

Report NCU grant

Report submission date: Feb. 3, 2012

Main applicant: K. Hemminki

Project title: Collaboration on familial cancer in the Nordic countries

NCU grant received (€): 80,000

Project commencement and completion dates: 2010-2011

Please e-mail report to: ncu@kreftforeningen.no

1. Brief description of the project, written in a language understandable to non-scientists (Maximum length: 100 words)

Our aim was to organize collaboration on familial cancer, covering all Nordic countries and being by far the largest in the world. The available high-quality data from the whole Nordic population of 25 million can provide risk estimates useful for clinical genetic counselling and to advance etiological understanding of cancer causation on heritable factors. The cancers considered were thyroid and testicular cancers, lymphoma and melanoma. All of these tumors are composed of a variety of histological types, for which the familial clusters are not well characterized

2. Summarize the major findings of the project (Maximum length: 400 words)

The program was planned for 3 years and the first 2 years were used to collect, harmonize and curate family/cancer data in a systematic way from all 5 countries. This was accomplished.

The data analysis was supposed to take place in year 3 but NCU stopped the funding and apparently is not interested in seeing the project completed.

3. Describe how the project has increased our knowledge of the prevention, cause and/or cure for cancer (Maximum length: 150 words)

It would have been possible to tell after the analyses were finished.

4. Outline how Nordic cooperation has added value to this project (Maximum length 100 words)



The planned collaboration was expected to lead to global visibility and impact. As to societal impact, cancer patients should benefit directly through objective advice for familial cancer, and, indirectly, through guidance of the emanating results to gene identification efforts in the molecular areas of cancer research world-wide.

5. Publications resulting from this grant

None.