



## Welcome to ISCB33 in Bergen 2012!

We are delighted to invite you to the 33rd Annual Conference of the ISCB, for the first time in Norway. Clinical biostatistics is a field that is crucial to medical and health related research to ensure quality knowledge as basis for treatment and prevention, etiology and health care. The conference is meant to build a bridge between researchers in the medical and health related fields and developers of new relevant statistical methodology and software.

The Scientific Programme Committee has set up a broad range of interesting topics both in the invited and contributed sessions. The traditional mini-symposia, that can be attended separately, are devoted to vaccine research as at the previous ISCB-conferences, and register-based epidemiology, thus giving the conference a Nordic flavour.

The conference is also a unique opportunity to experience Norwegian nature and culture, be it before, during, or after the official programme. We hope you find the programme attractive and will take this opportunity to participate and visit Bergen, Norway in August 2012.

Mark your calendar now!

Geir Egil Eide

Odd O. Aalen

### Deadline for abstracts: 15 March 2012

Notification for abstract acceptance: 1 May 2012

Early Bird registration: 15 May 2012

Pre-Conference courses: 19 August 2012

Conference start: 20 August 2012

Mini-symposia: 23 August 2012



The International Society for Clinical Biostatistics (ISCB) was founded in 1978 to stimulate research into the principles and methodology used in the design and analysis of clinical research and to increase the relevance of statistical theory to the real world of clinical medicine.

### Scientific Committee

**Chairman:** Odd O. Aalen (Norway)

**Denmark:** Per Kragh Andersen

**France:** Daniel Commenges

**Germany:** Jan Beyersmann

**Italy:** Clelia Di Serio

**Norway:** Ørnulf Borgan, Jan Terje Kvaløy, Stein Emil Vollset

**Sweden:** Marie Reilly

**UK:** Michael Campbell, David Clayton, Vanessa Didelez

**USA:** Sophia Rabe-Hesketh, Terry Therneau

### Local Organizing Committee

**Chairman:** Geir Egil Eide

**Vice-chairman:** Stein Atle Lie

**Treasurer:** Jan Harald Aarseth

**Scientific coordinator:** Jan Terje Kvaløy

**Members:** Jörg ABmus, Milada Cvancarova Småstuen, Anne Marie Fenstad, Ivar Heuch, Ågot Irgens, Roy Miodini Nilsen, Inger Lise Ravnanger, Tore Wentzel-Larsen

### Congress Secretariat

**Kongress & Kultur AS**

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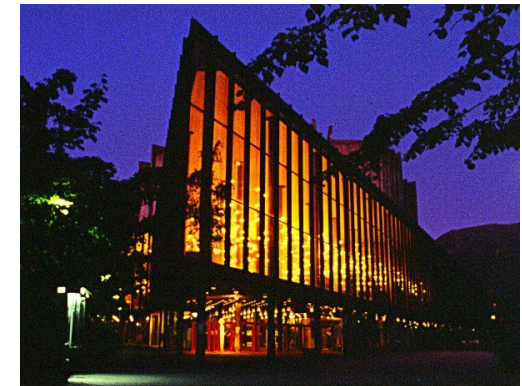
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www.iscb2012.info

## 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference of the International Society for Clinical Biostatistics



19-23 August 2012

Bergen - Norway



## Call for abstracts

**Deadline for submitting abstracts is 15 March 2012.**

**The submitting form is found at [www.iscb2012.info](http://www.iscb2012.info)**

Contributed presentations (oral presentations as well as posters) are welcome in any area of biostatistics, epidemiology and related topics. The Scientific Programme Committee particularly encourages submissions of contributed presentations about the invited session topics, as well as the other topics listed below.

### Suggested topics

- Adaptive clinical trials
- Bioinformatics
- Causal inference
- Clinical trials
- Diagnostic methodology
- Dynamic treatment regimens
- Epidemiological designs
- Evaluating hospital performance
- Functional data analysis
- Genomics / systems biology
- Health economics and regulatory affairs
- Incomplete data
- Joint modeling of outcome and times-to event
- Latent variable models
- Longitudinal data
- Measurement error
- Meta-analyses
- Modelling in drug development
- Modelling infectious disease
- Model selection
- Observational studies
- Prediction
- Statistics for epidemiology
- Structural Equation Modelling
- Surrogate marker evaluation
- Survival and multistate models

The abstract should be submitted via the abstract submission system on the conference website where detailed information about the procedure can be found.

The Scientific Programme Committee will review all submitted abstracts and notification of acceptance will be given by 1 May 2012.

Papers based on the presentations at ISCB33 may be submitted for a special conference issue of *Statistics in Medicine*.

Please note that presenters of abstracts are not automatically registered for the conference and should register before the early bird deadline May 15 to be included in the programme.

## Invited sessions

### President's Invited Speaker:

Deborah Ashby (*UK*): A benefit-risk analysis of using formal benefit-risk approaches for decision-making in drug regulation

### Plenary Sessions:

Stephen Senn (*LUX*): Concurrent control in clinical trials: key condition or sacred cow?

Terry Speed (*AUS*): Epigenetics: a new frontier

### Invited sessions

1. Evaluating hospital performance (*Organizer: Michael J. Campbell*)
2. Causal inference (*Organizer: Stijn Vansteelandt*)
3. Genomics systems biology: (*Organizer: Arnoldo Frigessi*)
4. Extensions to epidemiological designs: (*Organizer: Marie Reilly*)
5. Functional data analysis (*Organizer: Per Kragh Andersen*)
6. Modelling infectious disease (*Organizer: Birgitte de Blasio*)

## Pre-conference courses

1. Analysis of rare genetic variants in common diseases (*Full day*),
2. Bayesian computing with INLA (*Half day*),
3. Estimating treatment effects using longitudinal data (*Half day*),
4. Analysis of interval-censored survival data (*Half day*),
5. Latent class mixed models for longitudinal data and time-to-event data (*Half day*)

## Mini-symposia

### Mini-symposium I: Register-based epidemiology

In several Nordic countries, large health registries are regarded as the most important sources of information for medical research and development. By using the social security number, data from various registries within a country can easily be linked for both epidemiologic and clinical purposes. The aim of the Mini-symposium is to give the audience insight into how the various registries, biobanks, as well as national health surveys are used in the scientific work. The Scientific Programme Committee of the Mini-symposium has planned seven oral presentations with experts from Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, and the United States.

The mini-symposia is also offered as a preconference event for the annual meeting of the Norwegian Society for Epidemiology (NOFE). Please, see the conference website for the conditions.

### Mini-symposium II: Statistics in vaccine research

Topic: Novel Statistical Approaches Used in Post-marketing Safety Surveillance Systems – A Global Perspective (Organizer: Allen Izu)

The key characteristics of several newly emerging electronic safety surveillance systems will be described, including standard surveillance aims, data, organizations involved, and statistical methods and tools employed. From a global perspective, the design and analysis challenges that arise when applying the various statistical approaches will be discussed with several examples from monitoring the safety of vaccines.

## Conference awards

The ISCB grants both ICSB Student Conference Awards (Organizer: Ulrich Mansmann) and Conference Awards for Scientists (Organizer: Zdenek Valenta). Please, see the detailed conditions on the conference website, and apply before 15 march 2012.

**More detailed information is found at [www.iscb2012.info](http://www.iscb2012.info)**