



New Publication: Exposure to sun can lower MS risk?

The results of a study comparing groups in Norway and Italy have shown that sun exposure in childhood and adolescence may lower the risk of later developing Multiple Sclerosis (MS). The study team was led by PhD candidate [Kjetil Bjørnevik](#). Both sun exposure and vitamin D affect our immune systems and thus may also be implicated in autoimmune diseases such as MS.

[Read more about the study here.](#)

[Overview of IGS publications](#) Is your publication missing from the list? Please notify [Therese Istad](#)



New publication: Be careful smelling the roses

Thinking of buying someone a bunch of roses? Maybe you should think again.

Researchers from IGS report that the working conditions at the three Ethiopian rose farms studied present health and safety challenges and may be causing negative health effects. [Vegard M. Hanssen](#) and his colleagues showed that female workers inside the greenhouses were worst off, and had the greatest prevalence of chronic respiratory and skin symptoms.

[Read more about the study here.](#)



New project: Healthy Living Centres – do they work?

The project is a collaboration between University of Bergen and University of Agder and is entitled *Promoting health in Healthy Living Centres – does it work, how does it work and why?* The researchers, led by [Eivind Meland](#), will explore whether the process of establishing and participating in healthy living activities can yield measurable outcomes in terms of health behaviour and health. Can the programmes develop motivation and perceived quality-of-life in the participants? Startup for the project is in March.

[Read more about the project here.](#)



Staff and personnel news

The project "Promoting Health in Healthy Living Centres – does it work, how does it work and why" has gained two new employees. [Eirik Abildnes](#) (picture) is a new postdoctor in 50 % position, and [Gro Beate Samdal](#) is a new Phd-candidate. Welcome to IGS!

We also want to welcome [Meera Chhagan](#) (associate professor), [Ana Lorena Ruano](#) (associate professor) and Espérance Kashala Abotnes (researcher) in temporary positions at CIH.



New doctors - Congratulations to the new doctors at the department!

Feb 7 [Åshild Lunde](#) defended her thesis: [Tensions in Practice, Knowledge and Regulation: Genetic Counseling in Norway](#)

Coming Disputations:

Feb 28 [Birgitte Graverholt](#) is defending her thesis: [Acute hospital admissions from nursing homes](#)

New PhD Course - Fertility and pregnancy - an epidemiologic perspective

- with Allen Wilcox from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIH), USA, Application deadline March 1st – [more info on the course here.](#)



Calendar: Bergen Summer Research School, H2020 Course, Department's Day

Feb Ny studieplan for medisinstudiet ved UiB - [les siste nytt om planene her.](#)

1 Mar Registration deadline for Nordic applicants: [Bergen Summer Research School: Governance to Meet Global Development Challenges](#) Viserektor Anne Chr. Johannessen [blogger om sommerskolen her](#)

5 Mar Filosofisk poliklinikk: [Den norske sykerollen: Sykerollen som fluepapir](#) Om norsk sykemeldingspraksis, ved Stein Nilsen; fastlege på Askøy, og trygdelege, Litteraturhuset

30 Apr Course: [How to write a competitive proposal for H2020](#), registration by 25 Apr

14 May "The Department's day" – save the date!

All research groups are welcome to nominate in the following categories: Publication of the year, Research group of the year, Doctoral thesis of the year and Best Disseminator of Research Findings.

Deadline: 15th March, send nominations to [Trine Klokkerud](#) or [Anne Daltveit](#).

[See the full calendar here.](#)