



CCBIO Newsletter

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DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

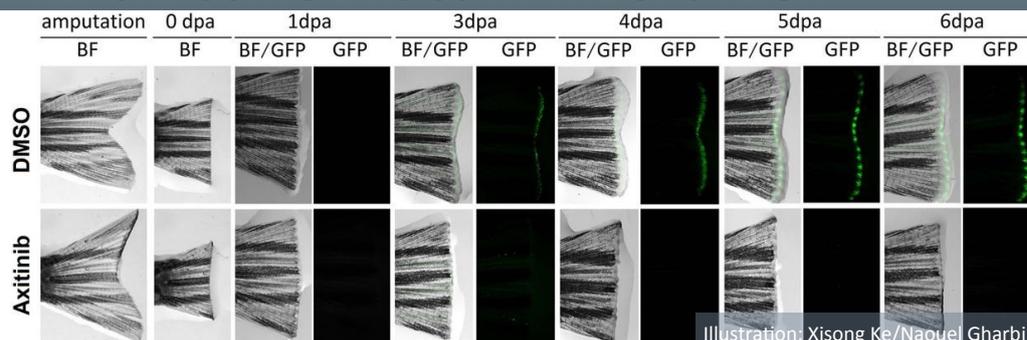
On August 30-31, 2016, the *First Scandinavian Seminar on Translational Pathology* was organized by CCBIO, with around 50 participants. You can read more about it on page 3. Based on the positive response, it seems likely that there will be a similar event next year.

On September 14, 2016, a one-day symposium in memory of Helga B. Salvesen was held, *Biomarkers in Female Cancer*, with around 150 participants. The program reflected the past but also pointed to the future, underlining the importance of research focus, mentoring, collaborations, good relations and networks.

This issue of the CCBIO Newsletter covers good news about our ongoing activities, including excellent publications and PhD-candidates. Let me also remind you to mark various events in your calendar: S.Net Pre-Conference Event on October 11, and the CCBIO Seminar on October 27 (legend Kari Stefansson from deCode Genetics, Iceland). Also, several PhD candidates from CCBIO will defend their thesis in the coming weeks.

Best regards, Lars A. Akslen, Director

REPURPOSING DRUGS IN THE SPOTLIGHT



A publication in PNAS by researchers from the Department of Clinical Science and CCBIO was selected to be highlighted in the Editors' Choice section of *Science Signaling*, the weekly journal from the publisher of *Science* magazine, and has been selected for an Editorial feature that will be published in the journal *Cell Cycle*.

The publication is entitled "Axitinib blocks Wnt/ β -catenin signaling and directs asymmetric cell division in cancer" and is [available here](#).

We wanted to know more about the work behind the article, and had a talk with the main authors [Yi Qu](#), [Xisong Ke](#) and [Karl-Henning Kalland](#) who is the group leader and CCBIO PI. [Read the interview here](#).

CONTACT INFORMATION



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Oddbjørn Straume



Established by the Research Council of Norway

RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY MIGHT SPEED UP RETURN OF BREAST CANCER



Photo: Colourbox.com

A new study suggests that reconstruction of breast affects recurrence of breast cancer, and actually reduce time to relapse of the disease.

The study was recently presented as front page news in the journal Breast Cancer Research and Treatment, with main author [Hanna Dillekås](#) who is PhD candidate at [Professor Oddbjørn Straumes group](#). Straume is CCBio PI and also last author of the study.

The other co-authors are Svein A. H. Jensen, senior consultant at the plastic surgery department at Haukeland University Hospital and associate professor at the University of Bergen, and a research team at the National Cancer Institute of Milan, Italy.

The hypothesis was that surgery affect recurrence dynamics in breast cancer, i.e. that surgical reconstruction might stimulate dormant micro-metastases and reduce time to recurrence.

[Read more here.](#)

S.NET PRE-CONFERENCE EVENT: ETHICAL AND SOCIAL ASPECTS OF CANCER RESEARCH



CCBio Special Seminar 11 October. International and local speakers will introduce many exciting topics, and be sure to also join the lunch session outside of the auditorium, which always is a great opportunity for networking and social interaction. The seminar is free and open to all.

This special seminar aims at bringing together young researchers from the fields of oncology, medical ethics, priority setting in health care, and science and technology studies, in order to discuss topics ranging from the ethics of personalised medicine, the role of cancer biomarkers in clinical practice, cancer and extraordinary treatments that lead to ever longer lives, and issues of privacy in biobanks.

The seminar is also a pre-event to [the 8th annual S.Net meeting](#), which will take place 12-14 October in Bergen, with several open parts, including all keynote lectures.

Time: Tuesday 11 October at 10.15-15.30, at the BB-building.

Registration: [On this link](#) within 5. October 2016.

Organizer: [Roger Strand](#) from CCBio and the UiB's Center for the Study of the Sciences and Humanities.

[See the program here.](#)

COMING CCBIO EVENTS

05.10.16, [Kroppen for voksne: Kreft.](#)
Open meeting at Litteraturhuset in Bergen, with Trond-Viggo Torgersen and Lars Andreas Akslen. At 19-00-20.00.

07.10.16, [Doctoral dissertation defense, Ingvild Løberg Tangen.](#)

12-14.10.16: [S.Net Conference](#), Bergen.
Incl. Topic "Cancer: Emerging technologies, bodies and politics". One of the conference topics is "Cancer: Emerging technologies, bodies and politics".

11.10.16: S.Net pre-conference event: ["Ethical and Social Aspects of Cancer Research"](#).

27.10.16: [CCBio Seminar](#), speaker [Kári Stefánsson](#)

31.10.16, planned date for [Gøril Knutsvik's](#) doctoral defense.

02.11.16, planned date for [Lavina Ahmed's](#) doctoral defense. Our first example of «Industrial PhD», with co-financing by NRC and BerGenBio.

10.11.16: [CCBio Seminar](#) (CCBio/OCC Network Meeting)

10.11.16: [CCBio Junior Scientist Symposium](#)

15.12.16: [CCBio Seminar](#), speaker [Kenneth Hugdahl](#)

Save the dates in your calendar for these important 2017 events:

⇒ the [CCBio Annual Symposium 2017](#): April 19 and 20

⇒ The [3rd International p53 Isoforms Conference](#) will be hosted in Bergen **June 18-21 2017**. Pre-registration is open.

Also note: Dates for the spring [CCBio Junior Scientist Symposia](#) are **February 23rd** and **May 11th 2017**.



INSPIRATIONAL MEMORIAL SYMPOSIUM



September 14th, CCBio, the Department of Clinical Science at UiB and the Women's Clinic at Helse Bergen organized a memorial symposium for Helga B. Salvesen. People came from far and near to be together at this scientific gathering.

"It was both painful and nice at the same time", says professor Jone Trovik at the Department of Clinical Science. She is currently coordinating Helga Salvesen's research group. "It is good to see that the important work Helga started will live on. She meant much to us all, in international research communities as well as here in Norway", Trovik continues.

"We wanted to have this meeting in memory of Helga Salvesen and her work", explains the director of CCBio, Lars A. Akslen. "The scientific program focused on new biomarker studies in gynecologic and breast cancers. This is a field that constantly teaches us more about cancer and how we can fight the disease - but it is also very complicated. Therefore, we need excellent and hardworking researchers, and many of them were here today. We were also reminded of the crucial importance of good collaboration and network formation", Akslen continues.

[Read more here.](#)

THE FIRST SCANDINAVIAN PATHOLOGY SEMINAR



Photo: Panorama Hotel

CCBio Director Lars A. Akslen and CCBio affiliated Arne Östman from Karolinska Institutet initiated and chaired The First Scandinavian Seminar on Translational Pathology. Approximately 50 cancer researchers gathered in the wild west of Sotra at Panorama Hotel outside of Bergen.

The intention of the meeting was to create a Scandinavian (or Nordic) network for researchers within tissue based research fields.

The symposium had talks by senior and junior researchers, company presentations and also a poster session. Among several exciting presentations were Octavian Bucur from Harvard Medical School who talked about the new technique of expansion pathology, and the Vice Program Director of The Human Protein Atlas Fredrick Pontén (Uppsala), who presented the publicly available database and its vision to include all human proteins. Monica Nistér from Karolinska Institutet presented her pediatric tumor biobank, and work done on brain tumors trying to identify genomic aberrations. Olli Carpén from the University of Turku discussed prognostic biomarkers in endometrial cancer and melanoma. Johan Hartman (Karolinska Institute) discussed the phylogenetic reconstruction of metastatic breast cancer, whereas Johan Lundin (Helsinki) covered aspects of image analysis and deep learning.

[Read more here.](#)

OTHER RECOMMENDED COMING EVENTS

18.10.16, [Open Health Innovation](#), OCC event at the Oslo Innovation Week.

Among other entries, the Cancer Society, Oslo Cancer Cluster, Cancer Research UK, IBM, Phillips, Driv inkubator and AbbVie will explain how they work to develop new innovation.

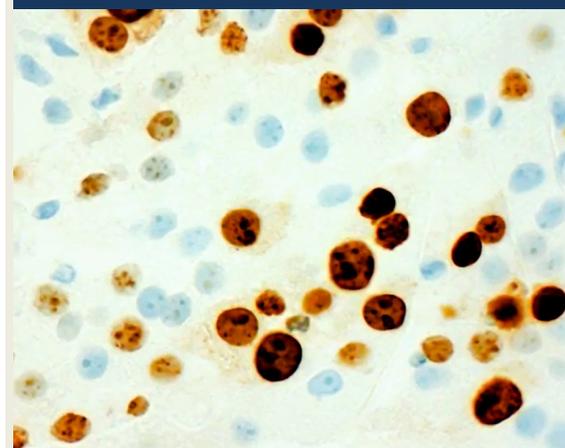
19.10.16, [the fourth Cancer Crosslink Sweden](#), at Medicon Village, Lund. Bringing together researchers from healthcare providers, academia, and industry with representatives from regulatory units in a one-day meeting, to start an interdisciplinary discussion that could lead to new partnerships to develop the area of Personalized Medicine and Immunoncology.

26.10.16, [Teknologirevolusjon innen kreftterapi](#). Tekna, Oslo Cancer Cluster and the Cancer Society. Oslo.

17.11.16, 11th UK Cancer Stem Cell Symposium 2016, London. Cancer stem cell conference but even more so a conference on cellular heterogeneity and plasticity in cancer.

See [poster](#) and [program](#).

Registration within October 22nd.



PRESENTATION PRIZE FOR CCBIO MEDICAL RESEARCH STUDENT

breast cancer in
and young adults (AYAs)

AYAs: 15-49 years old at time of diagnosis

More aggressive breast cancers
– Unique biology?



Medical research student (Forskerlinjestudent) Amalie A. Svanøe was awarded with 3rd best oral presentation at the joint International Congress of the International Academy of Pathology and the European Congress of Pathology.

The congress took place in Cologne, Germany, September 25-29, 2016.

More than 4000 people participated in the congress. Amongst approximately 1500 abstracts that were submitted, Amalie was invited to present her research project “Age-related gene expression patterns and subtype profile in breast cancer” as oral presentation in the breast cancer session, where she presented her project in an excellent manner. She was further, together with five other candidates, singled out to present her project again, in plenary assembly during the closing ceremony, where she was awarded prize for 3rd best oral presentation.

[Read more here.](#)

RECENT AND COMING CCBIO DOCTORATES



We congratulate Hengshuo Liu with his PhD degree at the University of Bergen, and look forward to Ingvild Løberg Tangen’s disputation!

[Hengshuo Liu](#) defended September 16th his thesis “Expression and mechanosensitivity of integrin alpha 11 in the tumour microenvironment”. Main supervisor is Professor Donald Gullberg, and co-supervisor is Professor Rolf K. Reed. See [press release](#) (in Norwegian).

[Ingvild Løberg Tangen](#) defends October 7th her thesis "Hormone signaling related factors as biomarkers in endometrial cancer". Main supervisor is Camilla Krakstad.

Trial lecture: Friday, 7 October 2016 at 10.15. Topic: “Macro- and micro-environmental factors in relation to hormone signaling in endometrial cancer”. Place: the large auditorium, main building, Haukeland University Hospital.

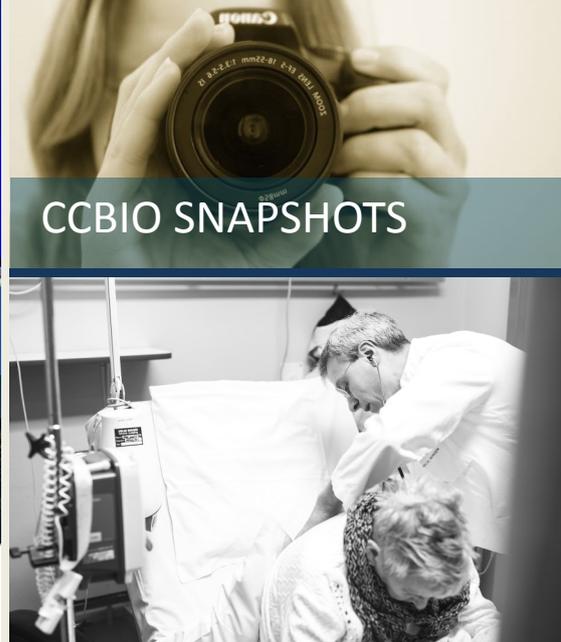
Defense: Friday, 7 October 2016 at 12.15, same place. See [press release](#) (in Norwegian).

Also note the coming planned defenses:

[Gøril Knutsvik](#) 31.10.16, main supervisor Lars A. Akslen and co-supervisor Ingunn Stefansson.

[Lavina Ahmed](#) 02.11.16, main supervisor Lars A. Akslen, co-supervisors David Micklem and Hawa Nalwoga. Our first example of «Industrial PhD», with co-financing by NRC and BerGenBio.

CCBIO SNAPSHOTS



Photos: Ingvild Melien



If you have not yet read the CCBIO Annual Report for last year, note that it is available in full at the CCBIO web pages, along with previous reports.

And it is full of interesting reading, with facts and figures, interviews with the PIs, presentations of staff, international network, affiliated investigators and the Scientific Advisory Board, comments on current issues, overview of CCBIO's activities, publication list 2015 and much more.

You can find it [at this web page](#).

PUBLICATIONS

You can find the last publications [on this link](#). See the last 5 below.

- [Molecular subtypes of breast cancer: long-term incidence trends and prognostic differences](#). Valla M, Vatten LJ, Engstrom MJ, Haugen OA, **Akslen LA**, Bjørngaard JH, Hagen AI, Ytterhus B, Bofin AM, Opdahl S. Cancer Epidemiol Biomarkers Prev. 2016 Sep.
- [Tissue and imaging biomarkers for hypoxia predict poor outcome in endometrial cancer](#). Berg A, Fasmer KE, Mauland KK, Ytre-Hauge S, Hoivik EA, Husby JA, Tangen IL, Trovik J, Halle MK, Woie K, Bjørge L, Bjørnerud A, **Salvesen HB**, Werner HM, Krakstad C, Haldorsen IS. Oncotarget. 2016 Sep.
- [Tumour cell invasion into blood vessels is significantly related to breast cancer subtypes and decreased survival](#). Klingen TA, Chen Y, Stefansson IM, Knutsvik G, Collett K, Abrahamsen AL, Aase H, Aas H, Aas T, Wik E, **Akslen LA**. J Clin Pathol. 2016 Sep.
- [Functional mechanisms underlying pleiotropic risk alleles at the 19p13.1 breast-ovarian cancer susceptibility locus](#). Lawrenson K. et.al, incl. Bjørge L and **Salvesen HB**. Nat Commun. 2016 Sep.
- [PALB2, CHEK2 and ATM rare variants and cancer risk: data from COGS](#). Southey MC et. al, incl Bjørge L and **Salvesen HB**. J Med Genet. 2016 Sep.

RECENT CCBIO IN THE MEDIA

Kalland, Qu and Ke. Photo: Kim Andreassen

- 29.09.16, AlphaGalileo, "[Recycling approved drugs for cancer treatment](#)". Yi Qu, Xisong Ke and Karl-Henning Kalland.
- 28.09.16, UiB News, "[Recycling approved drugs for cancer treatment](#)". Yi Qu, Xisong Ke and Karl-Henning Kalland.
- 08.09.16, P4 Radio, "[Brystrekonstruksjon gir mindre tilbakefall](#)". Hanna Dillekås.
- 08.09.16, Dagbladet Pluss, "[Brystrekonstruksjon gir mindre tilbakefall](#)". Hanna Dillekås.
- 26.08.16, Dagens Medisin, "[Sen rekonstruksjon kan trigge tilbakefall](#)". Hanna Dillekås.
- 26.07.16, NRK Hordaland, "[For halvparten kom forstadia til kreft tilbake](#)". Jone Trovik interviewed for comments.
- 26.07.16, NRK Radio, "[Forstadia til livmorkreft kom tilbake](#)". Jone Trovik interviewed for comments.
- 07.07.16, NRK Hordaland, "[Ny Forskning; Folk fikk endringer i kroppen av Sløvåg-gassen](#)". Bjørn Tore Gjertsen and André Sulen.
- 07.07.16, NRK Radio, "[Kjemikalieksplasjon ga endringer i blodcellene](#) and "[Sløvåg revolusjonerer helseforskning](#)". About the Sløvåg explosion and research results after this. Bjørn Tore Gjertsen and André Sulen.

