

Norwegian League Against Epilepsy

2021-2022 Report

CHAPTER OFFICERS

Erik Sætre, president
Cecilie Landmark Johannessen, vice president:
Lina Dos, secretary
Konstantin Kostov, treasurer
Thorsten Gerstner
Sigrid Svalheim
Guttorm Eldøen
Bjørnar Hassel
Christian Samsonsen
Nina S. Nynæs
Tom Eichele



From 2022, Guttorm Eldøen, Sigrid Svalheim and Thorsten Gerstner finalized their periods, while Maryam Shirzadi and Kjell Heuser were new members. The board was balanced between gender, background, and geographically to various health regions and university hospitals.

Officer Election Date: 26 August 2022

ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The Annual Neurology Days 2021: This week is organized by the Norwegian Neurological Association in mid-March, with 1-2 days including a programme related to epilepsy. This was arranged as a web-based meeting with no separate program from the Norwegian chapter of ILAE this year.
- Collaboration and networking: We are working on an area of collaboration through a new Norwegian network called Epilepsy Net, for improved network and collaborations regarding treatment, patient organizations, and research. Ongoing research and key members for various projects will be an integrated part of this forum.
- A central group with special interests in lamotrigine and risk of cardiac events have been established by the Norwegian chapter, and they will work out a summary and evaluate the international guidelines and possible restrictions during 2022. The board has taken an initiative to strengthen the collaboration with the Norwegian IBE chapter.
- From 2021, Cecilie Johannessen Landmark was appointed as a member of the ILAE-Europe steering group for the next four-year period.
- The annual report was presented at the annual meeting.
- The Norwegian chapter of ILAE had 244 members as of December 2022.



CHALLENGES FACED IN 2021 AND 2022

Post-pandemic issues of collaboration and networking and how to implement the activities of ILAE into national meeting schedules. Economic issues on numbers of members.

FUTURE PLANS FOR 2023

- Strengthen the collaboration with the national IBE chapter
- Strengthen networking with Epilepsnett

RESEARCH AND PUBLISHED ARTICLES

- Olsen AK, Aurlien D, Debernard KAB, et al. Ongoing project and evaluation of lamotrigine and cardiac risks.
- The research foundation of the Norwegian chapter received four applications for the annual research award with a grant up to 50.000 NOK. Two projects were prioritized, and the prize winners will present their projects on the next annual meeting in 2023.

MEETINGS

- Five board meetings have taken place during the 2021-2022 period.
- The annual meeting
 - In 2021 the annual meeting was arranged as a web-based meeting from Oslo as a 1-day seminar, 9 September. About 100 attendees were following the meeting.
 - In 2022, about 85 delegates participated at the annual meeting in Bergen, August 2022. There was a broad programme with plenary lectures, specialized topics, inter-disciplinary approaches, and regional distribution. The meeting was ended by the annual formal meeting. The social programme included cultural presentations and a dinner.

Report submitted by Cecilie Johannessen Landmark