Statutes for the Nordic Network for Palliative Medicine (NNPM)



§1 The network

The Nordic Network for Palliative Medicine (NNPM) is a network for physicians from or working in a Nordic country with an interest in the field of palliative medicine.

§2 Purpose

The purpose of the network is to promote the practice of palliative medicine in the Nordic countries by:

- Fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange among physicians across the Nordic countries who are involved or interested in palliative medicine.
- Enhancing palliative medicine within the region by promoting best practices and the exchange of expertise.
- Promoting the recognition of palliative medicine as a formal medical specialty in all Nordic countries and advocating for its further development.
- Collaborating on clinical research, educational programs, and the continuous advancement of specialist training in palliative care.
- Promoting public awareness about palliative care in the Nordic countries

§3 Values

- Respect for the WHO Definition of Palliative Care: Upholding care practices that enhance the
 quality of life for patients facing serious illness, aligning with the World Health Organization's
 definition of palliative care, which emphasizes the importance of comfort and support for
 patients and their relatives.
- Promoting life-affirming care: Affirming a strong commitment to palliative care as a means of providing comfort and dignity, promoting life-affirming care and the alleviation of suffering, aiming neither to hasten death nor prolonging life.

§4 Eligible associates of the network

- Any physician from or working in a Nordic country with an interest in the field of palliative medicine may be an associate of the NNPM and participate in activities organized by the NNPM
- The Network does not collect or administer personal data of the associates. Information from the Network and participation in network events and other arrangements will be distributed and managed by the national boards
- The Network will keep accounts in relevant social media for network associates to follow

§5 Steering Committee

- The Nordic Network for Palliative Medicine is governed by a steering committee, composed of two (2) representatives from each Nordic country appointed by the respective national associations for palliative medicine and announced at the Annual meeting. All representatives must be physicians. In cases where a country does not have a formal association for palliative medicine, local palliative care physicians will be responsible for appointing a representative to the committee.
- The steering committee constitutes itself, appointing chairperson, vice chairperson, secretary, and other functions as necessary. The chairperson is appointed for three years
- Representatives are appointed for two years for a maximum of six years. Appointments should ensure overlapping duty of representatives.
- The steering committee will meet at the request of the Chair or at least two members but at least twice a year. Additional meetings will be organized as necessary to facilitate ongoing collaboration and the achievement of network goals set by the steering committee.
- The steering committee is quorate if the chairperson or vice-chairperson and at least three (3) other members are present. If a vote is necessary, in the event of a tie vote, the chairman's vote decides, except in personal elections, where a tie is resolved by a drawing of lots.
- The steering committee decides on behalf of the network in all matters not otherwise specified in these Statutes or by resolutions put forward at the Annual Meeting.

§6 Annual meeting

- The Network will arrange an annual meeting open to all potential associates. Notice of the Annual meeting will be given at least four weeks in advance. Suggestions to the Annual meeting from physicians working in palliative care in the Nordic countries may be submitted via the national boards or directly to the Chairperson. The agenda of the Annual meeting is to be published in relevant social media or through the national networks no later than 14 days before the Annual meeting.
- The fiscal year coincides with the calendar year.
- The Order of the day of the Annual meeting:
 - 1: Election of meeting chairman, meeting secretary, and two persons to verify the minutes.
 - 2: Approve meeting agenda
 - 3: Approve the steering committee's annual report
 - 4: Confirming the financial statements, if any
 - o 5: Approval of the action plan and budget, if any, for the upcoming year
 - 6: Matters presented by the steering committee or submitted from physicians working in palliative care in the Nordic Countries

- There are no elections besides point 1 in the agenda at the Annual meeting, as the members of the steering committee are appointed by the national boards and constitute themselves.
- The NNPM may hold extraordinary meetings open for the associates whenever the steering committee deems it necessary

§ 7

Changes or amendments to these statues may only be decided at the Annual meeting and require approval by at least two-thirds of the meeting attendees.