



Foto: Marlene Pedersen

The 18th **Congress** of the
Nordic Federation of Midwives
3-5 June 2010 in **Copenhagen**





Foto Steen Ewald, iStock, Morten Pedersen

Her Royal Highness the Crown Princess Mary

Welcome to the Congress of the Nordic Federation of Midwives 2010

The Danish Association of Midwives is pleased to welcome you to Copenhagen and the 18th Congress of the Nordic Federation of Midwives. The Congress will be held in Bella Centre 3-5 June 2010. The theme of the Congress is 'Practice and Science'.

The Congress is honoured to have the patronage of Her Royal Highness the Crown Princess Mary of Denmark.

The first congress of the Nordic Federation of Midwives was held in Lund in 1950 and attended by 300 participants. In 2010 we expect over 800 midwives from Norway, Sweden, Iceland, Greenland, the Faroe Islands, Finland and Denmark to come to Copenhagen and participate in the 18th Congress. Our participants will experience an event which will present the hottest research, as well as a congress where experiences are shared and networks are formed. It is our aim to inspire our participants to seek new opportunities and to equip them to meet the challenges of the future in the maternity service.

As indicated by the Congress theme 'Practice and Science' it is our intention to address midwives experienced in practice, and engaged in teaching, education, management as well as in research.

The program will seek to be balanced between research and practice using different designs, methods and modes of presentation. To facilitate this, the Congress offers six different modes of presentation of which two are new to this context: "Storytelling" and "Practice Environment". By introducing new modes of presentation dedicated to practitioners, we hope to host a congress that offers opportunities for interaction and networking to all midwives.

I am looking forward to welcoming our Nordic colleagues to an inspiring programme and to a lovely stay in Copenhagen.



Lillian Bondo
President
The Danish Association of Midwives

Six modes of presentation

The Congress in 2010 differs from previous congresses in that it offers more ways to present research, practice and experience, aiming to reflect the link between practice and research and their interdependence.

Storytelling

This presentation form addresses midwives in clinical practice who wish to share narratives from their everyday working lives. The stories must be anchored in clinical midwifery practice or any other environment where midwives work.

Practice Environment

Have you been part of an exciting new initiative in your department and want to share these good experiences with Nordic colleagues? This presentation form offers you the chance to come forward. Through photos and/or words the presenter gives a description of a practice environment that invites the audience into the antenatal clinic, maternity ward, labour room, home settings, classroom or any other environment where midwives work.

Workshop

A workshop can have a practical or a theoretical approach to a well-defined midwifery subject. This mode of presentation offers the opportunity to activate and interact with the partici-

pants. According to the theme of the workshop there will be room for discussions in smaller groups or trying new techniques hands-on.

Poster presentation

This is one of the traditional ways to present research projects, development projects, ongoing studies, teaching methods, bachelor projects etc. In the congress hall there will be an open section for poster presentations.

Oral presentation in parallel sessions

The traditional oral presentations of research or development projects will be held in parallel sessions of three to five presentations. The presenter will be given 20 minutes to present followed by a 5 minute question and answer session with the audience.

Symposia

The symposia offer the opportunity for researchers to present together with others sharing the same focus. The symposia should be thematic and comprise research results/studies that are complementary. The symposia offer room for researchers to present and discuss a subject from different angles. One of the presenters will have the task of leading the symposia.

Timeline of the Congress

Deadline for indication of interest to be a reviewer **25 August 2009**

Deadline for submission of abstracts **1 October 2009**

Presentation of the programme on www.njf2010.dk **21 December 2009**

Deadline for early bird registration **1 February 2010**

Congress **3-5 June 2010**

Registration, accommodation etc.

The Congress will be held

3-5 June 2010

Congress venue

Bella Center, Copenhagen Congress Center, is located in Copenhagen in the vicinity of both the city centre and the airport. There are good public transport connections via the metro.

Registration

The registration fee for participants includes Congress documentation, welcome reception, opening ceremony, scientific program, poster presentation, exhibition, refreshment breaks and lunches for all three days, as well as the closing ceremony. The Congress dinner is not included. You may register on the website: www.njf2010.dk



The Congress takes place at Bella Center, Center Boulevard 5, DK-2300 København S.

Fees

Advance registration, early bird, by 1 February 2010 3,900 dkr
Late registration after 1 February 2010 4,400 dkr

Accommodation

Hotel accommodation or hostel rooms may be reserved in various price categories. Options are presented with registration on the website www.njf2010.dk

The Danish Association of Midwives will endeavor to meet the need for private accommodation in the homes of midwives and midwifery students in Copenhagen. You can read more about this on www.njf2010.dk

Other events

At the time of writing, obstetrical wards, private clinics etc. in and around Copenhagen are being encouraged to organize site visits for interested Congress participants.

Congress dinner

All Congress participants are invited to the Congress dinner on 4 June 2010.

Tickets to the Congress dinner may be purchased at registration on www.njf2010.dk. Participation in the Congress dinner costs 500 Danish Kroner. The venue seats 500 guests and tickets will be sold on a first-come-first-served basis.

Visit to City Hall

Copenhagen City Hall opens its doors to Congress participants on Thursday evening for a reception offering finger food and a drink. The City Hall was inaugurated in 1912. (*The City reserves the right – very rarely exercised – to cancel this event.*)

Language

The working language of the Congress is English. Presentation of practice, storytelling and workshops, however, may be in English or any of the Nordic languages.

Exhibition

A broad range of companies marketing items of interest to midwives have been invited to exhibit at the Congress. There will therefore be many different products which participants may examine during the breaks. Participants may also dialogue with exhibitors about their products.

**the
meeting
point**

Twining, networking, mingling, friendship ...

At the Congress it will be possible to initiate or join twinning initiatives between persons, institutions, departments and units. You are encouraged to pay a visit to the meeting point if you are interested in making contact with a twin in one or several of the other Nordic countries. Read more on www.njf.2010.dk

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Keynote speakers

Cathy Warwick is General Secretary of the Royal College of Midwives (RCM) and has broad experience as a midwife, researcher,



leader, teacher and politician. Prior to joining the RCM she was Director of Midwifery and General Manager for Women & Children's Services at King College Hospital in London. She has an MSc in Social Policy, an Advanced

Diploma in Midwifery (ADM) and a Post Graduate Certificate in Education of Adults. Her work has led to invitations to sit on many national maternity policy committees, and she has been Chair of the Midwifery Committee at the Nursing and Midwifery Council, and Chair of the maternity working group contributing to the Darzi report, Healthcare for London. Cathy has also written and published widely on midwifery issues and lectures and speaks nationally and internationally.

In her research and other activities, Cathy has examined the influence of research on organization and management of midwifery services.

Hanne Kjærgaard has for many years been a driving force in the development of Danish maternity service and midwifery both as practicing midwife, in management positions, as expert adviser to the National Board of Health, and as teacher and researcher.



Through many years of work in professional development, teaching, quality development and accreditation, and now her own research and supervision of others, Hanne has both shown the way and paved it for others. Hanne has helped set-

ting a high standard for midwifery research and has been influential in promoting the development of a midwifery research tradition in Denmark.

Hanne's work is a good example of core research in midwifery, taking as point of departure the midwife's particular competence - the normal birth. Hanne's research critically examines the diagnosis 'labour dystocia' that often leads to intervention - augmentation of labour - which is the most frequent intervention in labour and most often undertaken following the midwife's own indication.

In the period 1992-2009 Hanne has been appointed midwifery adviser to the National Board of Health and has inter alia participated in the formulation of Board of Health guidelines and recommendations in obstetrical care.

In 2007 Hanne completed a Ph.D. at Lund University with a dissertation on labour dystocia in nulliparas. Hanne is employed at the Juliane Marie Center at Rigshospitalet, where as research head she inspires and nurtures talented, budding researchers.

Ulla Waldenström is one of the most important Nordic researchers in midwifery, having published extensively on her scientific work.



Ulla's research is primarily related to the clinical work of midwives and is characterized by taking, as point of departure, core professional issues. From a broad methodological platform Ulla has investigated a range of models for midwifery care and labour attendance, and conducted comprehensive studies of the perspectives of pregnant and labouring women, including perceptions of delivery care.

At present, Ulla is involved in several international research projects, examining among other things the importance of parental education in pregnancy, alternative care during pregnancy and labour, the recollection of labour pains as well as pain relief during childbirth.

Ulla is a trained psychologist, nurse and midwife. In 1987 she was awarded a doctorate at the Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the medical faculty in Uppsala for a dissertation on early discharge following a normal birth. Ulla is professor at the Karolinska Institute.

Call for abstracts

The Congress offers the opportunity to share knowledge, to network, and to submit your own work for presentation.

The Congress website is open for submission of abstracts until 1 October 2009. Please find information about submission on our website www.njf2010.dk

Focus on education

We want to strengthen the focus on midwifery education and hope that midwifery teachers will contribute to the program.

By inviting the submission of bachelor projects it is our intention to support young midwives and budding researchers and enhance their opportunities to obtain funding for congress participation. We believe that participation in the Congress can help to foster the development of a young midwife's professional identity. Furthermore students and young midwives are often the first to spot hot topics and new trends in the profession.

Review team

A team of Nordic reviewers will select abstracts suitable for presentation. The scientific committee of the Congress will prepare the draft of the final program, which is to be approved by the Board of the Danish Association of Midwives.



Members of the scientific committee (from top) Pernille Lottrup, development consultant, midwife, MA, Educational Psychology, Charlotte Overgaard, midwife, Mhsc. Ph.D.stud., Misan Stehouwer, midwife, Mhsc., Hanne Kjærgaard, midwife, Ph.D. (in front, left), Joke Habben, midwife.

Facts on Danish midwives

- Danish midwives are unified under The Danish Association of Midwives which counts a total of 2,366 members (June 2009). Of these, 554 are students.
- Midwifery training is a 3.5 year bachelor degree. Danish midwives are not nurses apriori (direct entry).
- The vast majority of midwives are public servants of the Regions that operate the hospitals.
- Danish midwives are authorized to independently manage uncomplicated, spontaneous births in hospital or in the home.
- Danish midwives both manage prenatal care and assist at delivery and during the postnatal period, i.e. the individual midwife manages consultations during pregnancy, child-birth and family planning courses, the normal and the pathological birth (in cooperation with a doctor) as well as postnatal care.
- Danish midwives also undertake scanning of

the expecting mother, special guidance (e.g. of the overweight pregnant mother or stop-smoking courses) and developmental tasks.

- At six birth centers there are "known-midwife-facilities". This implies that midwives work in pairs with a group of pregnant/delivering women. The two midwives collaborate on prenatal care and consultation for the group and alternate shifts a week at a time. The midwife on duty assists when a woman from the group enters labour. "Known-midwife-facilities" is an offer provided by public pregnancy care at the five birth centers. The Danish Association of Midwives is advocating the expansion of this offer.
- Home births are managed by midwives from the hospitals' delivery wards. One Region however, has decided to outsource home births by contracting a group of midwives in private practice.

Facts on maternity care in Denmark

- There are 29 delivery wards with available obstetric and anaesthesiological assistance around the clock. To this may be added delivery wards on two islands: Samsø and Ærø.
- In 2008, 67,400 children were born in Denmark. Of these 0.9 percent were born at home.
- Of the nulliparas, 14 percent were delivered by acute and 9.4 percent by elective caesarean section.
- Of the multiparas, 5.9 percent were delivered by acute and 14.4 percent by elective caesarean section (2007 figures).
- Among the nulliparas anticipated to have a normal birth, 28.4 percent were given epidural

analgesia. Among the multiparas anticipated to have a normal birth, 7.3 percent were given epidural analgesia (2006 figures).

- Pregnant women are entitled to preventive examinations by a midwife and their general practitioner. Apart from delivery at hospital, women may give birth at home with the assistance of a midwife.
- Mother and child stay in the delivery ward 2-4 days after the birth. At many delivery wards, multiparas are discharged 4-6 hours after giving birth. More and more delivery wards offer the father the possibility of staying at the hospital with the mother and child.