

12 Seminars (and eventually some more)

Contemporary needs and ethical "hotspots".

Parallel seminars on two occasions, days 2 and 3, at 11.30-13.00. Participants may choose two of the seminars. **Bold text for moderators/speakers = confirmed. TBA=To be Announced**

1. Global health challenges 1 - Good and just healthcare for everyone

Each year in India, 10 million people are thrown into total poverty due to the inability to pay for their healthcare costs. Impact of ruthless exploitation of women, children and natural resources, alcohol, drugs and trafficking destroys people.

How do we achieve good and just medical care for everyone? The role of faith in Christ in taking on overwhelming needs. Experiences from the Christian Medical College Vellore, India, the Panzi Hospital, DRC and counteracting degrading abuse anywhere and somewhere. (+Catholic and Seventh-Day Adventist hospitals worldwide?) PRIME. Health for all Nations.

Moderator: Rune Andersson, Senior professor in Global Health, Sahlgrenska Academy, University of Gothenburg.

Speaker other Nordic countries: TBA

2. Global health challenges 2 - The microbes are hitting back

Viral epidemics and increasing antibiotic resistance. Apart from climate issues, viral epidemics like the swine flu, SARS, MERS and now the Coronavirus epidemic 2019-2020 are not only causing deaths but also adding to a general feeling of fear and despair about our common future. The increasing antibiotic resistance has been declared by the WHO as the primary threat to humanity. Which is the Christian hope? What is the Christian contribution? What does stewardship mean in this context?

Moderator/speaker: **Leif Dotevall, MD, Ph.D.**, Infectious Disease Specialist, Infection Control Unit, Gothenburg.

Speaker other Nordic countries: TBA

3. Medical missions now and yesterday

Today short-term stays can be highly effective and possible to perform for many Christian doctors. You can educate and equip the local medical staff. You can use information technology to promote health education, implement new projects, do research.

Moderator: TBA

Speaker other Nordic countries: TBA

4. World view and freedom of conscience in medical care.

In Sweden, it is getting more and more difficult to be allowed freedom of conscience if you as a medical professional, referring to traditional ethics, should not be able to participate in for example abortions or euthanasia. Recently, two midwives have been refused employment in Sweden because they do not want to participate in abortions. The Liberal party in Sweden has even suggested a change of the Swedish concept for freedom of conscience” to "care refusal". Some politicians also say in public that Christians should not be allowed to work in healthcare at all. How has this change come about and where is it taking us? Is freedom of conscience no longer important for a democratic society?

Moderator: **Per Landgren, Ph.D.** History of Science and Ideas, former member of the Swedish parliament for the Christian Democrats.

Background: **Per Landgren**

The current situation in Sweden and within the EU: ?Ruth Nordström, Human Rights Lawyer?

Speaker other Nordic countries: TBA

5. When does life begin?

During centuries Christian values have influenced human dignity and formed our respect for life despite vulnerability, disability or impairment. This was in contrast to ancient cultures where newborn with disabilities or ill elderly were left in the wilderness or thrown out from the family.

Does the question of when life begins it actually matter for our view of mankind?

Moderator: **Tomas Seidal, MD, Ph.D.** Pathologist, Halmstad, Sweden.

Speaker: **John Wyatt, Emeritus Professor of Neonatal Paediatrics, Ethics & Perinatology** at University College London

Speaker other Nordic countries: TBA

6. Identity confusion - gender dysphoria.

Since the last ten years the Western world has experienced an epidemic increase of gender dysphoria. From few patients that mostly new from early childhood there were in the “wrong” body, today more than a 10-fold increase has emerged. Mostly teenage females with neuropsychiatric disorders feel a rapid onset of gender dysphoria.

How common is identity confusion? Does rapid onset of gender dysphoria really exist? What are the long-term effects of treatment? What are the experiences from Tavistock in the UK? Are there facts about the situation in the different Scandinavian countries?

Moderator: **Jovanna Dahlgren, professor of Pediatrics**, Queen Silvia Children’s Hospital, Sahlgrenska University Hospital, Gothenburg.

Speaker: **Peter Saunders, MD, CEO ICMDA.**

Speaker: **Jovanna Dahlgren** (long-term effects).

Speaker other Nordic countries: TBA

7. Death on demand – euthanasia.

Should we ourselves be allowed to decide when our lives are no longer worth living? In Switzerland, Holland and Belgium “death on demand” is already in practice, but not yet in the Nordic countries. Which are the benefits? Which are the negative factors. Could doctors be forced to provide the means to end another person’s life? Is there a Christian view? Does the Christian hope make a difference?

Moderator: Anne-Berit Ekström, MD, Ph.D. Pediatric neurology, Queen Silvia Children’s Hospital, Sahlgrenska University Hospital, Gothenburg.

Speakers: Kalle Määki, MD, GP, Finland? **Rick Paul** - The Dutch experience.

Speaker other Nordic countries: TBA

8. Palliative care - who cares?

The role of faith, love and care in palliative care. The origin of Hospice. Mother Teresa. Our own experiences.

Moderator: **Johan Holmdahl, MD, Ph.D.**, Nephrologist, Sahlgrenska University Hospital, with long experience of palliative care.

Speaker: ?Gunnar Eckerdal, MD, Pain management specialist in Oncology, Sahlgrenska University hospital, Gothenburg?

Speaker other Nordic countries: TBA

9. Let your light so shine...

How can we testify to our patients about the "good news" in a setting where we are not allowed to preach the gospel? "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven" (Matt. 5:16 KJV). Saline solution. Personal testimonies.

Moderator/speaker: **Britt-Marie Joelsson, MD, Ph.D.**, Pediatric Cardiologist, Queen Silvia Children’s Hospital, Sahlgrenska University Hospital, Gothenburg.

Speaker other Nordic countries: TBA

10. AI - will new technologies replace healthcare professionals?

The internet doctor is here. Good or bad? Will there be physical doctors in the future? Will artificial intelligence help us or replace us?

Moderator/speaker: **Paul Hemeren, Ph.D., Cognitive neuroscience, University of Skövde.**

Speaker other Nordic countries: TBA

11. The unexpected gift to the Nordic countries - refugee medics.

In the past decades, Christians from the Middle East have been more or less forced to leave their home countries and know they will never return. This is true, especially for many Assyrian doctors and nurses. How do they contribute to our society and to our medical community? What can we learn from them? Who listens to their stories?

Moderator/speaker: **Samir Sharo, hematologist, Sweden, born in Iraq, gives the historic background and shares his thought-provoking life-story.**

12. Being a healthcare student - opportunity or threat?

Being a healthcare student at the university can pose threats to your childhood faith, and many drift away from their Christian identity during the student years. What do Christian students need in order to be strengthened in their faith during their study years? What can our senior societies do to help?

Moderator: TBA

Speakers: TBA

Venues: Smyrna, Saronkyrkan, Domkyrkan, Lutherska, Betlehems kyrkan, Tabernaklet, Brödräfsamlingen. Institution of Economy (next to Smyrna)?

Other suggestions if we have time, place and people interested in chairing and/or speaking:

Sexual abuse - underdiagnosed in patients we don't understand?

“Are all Catholics crooks?” - Catholic whole person healthcare worldwide

Mental health problems in the Western world.

Set narcotics free!

New public management - what does it do to healthcare?

Whole Person Medicine - “Against such things there is no law?”

The problem of pain - what do we do when life hurts?

When we run out of energy in a secular world without God, meaning and hope

“remember you were separate from Christ...without hope and without God in the world.” Ephesians 2:12