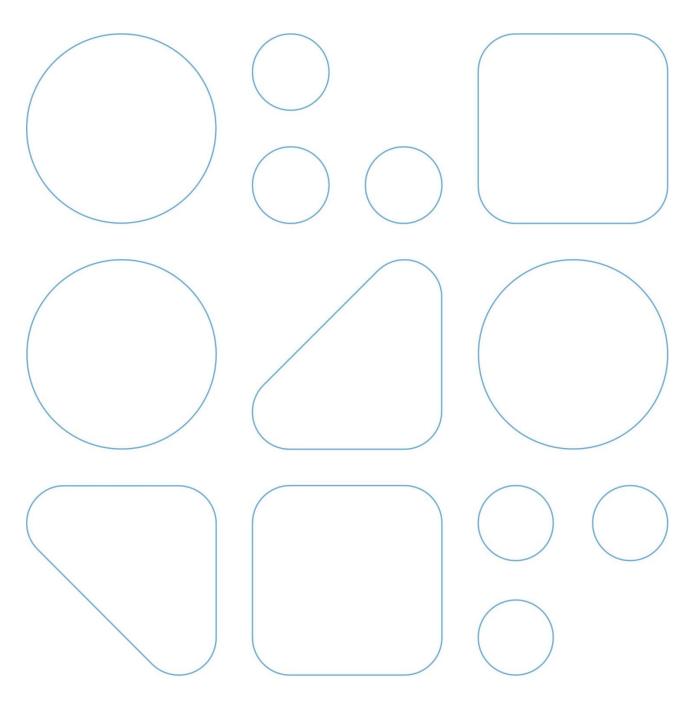


# Research at Akershus University Hospital 2022



## **Contents**

| 1.  | Summary  | 2  |
|-----|--|----|
| 2.  | Organisation of research at Akershus University Hospital | 3  |
| 3.  | Scientific production                                    | 4  |
| 4.  | Development in the number of publications and doctorates | 8  |
| 5.  | Publishing researchers                                   | 10 |
| 6.  | National cooperation                                     | 11 |
| 7.  | International cooperation                                | 12 |
| 8.  | Resource use   | 14 |
| 9.  | Grant of external research funds                         | 17 |
| 10. | Internal research funds                                  | 24 |
| 11. | Outstanding research award                               | 26 |
| 12. | This year's theses                                       | 29 |
| 14. | Organisational map Research and innovation division      | 33 |
| 15. | Appendix 1:  | 34 |

### 1. Summary

A main objective for Akershus University Hospital in 2022 has been to strengthen and highlight the university function. This is a continuation of a long-term investment in research that has resulted in an increasing number of scientific articles and dissertations from the hospital over time.

A total of 428 scientific articles were published from Akershus University Hospital in 2022, compared to 427 the previous year. In 2022, 17 employees defended, which is significantly higher than in 2021 when we had 5 defences and which was low due to the pandemic.

For Ahus, it is important to have close and good cooperation with knowledge institutions and especially the university/high school (UH) sector for the development of Ahus as a university hospital.

The publication list from Akershus University Hospital for 2022 shows that there is close collaboration with researchers from other institutions, and especially with researchers from the University of Oslo and Oslo University Hospital (chapter 6, figure 5). The list also shows that there is increasing cooperation with international institutions.

Important sources of funding are South-Eastern Norway Regional Health Authority, the Norwegian Research Council and the Cancer Society (see chapter 9 for which projects have been awarded). KR 8 million was allocated as internal research funds. The award was based on an external peer review of registered applications and followed a process that has recently been evaluated by internal audit Ahus.

In 2022, Ahus has continued measures to strengthen and facilitate more clinical treatment studies. During 2022, a high number of new clinical treatment studies have been registered, a total of 46 new ones, respectively. 18 research and 28 industry-initiated studies. During 2022, 70 clinical treatment studies were registered which included a total of 2013 new patients, according to figures taken from national reporting of clinical treatment studies.

## 2. Organisation of research at Akershus University Hospital

The function as director of research and innovation was raised from level 3 to level 2 in the Organisation in September 2016. The reporting line for research follows the management line in the hospital. All divisions and clinics have their own departments for research. The head of research then sits on the division's management team and acts as an adviser to the division director on research matters.

Akershus University Hospital (Ahus) has a formalized collaboration with the University of Oslo (UiO) on research and teaching medical students. The Department of Clinical Medicine at the Faculty of Medicine has a local head who is a scientific employee and reports to the head of department. The person is an observer in the hospital management. The institute has local administration at Campus Ahus. Ahus also works closely with OsloMet within education and research. The collaboration is also formalized here in an overarching collaboration agreement.

The research management in the university line is organized in three clinics; (1) clinic for internal medicine and laboratory subjects (equivalent in the Ahus line Division of Medicine. Division of Diagnostics and Technology and Division of Paediatric and Adolescent Medicine), (2) clinic for surgical subjects (in the Ahus line Division of Surgery, Orthopaedic Clinic and Division of Gynaecology and Obstetrics) and (3) clinic for health services research and psychiatry (in the Ahus line Department for health services research, FID and Division of Mental Health).

A significant proportion of the researchers at Ahus have combined positions with UiO, and thus also have a connection to the university line. These report to the clinic manager at the University for their University Tasks and to the immediate manager in the hospital line for tasks related to the employment relationship at Ahus.

Research committees have been established in most divisions and clinics and joint research committees for Ahus and Campus Ahus. The committee consists of representation from the research management, research managers from the clinic/division and clinic managers from the university. The joint research committee, which is a strategic advisory body for the managing director in research matters, is anchored in the collaboration agreement with the university and holds approximately 6 meetings per year. OsloMet and Ahu's user committee are also represented in the committee.

## 3. Scientific production

In 2022, 428 articles with the address Akershus University Hospital were registered in CRIStin (Current Research Information System in Norway)<sup>1</sup>, compared to 427 in 2021. Of these articles, 30 percent were published in a level 2 journal, which is defined as a leading journal in its field, and the rest are published in level 1 journals. Table 1 shows the number of scientific publications according to level 1 and 2 for the years 2014-2022. Table 2 shows the distribution of scientific publications and publication points per division/clinic in 2022.

Figure 1 shows the divisional development of publications for the period 2012 – 2022.

Table 1: Number of scientific publications by level 1 and 2 from 2014 - 2022

| Year | Number of<br>level 1 | Number of level 2 | Total number<br>of<br>articles |
|------|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2014 | 191                  | 47                | 238                            |
| 2015 | 234                  | 51                | 285                            |
| 2016 | 289                  | 74                | 363                            |
| 2017 | 297                  | 61                | 358                            |
| 2018 | 253                  | 70                | 323                            |
| 2019 | 245                  | 77                | 322                            |
| 2020 | 249                  | 84                | 333                            |
| 2021 | 331                  | 96                | 427                            |
| 2022 | 299                  | 129               | 428                            |

Table 2: Scientific publications and publication points per division 2022

|   | Total | Level 1 | Publ.<br>point | Level 2 | Publ.<br>point |
|---|-------|---------|----------------|---------|----------------|
| Division of Paediatric and Adolescent<br>Medicine | 24    | 18      | 6.75           | 6       | 5.67           |
| Division of Diagnostics and<br>Technology         | 62    | 48      | 15.40          | 14      | 9.79           |
| Division of Research and Innovation               | 89    | 61      | 16,78          | 28      | 29,96          |
| Division of Surgery                               | 45    | 31      | 10,84          | 14      | 11,19          |
| Division of Gynaecology and<br>Obstetrics         | 20    | 16      | 7,49           | 4       | 5,25           |
| Division of Medicine                              | 222   | 150     | 54,37          | 72      | 63,59          |
| Orthopaedic Clinic                                | 20    | 14      | 5.89           | 6       | 7.39           |
| Division of Mental Health                         | 45    | 33      | 14,13          | 12      | 16.91          |
| Division of Medicine and Health<br>Science        | 4     | 3       | 0.84           | 1       | 0.56           |

• AKERSHUS UNIVERSITETSSYKEHUS

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> www.cristin.no

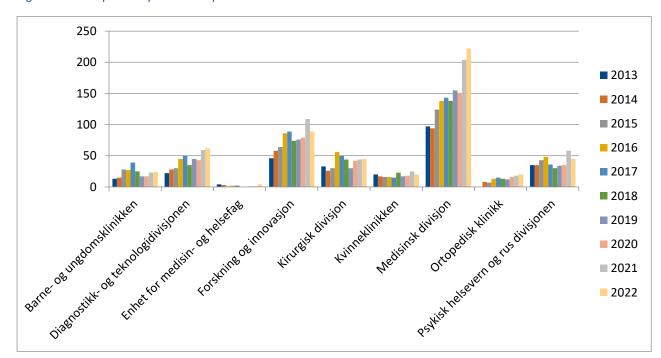


Figure 1: Development by division in publications 2017 – 2022

In 2022, 17 employees sat their dissertation. Table 6 shows the distribution of the number of awarded doctoral degrees per division. In chapter 12 there is an overview of who argued the thesis with a short summary of the various theses.

Table 3: The number of dissertations per division 2014-2022

|   | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Division of Paediatric and Adolescent<br>Medicine | 1    | 2    | 1    | 2    | 2    | 4    | 1    |      | 1    |
| Division of Diagnostics and<br>Technology         |      |      | 2    | 1    | 1    | 1    | 1    | 2    | 1    |
| Division of Research and Innovation               | 4    | 3    | 1    | 2    | 2    |      | 3    | 1    | 2    |
| Division of Surgery                               |      |      | 1    | 1    | 3    |      | 3    |      | 3    |
| Division of Gynaecology and<br>Obstetrics         | 4    | 1    | 2    |      | 1    | 1    | 1    |      | 1    |
| Division of Medicine                              | 5    | 8    | 2    | 6    | 6    | 3    | 8    | 1    | 4    |
| Orthopaedic Clinic                                |      | 2    |      | 1    | 1    | 3    | 0    | 1    | 3    |
| Division of Mental Health                         | 1    | 1    |      | 3    | 6    | 1    | 3    |      | 2    |

Figure 2 shows the development for clinical studies at Ahus. In 2022, there was a slight decrease in the number of new reported clinical studies compared to 2021, where the number of new studies was a record high. At the same time, there was an increase of 6% for clinical treatment studies that included new patients. Inclusion of the number of new patients has increased by 75% in 2022, compared to 2021 (Figure 3). There is also an increase in the number of clinical studies that have an active project period at the Regional Ethics Committee (REK). In 2022, Ahus received 41 registered inquiries about participation in new industry-initiated clinical studies from various companies associated with the healthcare industry.

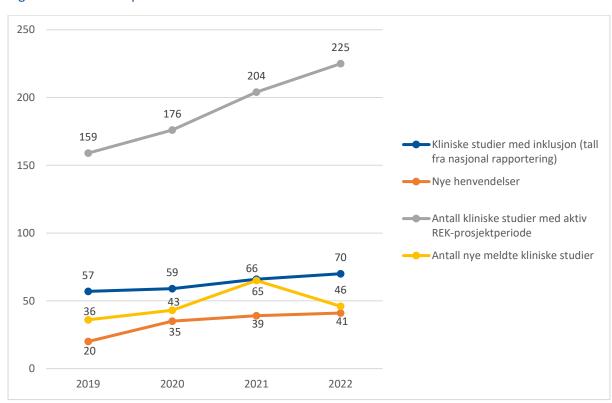
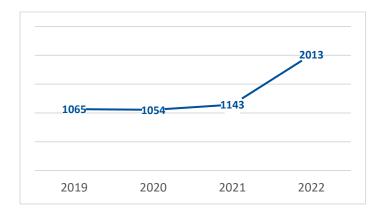


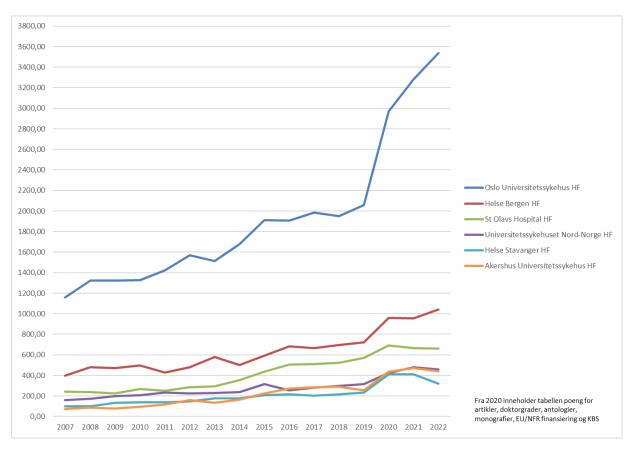
Figure 2: The development of clinical studies at Ahus

Figure 3: Inclusion of new patients in clinical studies at Ahus



The number of research points including clinical treatment studies has increased slightly from 438 in 2021 to 442 in 2022. For the period 2006 – 2019, the graph only shows points for scientific articles and doctorates, but from 2020 we have expanded the overview to apply to the total number of research points (scientific articles, doctorates, anthologies, monographs and EU/The Research Council of Norway funding) and KBS points (Clinical treatment studies). Figure 4 shows a comparison between the Norwegian university hospitals for the period 2006 to 2022.

Figure 4: Research points (scientific articles, doctorates, and anthologies, monographs, EU /The Research Council of Norway funding) and clinical treatment studies (KBS) – comparison between the Norwegian university hospitals. For the period 2007-2019, the graph only shows points for scientific articles and doctoral degrees



DOFIs (report on invention) have been submitted to our TTO (Technology Transfer Office, Inven2), 5 patents and a license agreement.

Table 4: Innovation activity 2022 - reported from Inven2

|                     | Number |
|---------------------|--------|
| DOFI                | 10     |
| Patent applications | 5      |
| License Agreement   | 1      |

## 4. Development in the number of publications and doctorates

Table 5 and figures 5 and 6 show the development in the number of scientific publications and the number of doctoral degrees awarded in the period from 2011 to 2022. The number of published articles has shown a positive increase from 2011 and in 2022 Ahus will return to pre-pandemic levels in the number of dissertations.

Table 5: Publications and doctorates 2010-2022

|                  | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Publications     | 210  | 238  | 228  | 238  | 285  | 363  | 358  | 323  | 322  | 333  | 427  | 428  |
| Doctoral degrees | 8    | 20   | 10   | 15   | 17   | 9    | 16   | 22   | 13   | 20   | 5    | 17   |

Figure 5: Development in the number of publications

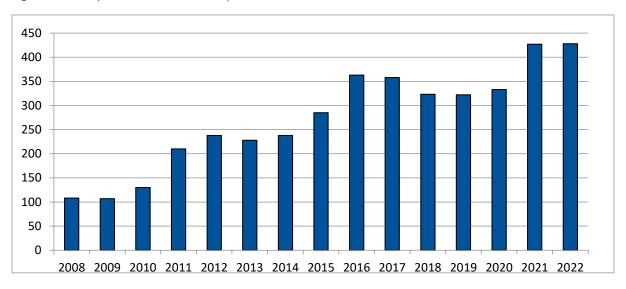
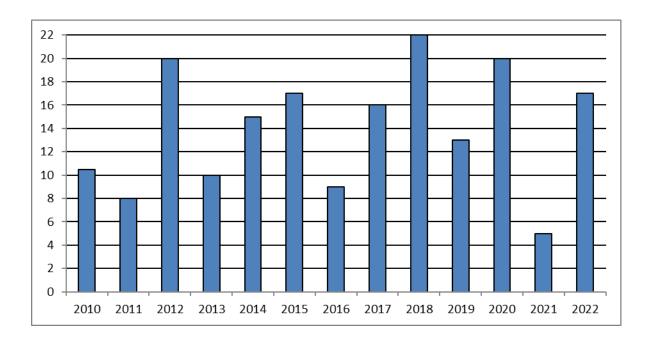


Figure 6: Development in the number of doctoral degrees



## 5. Publishing researchers

The tables below show the number of researchers who published at least one scientific article with the address Akershus University Hospital in 2022. Table 6 shows publishing researchers broken down by gender and age, and table 7 shows the corresponding overview per division. Data are taken from CRIStin.

Table 6: Publishing researchers divided by gender and age

| Men    |          | Women  |          | Total  |          |  |  |
|--------|----------|--------|----------|--------|----------|--|--|
| Number | Avg. age | Number | Avg. age | Number | Avg. age |  |  |
| 166    | 49.7     | 191    | 46.0     | 357    | 47.7     |  |  |

Table 7: Publishing researchers divided by gender and age per division

|  | M      | en       | Wo     | men      |
|--|--------|----------|--------|----------|
|  | Number | Avg. age | Number | Avg. age |
| Division of Paediatric and Adolescent Medicine | 7      | 45.6     | 11     | 42.6     |
| Division of Diagnostics and Technology         | 24     | 52,0     | 40     | 49,7     |
| Division of Research and Innovation            | 15     | 45,7     | 18     | 48,4     |
| Division of Surgery                            | 22     | 50,7     | 13     | 46,5     |
| Division of Gynaecology and Obstetrics         | 1      | 65       | 12     | 47       |
| Division of Medicine                           | 69     | 48,0     | 68     | 43       |
| Orthopaedic Clinic                             | 18     | 50,7     | 4      | 40,5     |
| Division of Mental Health                      | 10     | 59,1     | 23     | 47,5     |
| Division of Medicine and Health Science        | 0      | -        | 2      | 52,5     |

## 6. National cooperation

Figure 7 shows an overview of Norwegian institutions that researchers at Akershus University Hospital have published together with in 2022. Co-publishing with the University of Oslo and Oslo University Hospital is currently the most common.

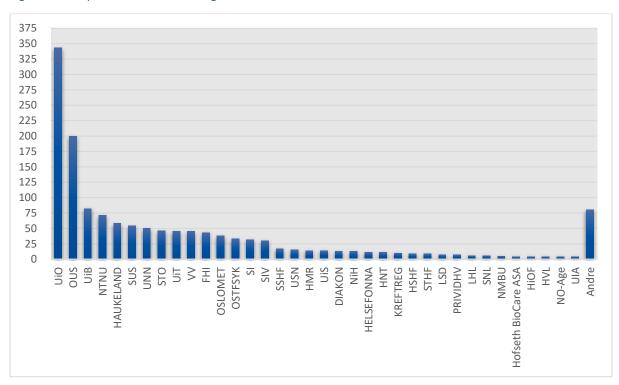


Figure 7: Joint publication with Norwegian institutions

Description of the abbreviations in the figure above:

- UiO University of Oslo
- OUS Oslo University Hospital HF
- UiB University of Bergen
- NTNU The Norwegian University of Science and Technology
- HAUKELAND Health Bergen HF Haukeland University Hospital
- SUS Health Stavanger HF Stavanger University Hospital
- UNN University Hospital of Northern Norway HF
- STO St. Olav's Hospital HF
- UiT UiT Norway's Arctic University
- VV Vestre Viken HF
- FHI Institute of Public Health
- OSLOMET
- OSTFSYK Østfold Hospital Trust
- SI Innlandet Hospital Trust
- SIV Hospital in Vestfold Trust
- SSHF Sørlandet Hospital Trust
- USN The University of Southeast Norway
- HMR Health Møre and Romsdal

- UiS University of Stavanger
- DEAKON Deacon Home Hospital
- NiH Norwegian Sports Academy
- HELSEFONNA Helse Fonna
- HNT Health Nord-Trøndelag
- KREFTREG Cancer register Institute for population-based cancer research
- HSHF Helgeland Hospital Trust
- STHF Telemark Hospital Trust
- LSD Lovisenberg Diakonale Hospital
- PRIVIDHV Private non-profit in Helse Vest
- LHL The LHL clinics
- SNL Norwegian Air Ambulance Foundation
- NMBU Norway's University of the Environment and Life Sciences
- Hofseth BioCare ASA
- HiOF Østfold University College
- HVL The University of Western Norway
- NO-Age The Norwegian Centre on Healthy Ageing
- UIA University of Agder

## 7. International cooperation

In 2022, 224 articles or 52 per cent of the published articles were joint publications with foreign partners. As Figure 8 shows, the number of articles that include international collaboration has been stable in recent years. Figure 9 shows countries with which we have international copublications. The USA and Great Britain are the countries with which we have the most joint publications.

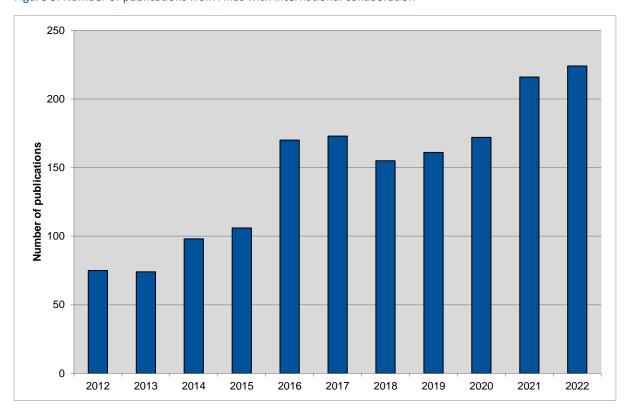
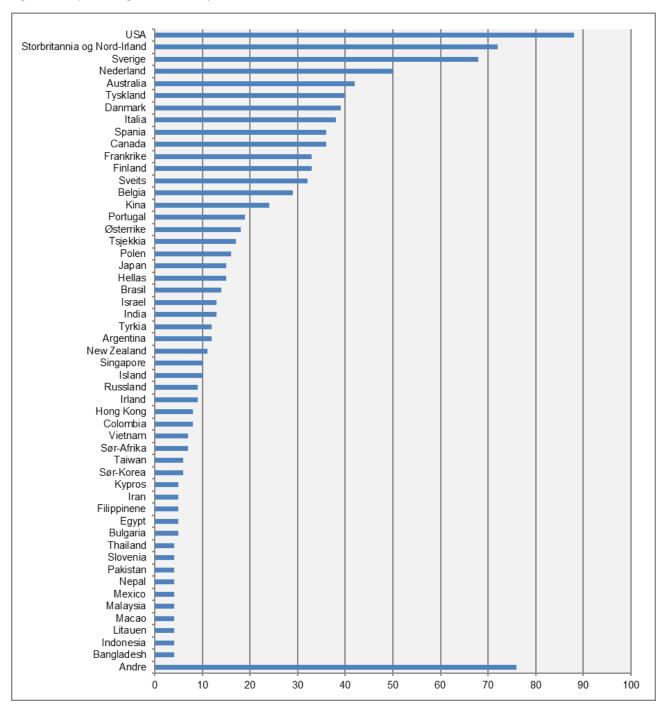


Figure 8: Number of publications from Ahus with international collaboration

Figure 9: Co-publishing internationally



#### 8. Resource use

In 2022, a total of 200.7 man-years were used for research and development work (R&D report to Statistics Norway (formerly NIFU) for 2021). Of this, research man-years accounted for 187.2. In addition, 50.7 man-years are associated with UiO. Ahus also has employees who have side positions/doctoral scholarships at OsloMet and OsloMet has employees with side positions at Ahus.

The research support at the hospital is mainly financed by Ahus and partly by UiO. The research support includes finance, personnel, internal control, medical library, clinical studies, clinical research polyclinic, biobank /ebiobank, innovation, research law, digital research infrastructure, statistics and Grants.

Table 8 shows the distribution of research man-years and the number of employees per division/clinic at Ahus. Table 9 shows the distribution of man-years and employees associated with Campus Ahus, UiO.

Table 8: Divisional distribution of man-years and employees at R&D, Akershus University Hospital 2022

|                             |       |       |       |       |        |       |       |       | FID/Forskning |            | Medisi  |        |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|------------|---------|--------|
|                             |       |       |       |       |        |       |       | FID/  | s-            | Analyse/   | n og    |        |
| Ahus 2022                   | DDT   | PSYK  | KIR   | Orto  | MED    | KK    | BUK   | нøкн  | støtte/andre  | Datafangst | helsefa | Totalt |
| Årsverk internt finansieret | 12,39 | 25,14 | 8,38  | 3,82  | 50,78  | 3,25  | 5,70  | 7,55  | 17,33         | 0,40       | 1,19    | 135,93 |
| Antall ansatte              | 45,00 | 67,00 | 52,00 | 16,00 | 125,00 | 11,00 | 16,00 | 14,00 | 24,00         | 1,00       | 4,00    | 375,00 |
| Årsverk eksternt finansiert | 4,01  | 8,39  | 2,90  | 2,08  | 28,45  | 2,11  | 5,44  | 9,47  | 1,94          | 0,00       | 0,00    | 64,79  |
| Antall ansatte              | 9,00  | 28,00 | 7,00  | 6,00  | 64,00  | 10,00 | 16,00 | 20,00 | 4,00          | 0,00       | 0,00    | 164,00 |
| Ahus totalt årsverk         | 16,40 | 33,53 | 11,28 | 5,90  | 79,23  | 5,36  | 11,14 | 17,02 | 19,27         | 0,40       | 1,19    | 200,72 |

Table 9: Divisional distribution of man-years and employees in scientific positions. Campus Ahus, UiO, 2022

|                                    |     |      |      |      |      |     |     |      |             | Analyse/   | Adm     |        |
|------------------------------------|-----|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|------|-------------|------------|---------|--------|
|                                    |     |      |      |      |      |     |     |      | Forsknings- | Datafangst | ansatte |        |
| UiO - Campus Ahus 2022             | DDT | PSYK | KIR  | Orto | MED  | KK  | BUK | HØKH | støtte*     | *          | *       | Totalt |
| Årsverk internt finansiert         | 1,4 | 0,4  | 4,5  | 1,6  | 15,0 | 1,1 | 3,6 | 1,7  | 5,0         | 1          | 2,5     | 37,8   |
| Antall ansatte internt finansiert  | 7,0 | 2,0  | 11,0 | 4,0  | 29,0 | 4,0 | 5,0 | 3,0  | 5,0         | 1          | 3       | 74,0   |
| Årsverk eksternt finansiert        | 0,2 | 0,2  | 0,6  | 0,0  | 7,2  | 0,0 | 0,2 | 3,0  | 1,5         | 0          | 0       | 12,9   |
| Antall ansatte eksternt finansiert | 1,0 | 1,0  | 3,0  | 0,0  | 15,0 | 0,0 | 1,0 | 4,0  | 4,0         | 0          | 0       | 29,0   |
| Årsverk UiO totalt                 | 1,6 | 0,6  | 5,1  | 1,6  | 22,2 | 1,1 | 3,8 | 4,7  | 6,5         | 1,0        | 2,5     | 50,7   |
| UiO totalt antall ansatte          | 8,0 | 3,0  | 14,0 | 4,0  | 44,0 | 4,0 | 6,0 | 7,0  | 9,0         | 1,0        | 3,0     | 103,0  |

Research support includes the engineers at EpiGen as well as the IT manager. Analysis/data capture includes the two UiO-employed advisors. Administrative staff are univ admin Campus Ahus.



14

Research at Akershus University Hospital 2022

#### Table 10 shows the development in the number of man-years over the past nine years.

Table 10: Development of divisional distribution of man-years for R&D at Ahus and Campus Ahus for the period 2014 – 2022

|              | DDT  | PSYK  | KIR   | Orto | MED   | KK   | BUK   | FID   | Forsknings-<br>støtte** | Analyse/<br>Datafangst | Adm<br>ansatte* | Medisin og<br>helsefag-<br>divisjonen | TOTAL Forskning og utvikling |
|--------------|------|-------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Ahus årsverk |      |       |       |      |       |      |       |       |                         |                        |                 |                                       |                              |
| 2014         | 13   | 30,6  | 4,4   | 4,9  | 55,6  | 6,9  | 9     | 19,7  | 9,6                     |                        |                 |                                       | 153,7                        |
| 2015         | 11   | 29,5  | 5,3   | 7,4  | 64,8  | 6,1  | 12,8  | 21,9  | 10,5                    |                        |                 |                                       | 169,3                        |
| 2016         | 17,9 | 47,7  | 6,4   | 6,2  | 71,2  | 5,4  | 11,4  | 19,9  | 5,8                     | 3,2                    |                 |                                       | 195,1                        |
| 2017         | 19,3 | 44    | 6,1   | 6,7  | 69,3  | 6,3  | 10    | 23,4  | 5,8                     | 3                      |                 | 0,2                                   | 194                          |
| 2018         | 19,3 | 44    | 6,1   | 6,7  | 69,3  | 6,3  | 10    | 23,4  | 5,8                     | 3                      |                 | 0,2                                   | 194                          |
| 2019         | 15,6 | 29,8  | 10,1  | 5,9  | 73,9  | 6,9  | 7,8   | 18,1  | 13,8                    | 0,3                    |                 | 1,4                                   | 183,6                        |
| 2020         | 15,6 | 29,8  | 10,1  | 5,9  | 73,9  | 6,9  | 7,8   | 18,1  | 13,8                    | 0,3                    |                 | 1,4                                   | 183,6**                      |
| 2021         | 16,4 | 33,53 | 11,28 | 5,9  | 79,23 | 5,36 | 11,14 | 17,02 | 19,27                   | 0,4                    |                 | 1,19                                  | 200,72                       |
| 2022         | 16,4 | 33,53 | 11,28 | 5,9  | 79,23 | 5,36 | 11,14 | 17,02 | 19,27                   | 0,4                    |                 | 1,19                                  | 200,72                       |
| UiO årsverk  |      |       |       |      |       |      |       |       |                         |                        |                 |                                       |                              |
| 2014         | 1,4  | 0,4   | 6,2   | 3,2  | 16,7  | 1,9  | 1,4   | 2,8   | 9,8                     |                        |                 |                                       | 43,8                         |
| 2015         | 1,4  | 0,4   | 7,7   | 2,9  | 20    | 1,4  | 1,4   | 1,6   | 10,5                    |                        |                 |                                       | 47,3                         |
| 2016         | 1,4  | 0,4   | 7     | 2,7  | 19,3  | 1,6  | 2,4   | 2,8   | 6,4                     | 2                      | 2,7             |                                       | 48,7                         |
| 2017         | 1,6  | 0,6   | 16    | 5    | 22,3  | 3    | 4     | 5     | 6                       | 2                      | 2,5             |                                       | 50,6                         |
| 2018         | 1,6  | 0,6   | 16    | 5    | 22,3  | 3    | 4     | 5     | 6                       | 2                      | 2,5             |                                       | 50,6                         |
| 2019         | 2    | 0,6   | 5,2   | 1,7  | 16,4  | 1,6  | 3,6   | 2,9   | 6                       | 2                      | 2,5             |                                       | 44,5                         |
| 2020         | 2    | 0,6   | 5,2   | 1,7  | 16,4  | 1,6  | 3,6   | 2,9   | 6                       | 2                      | 2,5             |                                       | 44,5                         |
| 2021         | 1,6  | 0,6   | 5,1   | 1,6  | 22,2  | 1,1  | 3,8   | 4,7   | 6,5                     | 1                      | 2,5             |                                       | 50,7                         |
| 2022         | 1,6  | 0,6   | 5,1   | 1,6  | 22,2  | 1,1  | 3,8   | 4,7   | 6,5                     | 1                      | 2,5             |                                       | 50,7                         |

<sup>\*</sup> In 2013 Orto was organised under the Division of Surgery.

DDT: Division of Diagnostics and Technology

PSYK: Division of Mental Health

KIR: Division of SurgeryORTO: Orthopaedic ClinicMED: Division of Medicine

KK Division of Gynaecology and Obstetrics

BUK: Division of Paediatric and Adolescent Medicine

FID: Division of Research and Innovation

<sup>\*\*</sup> This includes the research engineers at EpiGen, statisticians and IT support. Data capture includes the two UiO employee a dvisors.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Same figures as in 2019, there was no reporting of figures to NIFU/SSB in 2020.

## 9. Granting of external research funds

In 2022, Akershus University Hospital was awarded a total of KR 127.5 million in external research funds; among others from Health South-East RHF, the Research Council of Norway, and the National Association for Public Health and the Cancer Society. Figure 10 shows external funding broken down by funding source from 2011 to 2022. Tables 11 and 12 show the allocation per project.

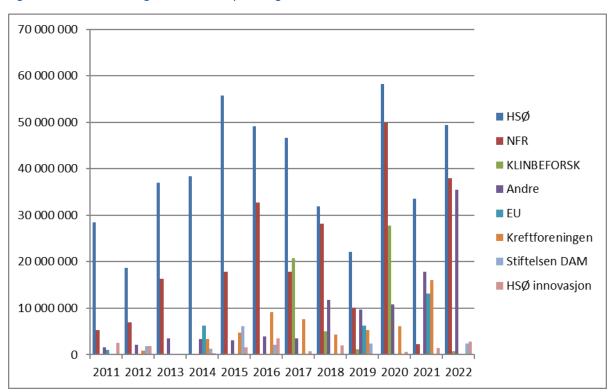


Figure 10: External funding broken down by funding source 2011 - 2022

Table 11: Projects that have been granted external research funding for PhD fellows, post doc fellows and major operating grants

| Project title  | Project<br>Manager  | Division/Clinic   | Funded by:                    | Allocation 2022 |
|--|---------------------|---|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| MESSVESS-AI: Machine learning for automatic creation of patient-specific vascular maps during colon cancer surgery | Dejan<br>Ignjatovic | Division of Surgery,<br>Department of<br>Gastrointestinal Surgery | HSØ Innovation funds          | KR 500,000.00   |
| Anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction in children  | Guri Ranum<br>Ekås  | Orthopaedic Clinic  | Sophies Minde<br>Orthopaedics | KR 535,124.00   |

|   |                                |  | With Color   |                 |
|---|--------------------------------|--|--|-----------------|
| SAINT: Safe Induction of Labor<br>Trial   | Camilla<br>Haavaldsen          | Division of Gynaecology and Obstetrics   | Klinbeforsk via<br>collaboration<br>agreement with OUS                               | KR 731,327.00   |
| Strength training with electrical stimulation for women with weak pelvic floor muscles. A randomized controlled pilot study.  | Ingeborg H<br>Brækken          | Division of Surgery ,<br>Pelvic Center   | Physiofond   | KR 816,000.00   |
| Home birth - Individually adapted home-based maternity care   | Andrea<br>Solnes<br>Miltenburg | Division of Gynaecology and Obstetrics   | HSØ Innovation funds   | KR 950,000.00   |
| Integrated health services for the frail elderly  | Anette<br>Melsnes<br>Skogvold  | Division of Medicine<br>and Health Science,<br>Dept. Interaction and<br>health promotion | Innovation funds from<br>HSØ   | KR 985,000.00   |
| A solution to the kneecap fracture problem  | Hendrik<br>Frølich<br>Birdsong | Orthopaedic Clinic   | Novo Nordisk<br>Foundation   | KR 992,000.00   |
| A new generation of patient-<br>reported quality measurements<br>within mental health care and<br>interdisciplinary specialized<br>substance abuse treatment                                    | Ketil<br>Hanssen-<br>Bauer     | Division of Mental<br>Health, R&D  | The Research Council of<br>Norway via cooperation<br>agreement with FHI              | KR 1 058 608,00 |
| ProBio: An outcome-adaptive and randomized multi-arm biomarker driven study in patients with metastatic prostate cancer   | Jan<br>Oldenburg               | Division of Medicine,<br>Department of<br>Oncology                                       | Karolinska Institutet,<br>Department of Medical<br>Epidemiology and<br>Biostatistics | KR 1 200 000,00 |
| Randomized phase III trial investigating the survival benefit of adding thoracic radiotherapy to durvalumab immunotherapy plus chemotherapy in extensive stage small-cell lung cancer (TRIPLEX) | Kirill<br>Neumann              | Division of Medicine ,<br>Lung Department  | Astra Zeneca via<br>collaboration<br>agreement with NTNU.                            | KR 1,200,000.00 |
| Biomarkers of subclinical<br>myocardial injury and dysfunction<br>in HUNT-COVIT-19  | Torbjørn<br>Region             | Division of Medicine ,<br>Department of<br>Cardiology                                    | ABBOTT   | KR 1,531,800.00 |
| Establishment of regional infrastructure for pragmatic clinical studies at Akershus University Hospital HF  | Magnus<br>Lyngbakken           | Division of Research<br>and Innovation   | HSØ  | KR 2,000,000.00 |
| Turning up mitophagy to blunt<br>Alzheimer Tau pathologies  | Evandro Fei<br>Fang            | Division of Medicine ,<br>EpiGen   | Cure Alzheimer's Fund  | KR 2,088,845.00 |
| Long-term effects after coronavirus infection in young people   | Vegard<br>Wyller               | Division of Paediatric<br>and Adolescent<br>Medicine                                     | The DAM Foundation via Recovery Norway   | KR 2,343,000.00 |
| Norwegian EQ-5D-5L valuation study completion   | Kim Rand                       | Division of Research and Innovation, HØKH  | EuroQol Research<br>Foundation   | KR 2 343 060,00 |
| A combination of artificial intelligence and wet lab techniques to identify robust mitophagy inducers as drug candidates for Alzheimer's disease and other neurodegenerative diseases           | Evandro Fei<br>Fang            | Division of Medicine,<br>EpiGen  | VitaDao via Inven2   | KR 2 397 750,00 |

|   |                                   |   | T   |                 |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|---|-----------------|
| Restoring mitophagy to inhibit Tau<br>seeds-induced pathology in<br>Alzheimer's disease   | Domenica<br>Caponio               | Division of Medicines ,<br>EpiGen                     | The National<br>Association   | KR 2,820,000.00 |
| Cooperation agreement with<br>SpinChip Diagnostics  | Helge Røsjø                       | Division of Research and Innovation                   | SpinChip Diagnostics  | KR 3,486,472.00 |
| ACE 5 Study: Lung Cancer<br>Screening Plus Program to reduce<br>cardiovascular morbidity and<br>mortality   | Helge Røsjø                       | Division of Research<br>and Innovation                | HSØ   | KR 3,561,000.00 |
| Effect of NicotinAmide Riboside<br>oN myocardial and skeletal muscle<br>Injury and function in patients<br>with metastatic breast cancer<br>receiving Anthracyclines (NARNIA)       | Torbjørn<br>Omland                | Division of Medicine                                  | HSØ   | KR 3 561 000,00 |
| RCT: Brief Intervention for medication misuse among elderly   | Anders<br>Christofer<br>Lundqvist | Division of Research and Innovation (HØKH)            | нsø   | kr 3 561 000,00 |
| Patient safety during robotic surgery. Protecting the brain during modern prostate surgery.   | Signe Søvik                       | Division of Surgery                                   | HSØ   | kr 3 561 000,00 |
| What works for the patients? A prospective, longitudinal cohort study of treatment of psychosis.  | Kristin<br>Sverdvik<br>Heiervang  | Division of Mental<br>Health                          | нsø   | kr 3 561 000,00 |
| Challenging the paradigm of autism as primarily heritable: The impact of socio-demographic factor   | Andrea Kagge<br>Wister            | Division of Paediatric<br>and Adolescent<br>Medicine  | нsø   | kr 3 561 000,00 |
| Linking mycobacteria infection, BCG vaccination and post vaccination immune responses to Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis and Multiple Sclerosis risk: A population based cohort study | Ola Nakken                        | Division of Medicine                                  | нsø   | kr 3 564 000,00 |
| Prediction of disease course and treatment escalation in ulcerative colitis through gut microbiota profile recognition (UC study)   | Stephan<br>Brackmann              | Division of Medicine,<br>Digestion                    | The Research Council via collaboration agreement with Genetic Analysis                    | kr 3 780 000,00 |
| Towards elimination of cervical cancer: DNA methylation analyses to improve specificity and reduce overtreatment related to HPV-based screening                                     | Mari Nygård                       | The cancer registry                                   | HSØ   | KR 4,707,000.00 |
| wideSN  | Henrik<br>Schirmer                | Division of Medicine ,<br>Department of<br>Cardiology | The Research Council via cooperation agreement with CardiNor AS                           | KR 4,736,000.00 |
| New blood test for diagnosing early stage Parkinson's Disease   | Tormod<br>Fladby                  | Division of Medicine ,<br>Neurology                   | The Research Council of<br>Norway via cooperation<br>agreement with Pre<br>Diagnostics AS | KR 4,950,000.00 |
| PredARIA: A new biomarker system to predict ARIA side effects   | Tormod<br>Fladby                  | Division of Medicine ,<br>Neurology                   | The Research Council of<br>Norway via cooperation<br>agreement with Pre<br>Diagnostics AS | KR 5,000,000.00 |

| Assisted Peptide and Protein<br>Clearance in Alzheimer's Disease  | Tormod<br>Fladby                              | Division of Medicine ,<br>Neurology                   | The Balder Foundation  | KR 5,065,000.00     |
|---|---|---|--|---------------------|
| Evaluation of SARS-CoV-2 vaccination of immunosuppressed and transplanted patients and revised vaccine guidelines for poor responders | Frode H.<br>Eidset                            | Division of Medicine ,<br>Digestion                   | CEPI via cooperation agreement with OUS  | KR 6,300,000.00     |
| The NorTrials initiative for the health institutions in South-<br>Eastern Norway  | Helge Røsjø                                   | Division of Research and Innovation?                  | нsø  | KR 7,500,000.00     |
| NorHEAD   | Kjersti Vetvik<br>(Espen S.<br>Kristoffersen) | Division of Medicine ,<br>Neurology                   | The Research Council<br>via collaboration<br>agreement with NTNU<br>(FKB centre) | KR 8,323,000.00     |
| Inequalities in aging well and the significance of transitions in later life (TRILL)  | Marijke<br>Veenstra                           | Division of Research and Innovation, HØKH             | The Research Council   | KR 9,282,000.00     |
| NorTrial's center for cardiovascular diseases   | Peder<br>Langeland<br>Myhre                   | Division of Medicine ,<br>Department of<br>Cardiology | нsø  | KR<br>10,000,000.00 |

Table 12: Projects granted smaller grants from external funding sources

| Project title  | Project<br>Manager      | Division/Clinic   | Funded by:  | Allocation 2022 |
|--|-------------------------|---|---|-----------------|
| Research funds from Ødegaard's and<br>Frimann-Dahl's funds to promote<br>Norwegian radiological research                 | Joana Reis              | Division of<br>Diagnostics and<br>Technology              | Ødegaard and<br>Frimann-Dahl's fund   | KR 40,000.00    |
| Save the meniscus – The Bucket Handle study. Repair technique, functional outcome, and prognostic factors                | Axel Szava<br>Petterson | Orthopaedic Clinic  | Smith and Nephew (awarded at the Winter Meeting)  | KR 40,000.00    |
| Genetic investigation of predictive biomarkers for colon and rectal immunotherapy  | Sebastian<br>Meltzer    | Division of Medicine , cancer department                  | Fam. Blixen Fund  | KR 40,000.00    |
| Effect of Agaricus Blazey Murill based on mushroom extract for asthma and allergies                                      | Faiza<br>Mahmood        | Division of<br>Diagnostics and<br>Technology, IMTRA       | Norwegian Association for Immunology and Transfusion Medicine (via The Norwegian Medical Association) | KR 50,000.00    |
| Post imaging contrast recovery from patient urine pilot project  | Line Ausland            | Division of Diagnostics and Technology, Image diagnostics | GE Healthcare   | KR 75,000.00    |
| Intracellular and extracellular characterization on the tumor/tumor microenvironment coagulome in breast cancer patients | Shakila Jabeen          | Division of Medicine<br>, EpiGen                          | National Network<br>for Breast Cancer<br>Research via Vestre<br>Viken                                 | KR 80,000.00    |
| Research funds from Supreme Court<br>lawyer Per Rygh's grant   | Ingeborg<br>Steinholt   | Division of Surgery                                       | Supreme Court<br>lawyer Per Rygh's  | KR 90,000.00    |

|   |                        |   | scholarship<br>(UNIFOR)   |               |
|---|------------------------|---|---|---------------|
| Functional investigations of treatment effect for metastatic colon and rectal cancer  | Sebastian<br>Meltzer   | Division of Medicine<br>, cancer department             | Astrid and Birger<br>Torstedt's grant to<br>fight cancer  | KR 100,000.00 |
| Research funds to carry out NMR of surgical preparations from patients operated on for bowel cancer                           | China Mari<br>Bakke    | Division of Medicine<br>, cancer department             | Astrid and Birger<br>Torstedt's grant to<br>fight cancer  | KR 100,000.00 |
| Quality control of analysis, sub-project of<br>Granins as biomarkers in suspected acute<br>decompensated heart failure (ACE2) | Torbjørn<br>Omland     | Division of Medicine<br>, Department of<br>Cardiology   | SpinChip Diagnostics<br>AS  | KR 100,000.00 |
| Heart muscle function   | Eirik Nestaas          | Division of<br>Paediatric and<br>Adolescent<br>Medicine | Transferred operating assets from SIV (original allocation from Fam Blix fund)                                    | KR 100,000.00 |
| Research Grant; UCB's research grant for younger neurologists and winner of Sanofi's research grant in MS research            | Rune Hoglund           | Division of Medicine<br>, Neurology                     | Sanofi-aventis Norge<br>AS. This also<br>includes<br>scholarships<br>awarded at<br>Nevrodagen 2022<br>(50,100 KR) | KR 100,000.00 |
| Tear-off fracture of the cruciate ligament attachment in children. How is it actually going? (Award from Grythfeldt)          | Maren<br>Gundersen     | Orthopaedic Clinic                                      | Dr T Grythfeldt and<br>Mrs Research fund  | KR 130,470.00 |
| Nordic seminar on hepatitis C   | Olav Dalgard           | Division of Medicine , Infection medicine               | The Research<br>Council of Norway   | KR 149,000.00 |
| "Genetics in dilated cardiomyopathy:<br>significance and molecular mechanisms<br>of ADAMTSL3 variants"                        | Ida Gjervold<br>Lunde  | Division of diagnostics and technology                  | The National<br>Association   | KR 200,000.00 |
| Return to Work – How to Prevent Opioid-induced Neck and Back Pain?  | Johannes<br>Gjerstad   | Mental Health Care                                      | STAMI   | KR 200,000.00 |
| Biomarkers that predict the spread of bowel cancer  | Anne Hansen<br>Ree     | Division of Medicine , cancer department                | The Research<br>Council of Norway<br>via Inven2   | KR 200,000.00 |
| Positioning and project establishment support (PES2022)   | Vegard Bruun<br>Wyller | Division of<br>Paediatric and<br>Adolescent<br>Medicine | The Research<br>Council via OUS   | KR 200,000.00 |
| Uracil Base Excision Repair as a tumor enabler in APOBEC expressing tumors – Implications for B-cell lymphomagenesis          | Hilde L Nilsen         | Division of Medicine<br>, EpiGen                        | The Norwegian Cancer Society via cooperation agreement with UiO   | KR 220,000.00 |
| Variations in trajectories, utilization and costs in Norwegian municipal in-patient acute care units – MipAC                  | Hilde Lurås            | Division of Research<br>and Innovation,<br>HØKH         | The Research Council of Norway via collaboration agreement with NTNU  | KR 233,000.00 |

| A phase 3 multicenter, randomized, prospective, open-label trial of ibrutinib monotherapy versus fixed-duration venetoclax plus obinutuzumab versus fixed duration I ibrutinib plus venetoclax in patients with previously untreated chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) | Hoa Thi Tuyet<br>Tran               | Division of<br>Medicine,<br>hematologic<br>disorders  | University of<br>Cologne through a<br>collaboration<br>agreement with St.<br>Olav's Hospital | kr 233 040,00                      |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|--|------------------------------------|
| Target CRC  | Sebastian<br>Meltzer                | Division of Medicine , cancer department              | Oncosyne AS  | KR 240,000.00                      |
| Early detection of heartbeats with the help of artificial intelligence  | Ole Morten<br>Rønning               | Division of Medicine<br>, Neurology                   | Cooperation<br>agreement with<br>Helse Stavanger<br>(funding from Helse<br>Vest)             | KR 240,000.00                      |
| PARASTOP-Paracetamol with Strong<br>Opioids: A randomized, double-blind,<br>parallel-group non-inferiority phase III<br>withdrawal trial of paracetamol versus<br>placebo in conjunction with opioids for<br>moderate to severe cancer-related pain                     | Olav Magnus<br>Fredheim             | Division of Surgery ,<br>Palliative                   | HSØ (Open project support) via cooperation agreement with OUS                                | KR 250,000.00                      |
| The challenging behavioral phenotype of Smith Magenis Syndrome - a preparation for a PhD project.   | Monica Stolen<br>Dønnum             | Division of Mental<br>Health, Adult<br>Habilitation   | National<br>Competence Center<br>for Rare Diagnoses<br>(NKSD, OUS)                           | KR 265,000.00                      |
| Plate fixation versus nailing of 3 and 4 part shoulder fractures. A prospective randomized study.   | Annette KB:<br>Wikerøy              | Orthopaedic Clinic                                    | Sophies Minde<br>Orthopedics   | KR 278,133.00                      |
| Lumbar fusion vs interdisciplinary rehabilitation. A multicenter RCT.   | Sverre Mjønes                       | Orthopaedic Clinic                                    | Sophies Minde<br>Orthopedics   | KR 348,654.00                      |
| Validation lung cancer risk model   | Haseem Ashraf                       | Division of diagnostics and technology                | NTNU   | KR 350,000.00                      |
| Identification of factors of importance for treatment failure and patient satisfaction after torn Achilles tendon: Minimum 5-year follow-up of patients randomized to non-surgical treatment, open surgery or mini-open surgery   | Tor Kristian<br>Molstad<br>Andresen | Orthopaedic Clinic                                    | Sophies Minde<br>Orthopedics   | KR 374,802.00                      |
| Distance in medial tibiotalar distance, in lateral ankle fractures, on standing and supine images   | Haseem Ashraf                       | Division of<br>Diagnostics and<br>Technology, BDA     | Sophies Minde<br>Orthopedics   | KR 393,400.00                      |
| Integrated healthcare services for frail elderly people with complex needs  | Bendik<br>Westlund<br>Hegna         | Enterprise development,                               | HSØ Innovation funds   | KR 400,000.00                      |
| The Norwegian Node of the International Neuroinformatic Coordinating Facility*  | Tormod Fladby                       | Division of Medicine<br>, Neurology                   | The Research<br>Council of Norway<br>via cooperation<br>agreement with UiO                   | KR 455,000.00                      |
| Collaboration agreement Novartis EKG AI   | Jesper Ravn                         | Division of Medicine<br>, Department of<br>Cardiology | Novartis   | KR 495,000.00                      |
| Medical consulting services by being an advisory member of the steering committee for one of the RSW studies  | Ellen Brodin                        | Division of Medicine<br>, Blood diseases              | Pfizer   | KR 45,000<br>(Annual<br>invoicing) |

| Better hearing habilitation with detailed speech sound testing   | Juha Silvola          | Division of Surgery ,<br>ENT              | The DAM Foundation via cooperation agreement with OUS | KR 4,165<br>(Annual<br>invoicing) |
|--|-----------------------|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| A randomized phase II, open-label, multicentre study investigating efficacy and safety of anti-PD-1/PD-L1 treatment +/- UV1 vaccination as first line treatment in patients with inoperable advanced and metastatic non-small cell lung cancer (LUNGVAC) | Anne Siri<br>Gløersen | Division of Medicine<br>, Lung Department | Western Cove  | 0-, (Annual<br>invoicing)         |

<sup>\*</sup>Extension of a project from 2017, where a new allocation has been made.

### 10. Internal research funds

Once a year, internal research funds are advertised for which employees can apply. The applications are assessed for quality by external peers.

In 2022, a total of NOK 20,958,046 was applied for in 57 applications. The total sum allocated was 8 million distributed over 25 projects (see table 13). Applicants are encouraged to use the feedback from their colleagues to improve their applications when applying for research funding from South-Eastern Norway Regional Health Authority and other external sources.

Table 13: Projects awarded internal research funds 2022

| Project title   | Project Manager                | Division/Clinic                        | Allocated<br>amount |
|---|--------------------------------|--|---------------------|
| Spatial-temporal evaluation of mitophagy in post-<br>mortem brain tissues from AD patients covering Braak<br>Staging I-VI and normal controls   | Evandro Fei Fang               | Division of Medicine                   | 180 000             |
| Uracil Base Excision repair as a tumour enabler in APOBEC expressing tumours – Implications for B-cell malignancies   | Hilde Loge Nilsen              | Division of Medicine                   | 250 000             |
| T follicular helper cells as disease-drivers in multiple sclerosis  | Andreas Lossius                | Division of Medicine                   | 250 000             |
| Linking REST in mitophagy and Alzheimer's disease   | Maria Jose Lagartos-<br>Donate | Division of Medicine                   | 500 000             |
| Assessing right colon cancer patients with metastatic central (D3) lymph nodes. Identifying the group benefiting from extended mesenterectomy and evaluation of radiological, pathological and genetics related prognostic factors. | Dejan Ignjatovic               | Division of Surgery                    | 500 000             |
| Hormonal adaptation and resistance in locally advanced breast cancer patients   | Jürgen Geisler                 | Division of Medicine                   | 250 000             |
| Novel Placental Diagnostic Tools for Real Time Assessment of Human Placental Development and Function in Pregnancy  | Anne Eskild                    | Division of Gynaecology and Obstetrics | 250 000             |
| Communicating Medical INFOrmation to patients: An evidence-based toolbox of strategies (COME INFO Project)  | Pål Gulbrandsen                | Division of Research and Innovation    | 161 000             |
| Plan D - a randomized controlled trial of vitamin D supplementation in psychotic disorders including the use of digital measures  | Mari Nerhus                    | Division of Mental<br>Health           | 250 000             |
| ADAMTSL3 proteins: A fibroblast angle to understanding genetic variants in dilated cardiomyopathy   | Ida Gjervold Lunde             | Division of Diagnostics and Technology | 500 000             |
| Vaginal delivery; Have we overlooked injuries that may cause sexual dysfunctions?   | Marie Ellström Engh            | Division of Gynaecology and Obstetrics | 250 000             |
| Tibial Spine Avulsion fractures in children –<br>Epidemiology, treatment and outcomes   | Guri Ranum Ekås                | Orthopaedic Clinic                     | 500 000             |
| "Picking the bad mole" - from primary melanomas to distant metastasis   | Henrik Jespersen               | Division of Medicine                   | 500 000             |
| Precision therapy versus standard therapy in Acute<br>Myeloid Leukaemia and Myelodysplastic syndrome in<br>elderly (PALM)   | Anders Dahm                    | Division of Medicine                   | 250 000             |
| Secretoneurin: biomarker and therapeutic strategy in cardiovascular disease   | Anett Hellebø Ottesen          | Division of Research and Innovation    | 250 000             |

| Project title  | Project Manager             | Division/Clinic                        | Allocated amount |
|--|-----------------------------|--|------------------|
| Treating patients with anal incontinence using Remote Patient Monitoring (RPM) during a pandemic   | Catherine J. Teig           | Division of Surgery                    | 70 000           |
| Fractures of the proximal humerus Two Prospective Randomized Controlled Trials on the treatment  | Rune Bruhn Jakobsen         | Orthopaedic Clinic                     | 250 000          |
| Circulating cell-free DNA in breast cancer: methylation patterns lead to potential prognostic and predictive bio markers.                          | Jovana Klajic               | Division of Medicine                   | 500 000          |
| Detection of renal fibrosis burden and prediction of kidney function deterioration: The role of kidney MRI and markers of accelerated renal aging. | My Svensson                 | Division of Medicine                   | 250 000          |
| "The dancing heart: A pilot study using computer vision and machine learning to assess myocardial function"  | Siri Lagethon Heck          | Division of Diagnostics and Technology | 500 000          |
| Antibiotics in viral community acquired pneumonia (ARCADE)   | Olav Dalgard                | Division of Medicine                   | 250 000          |
| Identifying modifiable risk factors for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis  | Ola Nakken                  | Division of Medicine                   | 500 000          |
| Disease panorama and challenges in patients with acute dyspnea: The impact of novel and established cardiac biomarkers                             | Magnus Nakrem<br>Lyngbakken | Division of Medicine                   | 500 000          |
| Epidemiology and outcomes of sarcoidosis in Norway: a national register-based cohort study   | Knut Stavem                 | Division of Medicine                   | 250 000          |

## 11. Outstanding Research Award

Each year, awards for outstanding research are awarded to three articles with the first author from Ahus. An important purpose of this is to stimulate good research and highlight the qualitatively good research that is produced and published by the hospital's staff. The three managers of the UiO clinics at Ahus nominate a ranked list of three articles each on the basis of set down criteria. The final decision is made in a coordination meeting between Ahus and Campus Ahus. The prize winners receive flowers, a diploma and NOK 10,000 which can be used for operational travel/conference attendance or the like.

The award winners in 2022 was Nazli Bahrami (Division of Surgery), Shakila Jabeen (Med division), Nina H. Schultz (Division of Medicine) and Christofer Lundqvist (Division of Research and Innovation)



From left: Nazli Bahrami, Christopher Lundqvist, Shakila Jabeen and Nina H. Schultz.

#### Announcement of the winners

#### **Clinic for Health Service Research and Psychiatry:**

Socheat Cheng, Tahreem Ghazal Siddiqui, Michael Gossop, Torgeir Bruun Wyller, Espen Saxhaug Kristoffersen and Anders Christofer Lundqvist.

The patterns and burden of multimorbidity in geriatric patients with prolonged use of addictive medications

DOI: https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s40520-021-01791-5

The article focuses on a clinically important area; elderly, multimorbid patients' use of addictive drugs. The study is based on data collected at the geriatric department and has so far resulted in 2 PhD degrees (Cheng and Siddiqui) and a 3rd is underway. The data set also forms the basis for the development of an intervention to detect inappropriate medication use among elderly patients.

Strong painkillers, sedatives and sleep-inducing drugs are recommended to be used only with great care in elderly patients due to the risk of side effects and addiction. At the same time, many

older people have several illnesses that lead to the use of several medications, which increases the risk of medication errors and side effects.

We have looked at relationships between the degree of morbidity (multimorbidity) and long-term use of these strong medicines among elderly patients admitted to somatic wards at Ahus. We found a strong association between multimorbidity and the use of such medications even when adjusting for factors such as age, gender, anxiety, depression and pain. The most common were the drugs to induce sleep, followed by the combined use of several drugs and the use of strong painkillers. Simultaneous use of several medications was directly correlated with the degree of multimorbidity. The organ systems that were most strongly associated with long-term use were the liver, gastrointestinal tract, nervous system and muscle/skeleton.

Our conclusion is that there is every reason to be extra observant of the risks associated with long-term use of these strong medicines among the elderly, especially within specialties that deal with diseases of the liver, stomach/intestinal system, nervous system and musculoskeletal disorders.

#### **Clinic for surgical subjects:**

Nazli Bahrami , Shakila Jabeen, Andliena Tahiri , Torill Sauer, Hilde Presterud Ødegård, Stephanie Beate Geisler, Berit Gravdehaug , Laurens Cornelus Reitsma , Knut Selsås , Vessela N. Kristensen and Jürgen Geisler.

Lack of cross-resistance between non-steroidal and steroidal aromatase inhibitors in breast cancer patients: the potential role of the adipokine leptin

DOI: https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10549-021-06399-x

Nazli Bahrami, Shakila Jabeen and colleagues have conducted a randomized study in which they have compared letrozole or exemestane in the treatment of patients with breast cancer. This year's winner shows that it is possible to carry out a randomized clinical controlled study of high quality, even if you come from a small specialist field. The protocol was published in 2019, and the final results of the study published in 2021. This testifies to a great ability to implement and shows that interdisciplinary collaboration, across departments, is essential for success in research projects. The study is of great importance for improving the clinical environment and offering the best treatment to patients.

Aromatase inhibitors are a group of drugs that inhibit oestrogen production and therefore play a key role in the treatment of hormone-sensitive breast cancer. There are two main groups of aromatase inhibitors: the non- steroidal inhibitors (for example letrozole) and steroidal inactivators (exemestane).

Patients can develop resistance to the active substances, which can lead to resistance to drugs in the same group. This is called cross-resistance. In such cases, the cancer may progress, and a switch to a drug in the other group may lead to stabilization of the cancer. The explanation for this phenomenon of lack of cross-resistance is so far unknown, and cannot be explained on the basis of the theory of more potent inhibition by oestrogen.

In our study, we have taken a closer look at other therapeutic effects of letrozole and exemestane by analysing levels of cytokines during ongoing treatment. Our results show that serum levels of leptin were significantly lower during treatment with exemestane. Leptin is a so-called adipocytokine which, among other things, regulates body weight and is an important contributing factor in obesity and in the conversion of oestrogen in the body.

Based on this, we consider that exemestane may have a more central role in the treatment, especially in postmenopausal, obese patients who have high leptin values.

#### Clinic for internal medicine and laboratory subjects:

Nina Haagenrud Schultz, Ingvild Hausberg Sørvoll, Annika Michelsen, Ludvig Andre Munthe, Fridtjof Lund-Johansen, Maria Therese Ahlen, Markus Wiedmann, Anne Hege Aamodt, Thor Håkon Skattør, Geir Erland Tjønnfjord and Pål Andre Holme.

Thrombosis and thrombocytopenia after CHADOX1 NCoV-19 vaccination

DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa2104882

The article revealed the mechanism behind a rare but very serious side effect of the ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 adenoviral vector vaccine against covid 19. The article was published in the world's highest ranked medical journal with an impact factor of 91, and was commented on in an editorial in the same issue. The article was of great importance for the vaccine strategy nationally and internationally.

In March 2021, five patients were admitted with a similar life-threatening illness characterized by severe thrombosis in the head or abdomen in addition to a very low platelet count. Four of them also had brain haemorrhage. They had in common that they were all young, healthy healthcare workers who had received the vector-based covid-19 vaccine ChAdOx1 nCov-19 vaccine from AstraZeneca 7-14 days earlier. We wanted to investigate whether this life-threatening condition was related to the vaccine.

Extensive investigations were carried out, and we found that all five had platelet factor 4/ polyanion antibody in very high levels. PF4/ polyanion antibody can be formed by exposure to negatively charged surfaces such as during prosthetic surgery or during heparin treatment, but this was not the case in any of the patients. One could therefore determine with reasonable certainty that it was components of the vaccine that triggered the immune response and platelet activation that led to the disastrous combination of thrombosis, low platelet count and bleeding.

This condition was neither described in the large randomized trials investigating the efficacy and safety of the ChAdOx1 nCov-19 vaccine nor in any other vaccines. The syndrome was called vaccine-induced thrombotic thrombocytopenia (VITT), which has now become a known vaccination complication for vector-based Covid-19 vaccines.

## 12. This year's theses

In 2022, 17 employees at Akershus University Hospital defended their PhD. Table 6 shows the distribution of doctoral degrees per division. Below is an overview of the doctoral students' work:



Cand.psychol Luxsiya Waran at the Division of Mental Health defended the thesis on 11 January: "Family based treatment of Adolescent Depression and Suicidal ideation"

The trial lecture was held on the stated topic "The role of interpersonal relationships in the treatment of depression throughout the life course"

Supervisor: Senior researcher Marianne Aalberg



MD Marthe Sørli Gottschalk at the Division of Gynaecology and Obstetrics defended the thesis on 28 February: "Age at menopause: Associated factors and temporal trends"

The trial lecture was held on the stated topic "Advancing maternal age at childbearing - trends and implications"

Supervisor: Professor Anne Eskild



Cand. Med. Tarjei Tørre Asprusten at the Division of Paediatric and Adolescent Medicine argued on 7 March over the thesis: "Diagnosis of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome in Adolescents"

The trial lecture was held on the stated topic "Long-term symptoms after covid-19 infection: age differences and chronic fatigue"

Supervisor: Professor Vegard Bruun Bratholm Wyller



Cand. Med. Ola-Lars Hammer at the Orthopaedic Clinic defended the thesis on 11 Mars: "Surgical treatment of distal radius fractures - Clinical outcome and health economics"

The trial lecture was held on the stated topic "The current status of shared decision making in orthopaedic surgery and its influencing factors"

Supervisor: Associate Professor Per-Henrik Randsborg



MD Yngve Thorsen at the Division of Surgery defended the thesis 8 April: "Right Colectomy with Extended D3-Mesenterectomy: What can we say about the extent and the consequences of the injury to the superior mesenteric plexus?"

The trial lecture was held on the stated topic "Methods for evaluating safety of new or modified surgical techniques"

Supervisor: Professor Dejan Ignatovic



MD Christian Thomas Pollmann at the Orthopaedic Clinic defended the thesis on 3 May: "Improving outcomes in hip fracture patients"

The trial lecture was held on the stated topic "Fractures in the upper extremity in the geriatric population - short- and long-term effects on function, PROMS and mortality"

Supervisor: Professor II Asbjørn Årøen



Cand. Med. Julia Brox Cranes at the Division of Medicine, defended the thesis on 21 June: "Impact of tobacco on circulating troponin concentrations and cardiovascular risk"

The trial lecture was held on the stated topic "Strengths and limitations of contemporary risk predictions systems for the prevention of cardiovascular disease worldwide"

Supervisor: Professor Torbjørn Omland



MD Meetali Kakad at the Division of Research and Innovation defended the thesis on 21 June: "Municipal acute units in Norway. Using operational research methods to model patient flows"

The trial lecture was held on the stated topic "The need for tactical planning in hospitals and the possibilities and limitations of applying operational research methods"

Supervisor: Senior researcher Fredrik A. Dahl



MSc Tahreem Ghazal Siddiqui at the Division of Research and Innovation defended the thesis on 29 August: "Central nervous system depressant medication use among older hospitalized patients: Cognitive function, communication and mortality"

The trial lecture was held on the stated topic "Polypharmacy in older adults – strategies for intervention"

Supervisor: Professor II Christofer Lundqvist



Cand.psychol Regina Sofia Skar-Fröding at the Division of Mental Health argued on 12 September over the thesis: "Personal recovery and satisfaction among service users with psychosis"

The trial lecture was held on the stated topic "According to empirical evidence, what are the possible biological and psychological mechanisms of change in the treatment of psychosis, and how should we design services to accommodate our knowledge in these areas to optimize recovery for patients?"

Supervisor: Associate Professor Kristin S. Heiervang



Cand. Med. Sjur Hansen Tveit at the Division of Medicine, defended the thesis on 20 September: "Cardiac Troponin I and T: Comparison of the Diagnostic and Prognostic Performance in Coronary Artery Disease"

The trial lecture was held on the stated topic "Heart failure beyond ejection fraction - alternative definitions and classifications"

Supervisor: Associate Professor Peder Langeland Myhre



Cand. Med. Thea Vigen at the Division of Medicine argued on 22 September over the thesis: "Carotid atherosclerosis; Prevalence and relation with blood pressure and intracerebral blood flow velocities"

The trial lecture became held on the stated subject "Spontaneous intracerebral haemorrhage: acute management of blood pressure, anticoagulant-related haemorrhage and do-not-resuscitate orders"

Supervisor: Professor II Ole Morten Rønning



Cand. Med. Felix Haidl at the Division of Surgery, defended the thesis on 23 September: "Labor epidural analgesia: the role of adrenaline"

The trial lecture was held on the stated topic "A view into the future of labour analgesia with special focus on techniques, equipment, personalized medicine, and individualized care"

Supervisor: Professor Emeritus Vegard Dahl



Cand. Med. Ståle Bergman Myhrvold at the Orthopaedic Clinic defended the thesis on 29 September: "Outcomes, physical performance, and complications following treatment of acute Achilles' tendon ruptures"

The trial lecture was held on the stated subject "Classification, surgery and rehabilitation of ankle fractures"

Supervisor: Senior researcher Sigurd Erik Hoelsbrekken



Cand. Med. Violet Dough Hugberg Sigurdardottir at the Division of Medicine defended the thesis on 11 October: "Common sleep disorders and cardiovascular biomarkers in the general population"

The trial lecture was held on the stated topic "Sleep habits and sleep disorders - impact Wed public health"

Supervisor: Professor Torbjørn Omland



Cand. Med. Javier Armando Luzon at the Division of Surgery defended the thesis on 21 October: "Applying emerging 3D visualization technologies to macro and micro anatomical datasets, for the improvement of operative planning, performance, and outcomes in colon cancer surgery"

The trial lecture was held on the stated topic "Implementation of new technologies and techniques in surgery: Practical, ethical and economic considerations"

Supervisor: Professor Dejan Ignatovic



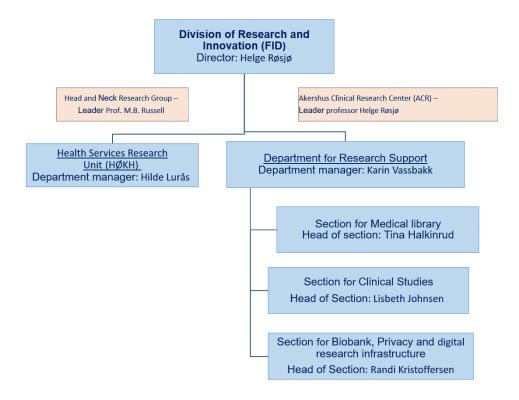
Cand. Med. Thien Trung Tran at the Division of Diagnostics and Technology defended the thesis on 8 December:" Prevention of venous thromboembolism in severe trauma: Inferior vena cava filters and pharmacological thromboprophylaxis"

The trial lecture was held on the stated subject "Aetiology and treatment of atrial fibrillation"

Supervisor: Associate Professor Peter M. Lauritzen

## 14. Organisation map Division of Research and Innovation

Figure 14: Organisation map for the Division of Research and Innovation



## 15. Appendix 1:

#### Research groups - UPDATE June 2023

#### Division of Medicine. Research leader Per Selnes

- o Cardiovascular Research Group (Torbjørn Omland)
- o Pulmonary Research Group (Pulmonary Medicine research group) (Knut Stavem)
- o Functional Genetics of Obesity Research Group (Yvonne Bøttcher)
- o Translational Cancer Research Group (TCRG), AHUS; (Cancer Translational research group, AHUS) (Jürgen Geisler)
- o Clinical neuroscience research group (Tormod Fladby)
- o Gastroenterology Research Group (Jørgen Jahnsen)
- o Center for haematological research at Ahus (Anders Dahm)
- o Renal medicine research group (Ivar Eide)
- o Endocrinology research group (Ingrid Nermoen)
- o Clinical and Molecular Oncology in ColoRectal Cancer CMOR (Anne Hansen Ree)
- o 4D genome biology and circadian medicine (Anita Göndör)
- Molecular Mechanisms of Aging and Age-predisposed Alzheimer's disease (Evandro Fei Fang)

#### Division of Surgery. Research leader Juha Tapio Silvola

- o Anaesthesia (Signe Søvik)
- Gastrosurgery (Knut Magne Augestad, substitute for Johannes Schultz first half of 2023)
- O Vascular/Thoracic Research Group (Jarlis Wesche, not formally created)
- o Palliative medicine (Olav Magnus Fredheim)
- o Ear-nose-throat (Harald Hrubos-Strøm)
- o Urology (Stig Müller, formally not created)
- Quality and patient safety (Anne Karin Lindahl)
- o The pelvic centre (Catherine Teig)

#### Orthopaedic Clinic / research group. Research leader Per-Henrik Randsborg

o Orthopaedic research group (Per-Henrik Randsborg)

#### Division of Gynaecology and Obstetrics. Research leader Anne Eskild.

o Women's diseases and obstetric care (Anne Eskild)

## Division for mental health care/Department R&D (Research and development). Research leader Ketil Hanssen-Bauer

- o Children & adolescents mental health (Marianne Aalberg)
- o Mental health, treatment and implementation (Kristin S. Heiervang)
- Substance Use and Addiction (Lars Tanum)
- o Psychobiology (Soili Marianne Lehto)
- o Treatment and evaluation research mental health and addiction (Johan Siqveland)

#### Division of Research and Innovation. Research leader Helge Røsjø

- o HØKH (Health service research) (Hilde Lurås)
- o Head and neck research group (Michael Russel)

#### Division of Paediatric and Adolescent Medicine. Research leader Vegard Bruun Wyller

o PAEDIA (Vegard Bruun Wyller)

#### Division for diagnostics and technology. Research leader Anita Blomfeldt

- o MIKS: Microbiology and infectious medicine (Kristiane Søreng)
- o PA: Pathology research group (Ulla Randen)
- o BDA: Clinical radiology (Jonn Terje Geitung)
- o TLMB. No research group, but a research network led by Ragnhild Røysland

#### Akershus universitetssykehus HF

Besøksadresse: Sykehusveien 25, Lørenskog Postadresse: Postboks 1000, 1478 Lørenskog

Telefon: 67 96 00 00

Epost: postmottak@ahus.no

