



Nordic Vaccine Meeting
12-13 September 2024

Nordic Vaccine Meeting 2024

Wednesday 11 September

13.00-16.00	<p>Nordic NITAG pre-meeting (by invitation only) Location: Statens Serum Institut, Artillerivej 5. Conference room: 14-206</p> <p>Nordic Preparedness for Vaccines group meeting (by invitation only) Location: Statens Serum Institut, Artillerivej 5. Conference room: 14-216A</p> <p>Nordic group on vaccine acceptance (by invitation only) Location: Statens Serum Institut, Artillerivej 5. Conference room: 14-205A</p>
19:00-21:00	<p>Welcome reception at Statens Serum Institut Entrance via the main reception at Artillerivej 5, Copenhagen between 18.30 – 19.00.</p>

Thursday 12 September

Themes: RS-virus, maternal vaccination and evaluation of new vaccines

08.30-09.30	<p>Registration Coffee & Tea</p>
09.30-10.00	<p>Welcome to the Nordic Vaccine Meeting 2024 Tyra Grove Krause, Executive Vice President, Epidemiological Infectious Disease Preparedness, Statens Serum Institut</p>
10.00-10.05	<p>Welcome day 1 Chairs of the Scientific Committee: Peter H.S. Andersen, Senior Medical Officer, Unit Lead Statens Serum Institut and Ida Glode Helmuth, Specialised Medical Officer, Danish Health Authority</p>
	<p>Session 1. RS-virus: Burden of disease and new possibilities for prevention</p> <p>New RSV prevention tools have become available in the form of vaccines targeting both infants (via the pregnant mother) and the elderly as well as passive protection of infants from new monoclonal antibodies. What is the burden of RSV disease in different subpopulations and how do we make the best and most cost-effective use of these new tools?</p> <p>Chair: Kirstine Moll Harboe, Director, Preparedness and infectious diseases, Danish Health Authority</p>
10.05-10.25	<p>Clinical Severity of RSV Infections in Children</p> <p>The risk of severe RSV infections differs in neonates, infants, and toddlers, with different complications leading to respiratory failure. This presentation will focus on these critical age-related differences, highlighted during the RSV resurgences in the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Speaker: Ulrikka Nygaard, Clinical Associate Professor, Rigshospitalet Copenhagen University Hospital, Denmark</p>

STATENS
SERUM
INSTITUT



DANISH HEALTH
AUTHORITY



10.25-10.45	<p>PROMISE (Preparing for RSV Immunization and Surveillance in Europe)</p> <p>Speaker: Hanna Nohynek, Chief Physician, Deputy Head, Unit Infectious Diseases Control and Vaccines, Department of Health Security, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL)</p>
10.45-11.05	<p>Cost-effectiveness of Respiratory Syncytial Virus Disease Prevention Strategies</p> <p>Respiratory syncytial virus affects thousands of children in Norway every winter. We assessed the cost-effectiveness of different vaccination strategies for children under 5 years in Norway. Results indicate that different seasonal vaccination strategies are cost-effective compared to no vaccination and that the choice of seasonal vaccination strategy varies depending on assumptions made.</p> <p>Speaker: Torbjørn Wisløff, Research professor Akershus University Hospital, Lørenskog, Norway & University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway</p>
11.05-11.25	<p>Preventing RSV with monoclonal antibodies: experiences from Spain 2023/24</p> <p>During the 2022-2023 season, RSV led to a higher incidence of severe disease among infants compared to previous seasons. The introduction of an immunization campaign with nirsevimab in Spain for the 2023-2024 season had a high impact on reducing the severity of RSV disease in infants.</p> <p>Speaker: Aurora Limia, Head of Area Immunization Programme, Ministry of Health, Spain</p>
11.25-12.00	<p>Status on RSV prevention and perspectives in the five Nordic countries</p> <p>Each Nordic country presents national plans for RSV prevention.</p>
12.00-13.00	<p>Lunch break (Restaurant Filini) & poster viewing</p>
	<p>Session 2. Perspectives on maternal vaccination</p> <p>During the last 10-15 years a paradigm shift has happened from reluctance in offering vaccines to pregnant women to now offering routine vaccinations against an increasing number of diseases, some of which aim to protect the newborn and not the mother per se. Vaccination in pregnancy is considered safe for most vaccines but do healthcare providers and pregnant women agree?</p> <p>Chair: Margrethe Greve Isdahl, Senior Medical Officer, Infection Control and Vaccines, Institute of Public Health, Oslo, Norway</p>
13.00-13.20	<p>Maternal vaccination in Norway: Pregnant women's intentions, experiences and uptake</p> <p>Vaccine hesitancy may be more prominent for maternal vaccination. Moreover, the systems for delivery and surveillance are immature. To overcome the challenges of maternal vaccination, we must understand the perspectives of pregnant women, assess program performance, and adapt accordingly. We interviewed pregnant women about COVID-19 vaccination during the pandemic, surveyed pregnant women before launching the maternal vaccination program against pertussis, and estimated COVID-19 and influenza maternal vaccination coverage and its sociodemographic correlates in a nationwide registry study. We found high willingness for vaccination, insecurity in individual vaccination decision-making that was related to lack of information, and insufficient coverage.</p> <p>Speaker: Bo Tarning Hansen, Senior Researcher, Public Health Institute, Norway</p>



Nordic Vaccine Meeting
12-13 September 2024

13.20-13.40	<p>COVID-19 vaccination in pregnancy – lessons learned from the Scandinavian countries</p> <p>Pregnant women were not intentionally included in the clinical trials of the COVID-19 vaccines. Nevertheless, they were highly recommended to get vaccinated to protect them from severe disease. This talk will present the findings from a Scandinavian collaboration, on the uptake and safety of COVID-19 vaccinations in pregnancy.</p> <p>Speaker: Anne Örtqvist, Docent, Department for Clinical Epidemiology, Institute for Medicine, Solna, Karolinska Institute, Sweden</p>
13.40-14.00	<p>RSV vaccination in pregnancy to prevent RSV illness in infants</p> <p>Following a demonstration of safety and efficacy, the first vaccine specifically designed for use in pregnant women is now FDA and EMA-approved. When will it be available to women globally, and how can we monitor its safety and impact in the longer term?</p> <p>Speaker: Beate Kampmann, Professor of Paediatric Infection & Immunity, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.</p>
14.00-14.20	<p>Pertussis vaccination in pregnancy: Experiences from Denmark on vaccine effectiveness and safety</p> <p><i>In Denmark, pertussis vaccination has been offered to pregnant women since 2019. We present Danish nationwide data on vaccine uptake, infant effectiveness, and maternal and infant safety from the first four years of implementation</i></p> <p>Speaker: Helene Christine Kildegaard Jensen, post.doc. MARYs Data Powerhouse, Mary Elisabeth Hospital, Rigshospitalet and University of Southern Denmark, Denmark</p>
14.20-14.50	<p>Panel discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o The paradigm shift from reluctance to recommending several vaccinations to pregnant women o Attitudes towards vaccination among pregnant women and relevant health personnel o Experience from the other vaccination programs (influenza, COVID-19, pertussis) <p>Panel: Programme managers from each country and selected speakers.</p>
14.50-15.00	<p>Round-up of session by chair: Margrethe Greve Isdahl, Senior Medical Officer, Infection Control and Vaccines, Institute of Public Health, Oslo, Norway</p>
15.00-15.30	<p>Coffee break</p>
	<p>Session 3: Evaluating new vaccines for national programmes</p> <p>In recent years, new vaccines have been introduced at a faster pace and with higher costs than before, which puts pressure on health authorities to make sure national vaccination programmes are up-to-date and ensure the optimal public health potential of these new vaccines. So how do we select which vaccines to evaluate and how do we evaluate them in a critical but fair way?</p> <p>Chairs: Hanna Nohynek, Chief Physician, Deputy Head, Unit Infectious Diseases Control and Vaccines, Department of Health Security, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL) Kari Johansen, Senior Consultant, Vaccine-preventable diseases, Public Health Agency Sweden</p>
15.30-15.50	<p>Introduction by chairs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nordic vaccination programmes – how are they similar and how are they different in terms of criteria for introducing new vaccines, funding, etc. • New vaccines in pipeline





15.50-16.10	<p>Cost-effectiveness analyses</p> <p>We will discuss key elements of health economic evaluation of vaccines that allow consistency in policymaking when comparisons are made between different uses of the same or similar vaccines, or between altogether different healthcare interventions, including vaccination programs. It will be argued that consistent policymaking across interventions requires creating a level-playing field where both the (health care) payer's and the societal perspective can be informative for prioritisations and price negotiations. Current views on willingness to pay thresholds to guide policy decisions will be discussed.</p> <p>Speaker: Philippe Beutels, professor and director of the Centre for Health Economics Research & Modelling Infectious Diseases, University of Antwerp</p>
16.10-16.30	<p>Modelling to support decision-making on vaccination programs</p> <p>We will present a few examples of how modelling has been applied to support decision-making in HPV and COVID-19 vaccination program-related questions in Finland: introducing a vaccine, procurements, choosing the target groups, actions with limited import of doses, and evaluation of benefits and harms after adverse effects.</p> <p>Speaker: Simopekka Vänskä, Department of Vaccination and Immune Protection, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL)</p>
16.30-16.50	<p>The ethics of public health and vaccination</p> <p>The covid-19 pandemic highlighted the ethical aspects of infectious diseases and vaccination. Although all countries had the same facts and evidence, they chose to manage the pandemic in different ways. One reason for that is that public health policies are not merely a matter of scientific facts and cost-effectiveness, but of ethical values, like autonomy, justice, trust and responsibility. This talk discusses why it is important to continuously reflect on such ethical values in the context of public health, particularly in relation to vaccination.</p> <p>Speaker: Jessica Nihlén Fahlquist, associate professor, Centre for Research Ethics & Bioethics, Uppsala University, Sweden.</p>
16.50-17.00	<p>The Norwegian framework for vaccine assessment</p> <p>Speaker: Are Stuwitz Berg, Acting Division Director, Division for Infection Control, Norwegian Institute of Public Health</p>
17.00-17.30	<p>Panel discussion</p>
19.00	<p>Dinner at Festsalen, Kosmopol Registration required Location: Fiolstræde 44, 1171 København K</p>





Nordic Vaccine Meeting
12-13 September 2024

Friday 13 September

Theme: Disparities in Vaccination Coverage and Vaccine Equity

09.00-09.30	Coffee & poster viewing
09.30-09.35	<p>Introduction day 2 Valtýr Stefánsson Thors, University of Iceland / Landspítali University Hospital and Bolette Søborg, Deputy Director, Head of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases Statens Serum Institut</p>
	<p>Session 4: Addressing Disparities in Vaccination Coverage: Epidemiological Insights and Approaches to Reaching Underserved Populations</p> <p>Despite high overall vaccination coverage in the Nordic countries, significant disparities exist within certain subpopulations. This session will delve into the demographics of the unvaccinated and explore why these disparities occur. We will also discuss approaches to reaching underserved populations, examining barriers and drivers of vaccination adherence and presenting successful methods to mitigate these disparities.</p> <p>Chairs: Valtýr Stefánsson Thors, University of Iceland / Landspítali University Hospital Bolette Søborg, Deputy Director, Head of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases Statens Serum Institut</p>
09.35-09.55	<p>Determinants of non-timely HPV vaccination for girls in Sweden</p> <p>Presentation of a study focusing on HPV vaccination for girls in Sweden born 2002-2010. The study examined socioeconomic factors of both the girls and their parents associated with not receiving timely HPV vaccination (first dose) according to the NIP schedule (grade 5-6). Additionally, the study also assessed having received a delayed first dose of HPV vaccination by the end of compulsory school in 9th grade.</p> <p>Speaker: Emma Appelqvist, Public Health Agency of Sweden, Folkhälsomyndigheten</p>
09.55-10.15	<p>Determinants for vaccination against pneumococcal disease, COVID-19 and influenza in Denmark</p> <p>We will discuss vaccination epidemiology and determinants for low vaccine uptake to highlight the low-hanging fruits for targeted interventions at a population level. We need a good understanding of subgroups with lower vaccination coverage to tailor vaccination strategies that aim to fight inequity in vaccination.</p> <p>Speaker: Anne Christine Nordholm, medical doctor, PhD, Statens Serum Institut</p>
10.15-10.25	<p>Vaccination coverage of hepatitis B vaccine in children of hepatitis B-positive mothers in Norway</p> <p>Reducing perinatal hepatitis B-transmission is a target for hepatitis B elimination. In a low-prevalence country without a birth dose of hepatitis B, awareness and identification of which children to vaccinate is a challenge.</p> <p>Speaker: Margrethe Greve-Isdahl, Senior Medical Officer, Infection Control and Vaccines, Institute of Public Health, Norway</p>
10.25-10.45	<p>Measuring the 7Cs of Vaccination Readiness in order to facilitate effective interventions</p> <p>This talk will answer three key questions: (1) What is Vaccination Readiness? (2) How can we measure it? and (3) How can we use information about people's Vaccination Readiness to facilitate effective interventions aimed at increasing vaccination uptake both generally and during pandemics.</p> <p>Speaker: Lau Lilleholt Harpviken, Assistant Professor, University of Copenhagen</p>

STATENS
SERUM
INSTITUT



DANISH HEALTH
AUTHORITY



10.45-11.05	<p>VaxAtt project. Attitudes to the childhood vaccination program among people with different immigrant backgrounds (vs. non-immigrant).</p> <p>In this qualitative research study, we delve into the views and experiences of vaccination among Polish and Somali immigrants, two of the largest immigrant groups in Norway. Despite past quantitative studies indicating lower coverage for both childhood vaccination and COVID-19 within these groups, little is known about their specific views and experiences with vaccination in Norway. The study explores factors such as childhood vaccination practices, perceptions of new versus old vaccines, and trust in vaccines.</p> <p>Speaker: Rebecca Gleditsch, researcher, Norwegian Institute of Public Health (FHI)</p>
11.05-11.25	<p>The use of Tailoring Immunization Programmes (TIP) framework in the Swedish context</p> <p>We will present our work of adapting WHO's TIP guide from 2019 to Swedish for local and regional implementation. We are supporting four pilot regions that are conducting their own TIP process by identifying barriers and driving factors for vaccination and further developing tailored interventions to address the identified barriers and enhance the driving factors for vaccinations.</p> <p>Speakers: Asha Jama and Johanna Rubin, Public Health Agency of Sweden (Folkhälsomyndigheten)</p>
11.25-12.00	<p>Poster viewing</p>
12.00-13.00	<p>Lunch break (restaurant Filini)</p>
13.00-13.20	<p>Using behavioural and cultural insights to increase equity in health and close immunity gaps</p> <p>The presentation will focus on how to apply more evidence-based and people-centred approaches to increase equity in health and reach underserved groups with vaccination, using case examples and presenting the work of and approaches used by the WHO Regional Office for Europe.</p> <p>Speakers: Brett Janson Craig, WHO Regional Office for Europe</p>
13.20-13.40	<p>River EU – Reducing Inequalities in Vaccine uptake in the European Union and Engaging Underserved communities</p> <p>The presentation will focus on the Finnish RIVER-EU project, which explores health system enablers affecting the high MMR vaccination uptake in Somali children living in Finland. The study included Somali mothers and public health nurses, who were interviewed to understand the components facilitating the uptake of MMR vaccination in an underserved population.</p> <p>Speaker: Idil Hussein, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL)</p>
13.40-14.00	<p>HPV vaccination amongst ethnic minority groups – what are the barriers for vaccination and what can be done to achieve equity within HPV vaccination coverage?</p> <p>Taboos and unfamiliarity are some of the barriers towards HPV vaccination among ethnic minorities. With this offset, the presentation will highlight a need for a shift in communication regarding HPV vaccination. It will present an intervention named “Two shots for life” – a school-based HPV vaccination project, that together with user-represents has a joined vision to increase HPV vaccination accessibility and coverage in adolescents with ethnic minority backgrounds.</p> <p>Speaker: Anne Katrine Leonhard, doctor at Aarhus University Hospital</p>





14.00-14.40	<p>Panel discussion</p> <p>The panel discussion will focus on what we know about groups with lower vaccination coverage, if we have the data that monitors their vaccination coverage and what steps we can take to reach underserved groups.</p> <p>Chairs: Valtýr Stefánsson Thors, University of Iceland / Landspítali University Hospital and Bolette Søborg, Statens Serum Institut</p>
14.40-15.00	<p>Closure of NVM2024</p> <p>Wrap-up and announcement of the next NVM conference</p> <p>By: The Chairs of the Scientific Committee</p>
15:00	<p>Coffee to go</p>

STATENS
SERUM
INSTITUT



DANISH HEALTH
AUTHORITY