of this meeting was very well appreciated and fruitful.

The WONCA World Executive Board meeting in Oslo

As mentioned above, our WONCA president Anna Stavdal thought it appropriate that the first physical meeting with her WW EB should take place in Oslo. NFA and NFGP supported this plan. This meeting took place directly after the WE London Congress, in Oslo 1st - 4th of July with representatives from our WONCA global community. As seen in the photo below, two of the participants joined by screen zoom.



The Nordic Welfare State Model

- Social insurance
- Free healthcare
- Free education
- Basic human rights
- Gender equality
- Strong labour participation
- Autonomy
- High taxes
- → 'Social citizenship'

(the state has the main responsibility)
(universal health coverage)

Here our Nordic delegates, Anna, Marte, Johann and Louise got the opportunity to

lead an introduction and discussion on our healthcare system based on our welfare state model (fig).

One of the highlights of this meeting was, however, the generous invitation by Anna Stavdal and her husband Olav Arne to Kroken, Anna's childhood home in Asker, close to Oslo, illustrating their Norwegian hospitality and elegance. I mention this explicit in this report, as if we are going to change the world or at least have some influence on our

international level it seemed to me that this way of “home visit” was very successful helping us to tighten the boundaries between our WONCA regions.



The hosts at Kroken, Olav Arne and Anna together with her sister, Hilde Stavdal (left)



The “waitresses” in Kroken: Marte Kvittum Tangen and Louise Hørslev

From the President: December 2022

December 2022 President's Messages
December, 2022

FROM THE PRESIDENT

DR ANNA STAVDAL

Español Français

Home Visits

As a physician, I've always liked making house calls. They nurture the patient-doctor relationship. When meeting in the patient's home context, we both recognize and share other aspects of ourselves. I find that the realities of my patients' lives come more clearly into focus once I've met them where they live.



As expected, the WONCA president was traveling round the world, making “home visits” holding plenary lectures and workshops advocating for primary health care and the core values of GP/FMs. Detailed description will be published soon in the WONCA World annual report 2022-2023.

Of special interest, and worth putting light on in this report, are Stavdal's monthly columns at the WONCA Global Family Doctor – Newsletter (fig). Of course, this is Anna's voice, but “no man is an

island”- this is also our Nordic voice, based on our mutual collaboration, communication and understanding last decades, our Nordic culture, values, and NFGPs supporting role.

Scandinavian Journal of Primary Health Care, SJPHC

The year 2022 to present (March 2023) has been a transition phase for the Editors as they were adapting their work to the new contract with Taylor & Francis, which was signed late 2021. The new Scholar One will take over the Manuscript Manager program, which will soon disappear from the system.

Helena Liira, Editor-in-chief, and the national editors have together with NFGP secretary worked on finding a new successor after Helena Liira. At present, it seems to us that this will be solved soon.

Helena Liira has also brought up the question if we should go for fees for our national editors, and also to consider start inviting all editors (both national and assistant editors) to Copenhagen spring meetings. This must be discussed further at our annual EB meeting.

The first issue of SJPHC appeared year 1983, now 40 years ago. The Editors and NFGP are preparing celebration of this important milestone in our Nordic GP/FM history.

Detailed report from Editor-in-Chief is available [here](#).

Core Values of Nordic general practice

Actions taken 2022:



- Our video on Core Values was shown at the Stavanger congress.
- Our Core Values poster was presented at the poster session at the Stavanger congress.
- Our poster is now used as a discussion topic in an obligatory postgraduate course in specialist education (fig).
- The first statement of our Core Values document used as a background for our Stavanger statement (see above).
- Our Core Value document was used as a

platform for the [Core Values and Principles of GP/FM in Europe](#).

Nordic Young General Practitioners (NYGP)

As before, and at present almost a tradition, our young GPs ([NYGP](#)) held their 1 ½ day Pre-congress before our main Nordic Congress in Stavanger. The chair of NFGP had the honor to address the participants at their opening ceremony and held one of the key notes on quality improvement in primary health care. After the Stavanger congress, Ingvild Vatten and Katrina Tibbals handed the chair over to our Finnish colleagues, Annika Kolster and Kati Lempinen. NYGP and NFGP are advocating for NYGPs [statement regarding specialist training](#) mentioned in my last report. Of special interest for us - the older ones - is to observe our NYGPs activity in media such as podcasts on Spotify advocating for FM/GP. Their annual report can be found [here](#).

Working group on specialist education of general practice in the Nordic countries

The group arranged a workshop at our congress in Stavanger. The group as well as NFGP use their earlier statements ([One from our working group year 2020](#) and the other [one from NYGP group published 2021](#)) as part of their action plan. Their detailed report can be found [here](#).

NFGP's secretariat, administration and economy

Luckily, there have been no changes at NFGP's headquarters. As before secretarial and administrative assistance (part time secretary and director) are partly financed by DSAM and located in Copenhagen. Communication and co-operation between NFGP's secretariat and the chair (located in Iceland and/or Norway) by e-mails, zoom meetings, and physical meetings have been working in a pleasant and smooth way.

Anniversaries

SFAM 50 years 2023

Our academic colleges started to take shape in the middle of last century. Our Danish College of General Practice (DSAM) was the first of the Nordic countries to establish an academic college. This was year 1970. So DSAM has already celebrated its 50 years anniversary year 2020.

As well known, developmental processes go step by step combined by spiral effects. Looking back, it can be difficult to mark the starting point of many of our activities. This can be true for the origin of our Swedish College of General Practice (SFAM). After scrutinising their history SFAM has found out that their start of origin is traced to year 1973 (not 1972 as stated somewhere earlier). SFAM will celebrate its 50 years anniversary this year.

Meetings and congresses ahead:

2023

NFGP annual meeting in Copenhagen, 23-25 March

WONCA Europe Council meeting Brussels, 7 June

[WONCA Europe Conference in Brussels, 7-10 June](#)

[POD \(Preventing Overdiagnosis\) conference in Copenhagen, 14-16 August](#)

Nordic Leader Seminar, Hotel Hanasaari, Helsinki 23-26 August

WONCA World, Council meeting Sydney, October

[WONCA World Conference Sydney, 26-29 October,](#)

2024

NFGP Annual meeting in Copenhagen (to be decided at next meeting)

[Nordic Congress of General Practice, 11-14 June, Turku, Finland](#)

WONCA Europe Council meeting September, in Dublin

WONCA Europe Conference, September, in Dublin

Thanks

Year 2023 is my last year as chair of NFGP. Looking back, these six years have been a fantastic journey - an exciting adventure, thanks to all co-workers and the topics we have

been working on during these last years. I want to bring special thanks to my closest coworkers and friends - Sanne Bernard, our secretary, and Louise Hørslev, our director of NFGP, for their extraordinary caretaking of NFGP in its everyday life. And we have Dorthe Pedersen in our team also. Not so visible, but it gives me a feeling of security knowing that Dorthe is there somewhere in the background, scrutinizing our documents and economy. Thank you for all your work in behalf of NFGP.

It has also been a privilege and pleasure to work with all former and present chairs of our colleges - thank you all. On behalf of NFGP, I thank our working parties for their valuable contributions and cooperation during the past years.

Because of close friendship, co-operation, and leadership positions over the past decades, Anna Stavdal and I have had a unique opportunity advocating for our Nordic vision, mission, values and other international activities within our Nordic countries, our European region through WONCA Europe, and at the global level through WONCA World (more about [the legacy story here](#)). Personally, and on behalf of NFGP, we want to thank Anna Stavdal, president of WONCA, for pleasant, fruitful and inspiring collaboration during the last decades, her stubborn commitment to her patients, the ideology of GP/FM, and NFGP.

Reykjavík/Trondheim, February 3rd, 2023.



Johann A. Sigurdsson, Chair NFGP