



New book: Receive social security benefits or go to work?

Many believe that Norway has too generous social security benefits and that the welfare system must be stricter. But is the situation really out of control? Sickness and disability cost Norwegian society much in lost earnings and direct expenses. However, there are many myths and dubious claims in the debate on employment and social security. In his newest book, *Social security or work? A socio-medical perspective on sickness and disability*, Professor Emeritus [John Gunnar Mæland](#) focus on what we actually know about work absence due to health reasons. [Read more here \(in Norwegian\).](#)

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Education: More health for the money – course in health economics

A newly established course in health economics will give masters and doctoral students the opportunity of providing more effective health care. For the first time Centre for International Health this year could invite students to the course *Applied Economic Evaluation in Healthcare*. CIH is one of the few academic environments in Europe to offer such a training course. - The course examines different techniques for measuring cost effectiveness. In health care, resources are always scarce, and the aim is to get the most health for the available money, says course coordinator and Professor at CIH, [Bjarne Robberstad](#).

[Read more \(in Norwegian\) here.](#)



Government Commission: Open and just - priorities in the Norwegian healthcare services

On November 12th, the Norwegian Commission on Priority Setting in Health Care handed over their report to the Norwegian Minister of Health and Care Services, Bent Høie. The Commission has been led by Professor [Ole F. Norheim](#). The Commission decided to recommend three new criteria for priority setting, namely: Health gain, use of resources and health loss. These criteria must always be considered in conjunction with each other. The commission also recommends four principles for the best possible priorities. [Read more about the recommendations here \(in Norwegian\).](#)



Cecilie Svanes receives LHL research award

Thursday 20th of November Professor [Cecilie Svanes](#) was awarded the Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) award for her longstanding effort in asthma, lung health and COPD research. The award is given annually by The Norwegian Heart and Lung Patient Organisation (LHL). Svanes is researching how the living conditions of grandparents and parents can affect the development of asthma and COPD among children. She has published about 100 articles in a number of international journals in the last 30 years, and is, according to LHL, among the most cited lung health researchers in Norway.

[Read more here.](#)



TVEPS in pioneering new research collaboration

On November the 6th Centre for interprofessional work-place learning (TVEPS) [was rewarded with 200 000 kroner](#) by the Norwegian Research Council to do research in the field of interprofessional collaboration. The research is part of the collaboration between the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, Faculty of Psychology, Faculty of Humanities at the University of Bergen, Faculty of Health and Social Sciences at Bergen University College and the Municipal Council's Department for health and care. The unique collaboration has received attention in the media and a [radio interview about the research collaboration is available at NRK Hordaland here.](#)





National budget winner: SEFAS

The Centre for elderly and nursing home medicine (SEFAS) is one of the winners in this year's government budget. 21st of November Centre leader [Bettina Husebø](#) was informed that SEFAS will receive 2 million Norwegian Kroner in project funding. – This is very good news for our research, Husebø says. The Centre was established to meet the need for replenishment of expertise, professional development and recruitment to solve future challenges in elderly care, both in retirement and nursing homes and in the municipal home care. [Read more.](#)



Staff and personnel news

We are fortunate to have two new faces in recruitment positions. We welcome [Gry Wester](#) (picture) as a postdoctoral fellow at the project «Prioritizing healthcare: Tensions and interplays between legal, political, economic and professional perspectives». She will work with the research group [Global Health Priorities](#).

We also welcome [Hilde Kristin Refvik Riise](#) as a research fellow. Her position is attached to the project «Preeclampsia phenotypes and subsequent cardiovascular disease manifestations in Norwegian women» and will work with the research group [Lifestyle Epidemiology](#).



New doctors

Oct 3 [Håvard Trønnes](#) defended his thesis: "[Risk Factors and Outcomes Of Preterm Birth- A Study Of The Associations Of Preterm Birth With Cerebral Palsy And Atopic Diseases](#)". Congratulations!

Coming Disputations:

Dec 4 [Line I. Berge](#) (picture) will be defending her thesis: "[Depression and migraine comorbid to diabetes: Epidemiological studies utilizing data from the Norwegian Prescription Database and The Hordaland Health Study](#)"

Dec 11 Jonas D. Finger will be defending his Dr.Philos: "[Social inequality and health in Europe](#)"

Dec 16 [David Jahanlu](#) will be defending his thesis: "The Hordaland women's cohort: a longitudinal study on urinary incontinence in middle-aged women"

Dec 19 [Duong Cong Thanh](#) will be defending his thesis "People Living With HIV in Viet Nam: Individual and Contextual Factors Affecting Risk Taking, Health and Help Seeking Behaviour"

Calendar:

21 Nov: [Nyhetsbrev, ny studieplan i medisin](#) – prosjektfremdrift og planer fremover

3 Dec Filosofisk poliklinikk: [Overbehandling - eller overdrivelse?](#) Ved Hege Gjessing, president i Den norske legeförening, Litteraturhuset kl. 19

17 Dec Christmas lunch, Kalfarveien 31, 12-14

15 Jan The Global Health and Vaccination Research (GlobVac) Conference, Deadline early bird registration, [register here](#)

Spring 2015: Filosofisk poliklinikk: [Prioritering betyr å si nei, ikke sant? Program våren 2015](#)

Current funding announcements:

RCN, PES, NordForsk Horizon2020 etc [Read more here \(PDF\)](#)

[See the full calendar here.](#)

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