

Report NCU grant

Report submission date: May 21, 2013

Main applicant: Michael Bretthauer

Project title: NordICC

NCU grant received (€): 75.000

Project commencement and completion dates: Completion Dec 2013

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)

The NordICC study is the first randomised controlled trial on colonoscopy screening worldwide. The participating countries are Norway, Poland, the Netherlands, Sweden, Iceland, Denmark, and the United States. A minimum of 68 400 individuals, age 55-64 years, are drawn randomly from the population registries in the participating countries. 22 800 are invited for once-only colonoscopy (2:1 randomisation). The remaining 45 600 individuals (control group) are not offered any screening examination (care as usual). The primary study aims are colorectal cancer (CRC) incidence and mortality after 15 years of follow-up.

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

Screening in the NordICC trial started in the Netherlands and Poland in 2009, and in Norway in 2011. Currently, more than 50.000 individuals have been randomised to one of the two study groups, and more than 9500 screening colonoscopies have been performed at the screening centres in Warsaw (Poland), Amsterdam and Rotterdam (Netherlands), Kristiansand, and Arendal (Norway). In January 2013, screening has also started at seven new centres in Sweden, covered partly by the present grant. The Swedish centres are currently recruiting and screening activities are planned to be conclude by December 2013. Baseline data (yield of polyps and cancer, performance indicators) will then be readily available, and published. End of follow-up will be 15 years past screening.

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

The study is currently on-going. Baseline results are awaited in 2014, and final results at 10 and 15 years follow-up



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

Cooperation between the Nordic countries has been of paramount and crucial importance for this study. Without close cooperation between our countries, a study of this magnitude and complexity would not have been possible. Our good cooperation and excellent trial progress has also attracted other countries to participate, to the best of the study and the research outcome.

5. Publications resulting from this grant

1. Kaminski M, Bretthauer M, Zauber A, Kuipers E, Adami HO, van Ballegooijen M, Regula J, van Leerdam M, Stefansson T, Pahlman L, Dekker E, Hernan M, Garborg K, Hoff G. The NordICC Study: Rationale and design of a randomized trial on colonoscopy screening for colorectal cancer. *Endoscopy* 2012;44:695-702