



HJERNERÅDET



THE NORWEGIAN BRAIN COUNCIL

Presentation at European Brain Council
3rd Academy of National Brain Councils
Brussels, July 12-13, 2017

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THE NORWEGIAN BRAIN COUNCIL

OVERVIEW

Established in 2007

Represents currently 20 patient organizations and 28 research and clinical organizations

Council Board consists of 7 members, including patient organization representatives, clinicians, basic neuroscience researchers, and political lobbyists



Leif Gjerstad



Nils Erik Gilhus



THE NORWEGIAN BRAIN COUNCIL

MAIN OBJECTIVES

Increase focus on and coordinate cooperative efforts to improve brain health

Disseminate knowledge about the brain in health and disease

Promote research and development

*Strengthen diagnosis and treatment pipelines including **habilitation/rehabilitation** and next-of-kin assistance*



THE NORWEGIAN BRAIN COUNCIL

HOW DO WE DO THIS?

Member meetings, conferences, public lectures



Din unike hjerne
Hør hjerneforsker og forfatter Kaja Nordengen
Litteraturhuset i Oslo 7. februar kl. 18.
Delta i morsom quiz om hjernen

THE ROLE OF NUTRITION IN BRAIN DEVELOPMENT

A seminar sponsored by The Norwegian Brain Council
and the Norwegian Consortium on Brain Development

Friday November 13, 2015
Kl. 1300-1700
Store auditorium, Rikshospitalet



Torsdag 12. november

Åpent arrangement!
Smak &
HJERNEN
FOR DEG SOM TROR DU SMAKER MED TUNGEN



Freitag 13. november

Åpent arrangement!
Musikk &
HJERNEN
FOR DEG SOM TROR DU HØRER MED ØRENE



Gratis arrangement!



Trening &
HJERNEN



MUSIKK i HJERNEN
Litteraturhuset 16. mars kl. 17-18



Invitasjon til
Konferanse om kognitive vansker



THE NORWEGIAN BRAIN COUNCIL

HOW DO WE DO THIS?

Facebook: Hjernerådet – med hjerte for hjernen



The screenshot shows the Facebook profile page for Hjernerådet - med hjerte for hjernen. The page features a profile picture of two silhouettes facing each other, a cover photo with a glowing brain, and a list of goals. A 5.0 star rating is visible, along with community statistics.

Mer enn 30 prosent får en hjernesykdom

Hjernerådet arbeider for:

- God hjernehelse
- Bedre behandling
- Mer hjerneforskning

Nonprofit Organization in Oslo, Norway
5.0 ★★★★★

Community [See All](#)

-  **Invite your friends** to like this Page
-  15,134 people like this
-  15,112 people follow this



THE NORWEGIAN BRAIN COUNCIL

HOW DO WE DO THIS?

Political lobbying



March 21, 2017: Norwegian government commits to National Brain Plan



THE NORWEGIAN BRAIN COUNCIL

HOW DO WE DO THIS?

A lot of hard work and focused synergy

6-8 Board meetings per year, effective synergy within Board
(patient reps, clinicians, researchers, political activists)

Collaboration and synergy with other major players

Nansen Neuroscience Network (academia-industry)

Norwegian Neurology Association

Broad and inclusive perspective (no personal “hobby horses”)



THE NORWEGIAN BRAIN COUNCIL

RECENT EVENTS and ACHIEVEMENTS

Conference on “Depression: A Social Burden”

Popular lectures: “Training and the Brain”, “Your Unique Brain”, and “Music and the Brain” (reprise)

Increase in membership (18 new members since March 2016)

Political breakthrough leading to announcement by Norwegian Prime Minister that the government commits to a National Brain Plan



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NATIONAL BRAIN PLAN – motivations

Diagnostics and treatment pipelines highly fragmented and poorly coordinated*

** Norway's geography and population distribution contribute to this*

Rehabilitation/habilitation under-emphasized

Lack of recognition of the full spectrum of brain disease and links therein

Neuroscience research relatively poorly funded, despite strengths



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NATIONAL BRAIN PLAN – getting there

Brainstorming within Norwegian Brain Council

Based on strategies and mechanisms already defined in National Cancer Plan

Spearhead-lobbying by a few individual patient groups, leading to plans for nationally defined “treatment packages”

Intense lobbying (from early 2015) to stimulate political recognition of brain health in its entirety, and inclusion of all brain/nervous system diseases and disorders (including stroke and psychiatric disorders)

Focused meetings with key parliamentary officials and committees



THE NORWEGIAN BRAIN COUNCIL

NATIONAL BRAIN PLAN – stated general objectives

Focus on the **full spectrum** of brain diseases and disorders

Ensure updated knowledge about brain health and disease

Promote lifelong brain health – preventative measures

Promote internationally excellent brain research (**funding**)

Develop the integrated brain health service of tomorrow – from prevention to screening to diagnostics to treatment to rehabilitation (**coordination at all levels**)

Provide adequate services for next-of-kin



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NATIONAL BRAIN PLAN – moving forward

Sept 7: Meeting between Norwegian Research Council and Special Task Force at Ministry of Health dedicated to concrete formulation of National Brain Plan

December: Targeted completion date by Ministry of Health, to ensure inclusion in budget for 2019

Ongoing lobbying focused on opposition parties