



Vetenskapsrådet

## Clinical research in Finland and Sweden – experiences from a jointly performed evaluation



# Background

- An inquiry about clinical research in Sweden
- Important similarities between Finland and Sweden
- Similar organisations

# Purpose

- Common obstacles affecting the quality of clinical research not only in Sweden and Finland, but in all of Europe:
  - Recruitment of clinical investigators
  - Infrastructure resources
  - Collaboration between the university and the health service etc.
- These challenges may have been solved in different ways
- To find **common solutions** and follow possible recommendations presented by the evaluation panel in a **synergistic** way in Sweden and Finland.

# Evaluation process

- Launched in spring 2008 with final report in March 2009
- International panel of experts
- Bibliometric analysis

# Members of the International Evaluation Panel

## Chair

Prof. **Roger Bouillon**, Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium

## Vice Chairs

Prof. **Thomas Stossel**, Harvard Medical School, USA

Prof. **Lisbeth Tranebjærg**, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

## Members

Prof. **Ingrid Agartz**, University of Oslo, Norway

Prof. **Ariane de Agostini**, University of Geneva, Switzerland

Prof. **Henning Beck-Nielsen**, University of Southern Denmark, Denmark

Prof. **Stein Evensen**, University of Oslo, Norway

Prof. **Margaret A. Liu**, ProTherImmune, USA

Prof. **Karen Luker**, University of Manchester, UK

Prof. **John W. Sear**, University of Oxford, UK

Prof. **Peter Sleight**, University of Oxford, UK

Prof. **Susanne Suter**, University of Geneva, Switzerland

Prof. **Helgi Valdimarsson**, University of Iceland, Iceland

Prof. **Jørgen Vestbo**, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Prof. **Jens Zimmer**, University of Southern Denmark, Denmark

# Lessons learned

- Planning (different panels)
- Easier to recruit panel members
- A lot of administration and expensive
- Terms of reference

# Common concerns and problems identified

- Career of clinical researchers/scientists
- Relationship between academic medicine and country/country health care system
- Financial concerns
- Infrastructure for clinical research
- Mobility and internationalisation

# Recommendations

- Radical reengineering or research careers for health care professionals
- Improve the research funding portfolio for clinical researchers
- Mount a clear uniform strategy for governance of academic hospital from top manager to daily practice



# Questions

- Added value?
- Which research areas?
- Who should co-operate?