



**GREENLAND CENTER
OF HEALTH RESEARCH**

Institute of Health and Nature
Ilisimatusarfik - University of Greenland

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

20

24

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PREFACE FROM HEAD OF THE INSTITUTE

The year 2024 has brought several changes. This foreword differs from previous editions by focusing on sustainability and capacity building.

I would like to begin by acknowledging that Kalaallit Nunaat (Greenland) has a new Chief Medical Officer, Paneeraq Noahsen. Born and raised in Nuuk, she is the first female Greenlandic Chief Medical Officer in history, and she has extensive experience in the Greenlandic healthcare system.

Additionally, she is a PhD student at our Institute. I would like to take this opportunity to express my pride and congratulate her. I attended the reception at Hans Egede's House, where several powerful speeches were given. One remark that resonated deeply with me was when Naalakkersuisut Siulittaassuat (Prime Minister), Muté Bourup Egede, quoted former Chief Medical Officer Henrik L. Hansen: "You must educate your own, for God's sake!". This quote struck a chord with me because I completely agree - we must educate more of our own nurses, doctors, and healthcare professionals. This will create greater stability and ensure sustainable development in society.

I have long been focused on capacity building, which requires clear and strategic planning. In the fall of 2024, I prioritized strengthening collaboration with the Greenlandic healthcare system, as I believe our institute and the healthcare sector should work closely together to improve and strengthen education. We have successfully initiated a collaboration with the University of Southern Denmark to launch a professional master's program in the fall of 2025. I am convinced that this initiative will contribute to the development of the healthcare system. The professional master's program is a four-year education, where students study while working in practice. The goal for the program is to enhance the quality of nursing through evidence-based practice, ultimately benefiting patients in their daily care. We need to upskill nurses and other healthcare professionals in the healthcare system. This is essential to meet strategic goals regarding increased student enrollment and a higher completion rate.

In recent years, we have also invested energy and resources into expanding our institute, and this development has been both healthy and has led to many positive initiatives. In February 2025, the first students began in our new bachelor program - SILA Biology, and there are several inspiring elements I would like to highlight. One of the most inspiring aspects of the SILA Biology program is that the first group of students will receive a unique opportunity to help shape the culture of the education. For example, they will participate in a drum-making workshop, where each student will craft their own Qilaat. They will also learn about Inuit knowledge, technology, and sustainability principles through song and dance. The purpose of this week is to foster a sense of community and ensure that students begin their education with a deeper understanding and respect for the knowledge held by our society and ancestors. Following the workshop, students will begin their first course, TIKINNEQ, which introduces them to our university, materials and resources, study techniques - including first aid certification. Additionally, they will be offered a metacognitive training program designed to support mental well-being and the ability to maintain focus. It will be exciting to follow their journey. We aim to create synergy around this educational approach at our institute, including within the nursing program.

Several of us attended The International Congress for Circumpolar Health (ICCH18) in Halifax in 2024, where it was incredibly inspiring to meet other Inuit and individuals who also emphasize culture in both education and research. These priorities will shape the future development of our institute.

We are a small institute within a small university, but we are constantly evolving. Education and research are closely linked and enrich each other. At our institute, we aim to integrate even more research into teaching, ensuring that students stay up-to-date and prepared for future challenges while contributing to research development.

I hope that everyone affiliated with the center, and our institute, will help drive this exciting development forward. There is a great need for unity - both in research and in healthcare. I sincerely hope that we all will contribute to the exciting progress awaiting us in the coming years.

I look forward to attending the opening of NUNAMED 2025 in October, where the theme will be "Education and Future". I hope to see you there.

Best regards,

Anna Kleist Egede

Head of Institute, Institute of Health and Nature

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Our vision at Greenland Center for Health Research is improving the health status in Greenland through initiation and coordination of health research. Building local capacity through PhD programs and mentoring is important. We do this in collaboration with other universities and our affiliated researchers, where we yearly organize PhD courses. September 27 was a big and festive day at Ilisimatusarfik. At the traditional annual celebration, 6 PhD degrees were awarded within the Health area: Hjalte Larsen "Cardiovascular disease and heart failure in Greenland: A focus on dilated cardiomyopathy variants among Greenlanders with nonischemic heart failure." Julie Flyger Holflood "Evaluation of the Implementation of Best Practice Models in the Treatment of Addiction of Alcohol and Other Drugs in Greenland." Nadja Albertsen "Atrieflimren i Grønland." Ivalu Katajavaara Seidler "Trajectories, risk factors and risk patterns for suicide in Greenland– A systematic approach based on registers and surveys." Mette Mørup Schlütter "Living with uncertainty in Old Age. An ethnographic exploration of uncertainty in health, belonging, and hope in old age in Greenland." Nick Duelund "Vision Screening of Greenlandic Children Evaluating Efficacy, Coverage, and Future Directions."

Aviaja Lyberth Hauptmann was awarded the Year's Award for the work in developing and soon launching Ilisimatusarfik's new bachelor's program in biology, SILA. Aviaja has created an innovative education that integrates Greenland's nature and culture in the actual structure and teaching in a new and exciting way.

The vision for Greenland Center for Health Research will follow the key points from Greenland Research Strategy: Research must be anchored in Greenland, research must support sustainable societal development, research results must be easily accessible to all, and research efforts must be at an international level.

The next NUNAMED conference will take place in October 2025 and Greenland Center for Health Research is an important partner in the planning of this conference.

The Lancet Commission on Arctic Health: Urgently Accelerating Indigenous Health and Well-being.

The center is active in teaching at all levels from classroom teaching of nursing students to supervision of PhD students. We plan for yearly PhD courses, including lectures from leading Arctic scientists.

In 2025 Greenland Center for Health Research will continue in collaboration with Greenland's healthcare system and communities to plan research important for Greenland, and in the planning phase also make a plan for the implementation of results and that research is focusing on topics and questions proposed by Greenland's healthcare system and communities.

Gert Mulvad, Chair, MD, GP Doctor h.c.

THE HISTORY OF GREENLAND CENTER OF HEALTH RESEARCH

On the 28th of May 2008, the Greenland Center for Health Research (GCHR) was established. Back then research-interested professionals working in the Greenlandic healthcare system had been discussing how a health research institute physically placed in Greenland was lacking. The ambition was that such an institute could facilitate the transfer of competencies to Greenland, be the base for PhD students, provide affiliated researchers with a Greenlandic identity for their international research network, and provide evidence-based content for the nursing education, health professionals' training and perhaps at some point arctic MPH and PhD educations. In 2013 the center was incorporated into the Institute of Health and Nature at Ilisimatusarfik under the name Greenland Center of Health Research. Since 2008, 16 PhD students have graduated from the center and currently 12 PhD students are affiliated with the center.

Our vision

Improving the health status in Greenland through initiation and coordination of health research.

Our mission

- Increase coordination among research institutions
- Develop, exchanging, disseminating and applying scientific knowledge
- Create national and international networks
- Build local capacity through PhD programs and mentoring
- Improve community involvement and local partnerships

Our objectives

The aim of the center is to enhance cooperation between researchers from other countries and health professionals in Greenland, to facilitate research cooperation within Greenland, and to facilitate the interaction of researchers from other countries with the Greenland community at large. The center is active in teaching at all levels from classroom teaching of nursing students to supervision of PhD students. In a longer perspective, the center will work for the establishment of data archive and archive of specimens collected in Greenland.

ADVISORY BOARD

- Gert Mulvad, MD, Dr. h.c. (Chairman)
- Anna Kleist Egede (Vice chairman) Head of institute - Institute of Health and Nature
- Ella Skifte, Chief Nurse - Board of Health and Prevention
- Paneeraq Noahsen, Chief Medical Officer
- Nike Berthelsen, Head of Department for Health
- Nuka Mette-Marie Larsen, Research coordinator at Department of Research
- Lene Seibæk, Professor - Institute of Health and Nature
- Appointed: Michael L. Pedersen, MD, GP, PhD, Dr. Med. - Greenland Centre for Health Research

RESEARCHERS & PHD STUDENTS

Researchers

- Anders Koch, MD, PhD, Professor, MPH
- Anja Jørgensen, MD
- Aviaaja L. Hauptmann, PhD, Associate Professor
- Birgit Niclasen, MD, PhD, Chief Medical advisor, Assistant Professor
- Birgitte Hamann Laustsen, PhD
- Christina VL Larsen, PhD, cand.scient. soc., Professor
- Christine Ingemann, BScN & (Res)MSc Global Health, PhD
- Carsten Juul Jensen, PhD, Associate Professor
- Eva C. Bonefeld-Jørgensen, PhD, Professor
- Gert Mulvad, MD, GP, Doctor h.c.
- Hjalte Erichsen Larsen, MD, PhD
- Ingelise Olesen, Research Coordinator
- Karen Bjørn Mortensen, MD, PhD
- Karsten Rex, MD, GP, PhD
- Lene Seibæk, PhD, RN, Professor
- Lise Hounsgaard, PhD, RN, Senior Researcher
- Marie Balslev Backe, PhD, Postdoc
- Marit E. Jørgensen, MD, PhD, Professor
- Michael Lyng Pedersen, MD, GP, PhD, Dr. Med., Professor
- Nick Duelund, MD, PhD
- Nils Skovgaard, PhD
- Ninna Senftleber, PhD, Postdoc
- Preben Homøe, MD, PhD, Dr. Med., Professor
- Ruth Montgomery-Andersen, DrPH
- Silvia Isidor, Assistant Professor
- Sonja Sørensen, Research Assistant
- Stig Andersen, MD, PhD, PGCME, Clinical Professor
- Stine Byberg, PhD
- Tenna Jensen, PhD, Associate Professor
- Tine Aagaard, PhD, Senior Researcher
- Trine Jul Larsen, BScN & MSc Public Health, PhD
- Ulla Wever, Professor, DMSc
- Umbreen Yousaf, MD

RESEARCHERS & PHD STUDENTS

PhD students

- Maja Hykkelbjerg Nielsen, MScPH / Cand.Scient.San.Publ
- Emma Vitale, MA Archaeology
- Mads Bjørn Bjørnsen, Cand. Scient. Biology
- Mads Mose Jensen, MD
- Mette Malene Motzfeldt Jensen, MD
- Mie Møller, MD
- Nathalie Demuth Fryd, MD
- Paneeraq Noahsen, MD
- Bodil Dalsgaard Hoffmeyer, MD
- Helene Nielsen
- Michael Jensen
- Mathilde Tuborg, MD

PhD enrolment at University of Greenland

The aim of the PhD education is to qualify students to perform research, development, and instructional tasks, and to transmit scientific problems and issues in the Arctic. The PhD School at Ilisimatusarfik/University of Greenland offers international research education in three different programs:

- 1) Arctic Studies - Health and Social Conditions
- 2) Arctic Studies - Pedagogy and the Science of Education
- 3) Arctic Studies - Culture, Language and Social Conditions

All PhD students must be assigned to one of these programs. Further, it is possible to make partnership agreements between the PhD School and other research institutions and foreign universities e.g. regarding double enrolment (double /joint degree). The application rules and form to apply for enrolment as a PhD student at Ilisimatusarfik are available at the university website www.uni.gl.

Please feel free to contact the PhD school at phd@uni.gl or chair of the PhD Committee, Institute for Health and Nature, at Ilisimatusarfik Lene Seibæk lese@uni.gl

PhD Committee of Institute for Health and Nature

- Lene Seibæk, professor, PhD, Institute of Health and Nature, Ilisimatusarfik & senior researcher at Aarhus University Hospital (chair)
- Aviaja Lyberth Hauptmann, PhD, postdoc, Associate Professor, Institute of Health and Nature, Ilisimatusarfik
- Bodil H Blix, professor, PhD, Department of Health and Care Sciences, The Arctic University of Norway (UiT)
- Stig Andersen, professor, PhD, senior consultant, Arctic Health Research Centre, Aalborg University & Greenland Centre for Health Research

CENTRE ACTIVITIES IN 2024

**Ilisimatusarfik, Institute for Health and Nature, Partners in New EU Project:
ArcSolution**

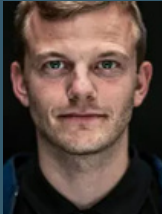


Gert Mulvad has received EUR 203,750 on behalf of the Institute for the Greenlandic part of the EU project ArcSolution. PhD student **Mette Motzfeldt Jensen** and Professor **Stig Andersen** are participating in the project.

The Arctic is undergoing rapid changes. Multiple stressors, such as climate change and pollution from both local and distant sources, impact human life, wildlife, and ecosystems in the Arctic. These factors are interconnected and require a holistic approach to analyze and address pollution issues and their solutions.

Using a One Health approach, ArcSolution aims to deliver knowledge and mitigation solutions co-developed with Arctic communities. The Arctic is home to diverse societies, and to capture this diversity, ArcSolution will operate in four Arctic locations: Northern Finland, Svalbard, Northern Norway (Tromsø), and Greenland. The project will integrate local and Indigenous knowledge with environmental, health, technical, and social science research in an One Health approach.

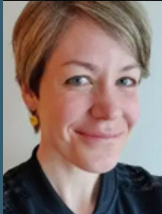
Awarded PhD degree in Arctic studies - Health and Social Conditions 2024



Hjalte Larsen: "Cardiovascular disease and heart failure in Greenland: A focus on dilated cardiomyopathy variants among Greenlanders with non ischemic heart failure"



Julie Flyger Holflod: "Evaluation of the Implementation of Best Practice Models in the Treatment of Addiction of Alcohol and Other Drugs in Greenland"



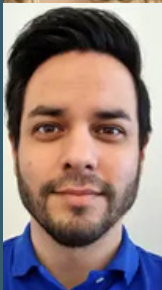
Nadja Albertsen: "Atrial fibrillation in Greenland"



Ivalu Katajavaara Seidler: "Trajectories, risk factors and risk patterns for suicide in Greenland – A systematic approach based on registers and surveys"



Mette Mørup Schlütter: "Living with uncertainty in Old Age - An ethnographic exploration of uncertainty in health, belonging, and hope in old age in Greenland"



Nick Duelund: "Vision Screening of Greenlandic Children - Evaluating Efficacy, Coverage, and Future Directions"

Greenland Research Council awards 4 stipends

The Greenland Research Council has awarded three PhD stipends and one postdoctoral stipend. Through these grants, the council supports Greenland's research capacity building and projects that can contribute with new knowledge to the benefit of society.

The selected research projects are all characterized by scientific excellence and societal relevance for Greenland.

One of the scholarships goes to PhD student **Bodil Hoffmeyer**, who will study gestational diabetes and risks of pregnancy complications through a national registry study. The project will be carried out at Steno Diabetes Center Greenland; Ilisimatusarfik – University of Greenland, Institute of Nature & Health; and the University of Copenhagen.



Nunatsinni Ilisimatusarnermik Siunnersuisoqatigiit
Greenland Research Council

Activities in 2024 - SDCG

- Researchers from SDCG arranged and taught at a researcher training course for general practice training doctors in August 2024
- Three PhD students from SDCG, participated and presented their research at the International congress on Circumpolar Health in Halifax, Canada in November 2024
- SDCG arranged and held three presentations at a meeting in the Greenland medical society on research and health care delivery in indigenous populations, September 2024
- Three researchers from SDCG presented and participated in the European Diabetes Epidemiology Meeting in April 2024 in Pesaro, Italy



Paasisavut 2024

Paasisavut is a science communication competition for PhD researchers focusing on studies in and around Greenland. In November, the competition was held at Katuaq in Nuuk and broadcast live on KNR.

Five finalists were selected, each given five minutes to present their research in a clear and accessible manner. From GCHR, PhD student **Mie Møller** participated, presenting her project on Greenland's handling of the COVID-19 pandemic. The winner was **Regine Møller** with her PhD project, "Sustainable Development: Coloniality, Decolonization, and Perspectives from Iserdor."



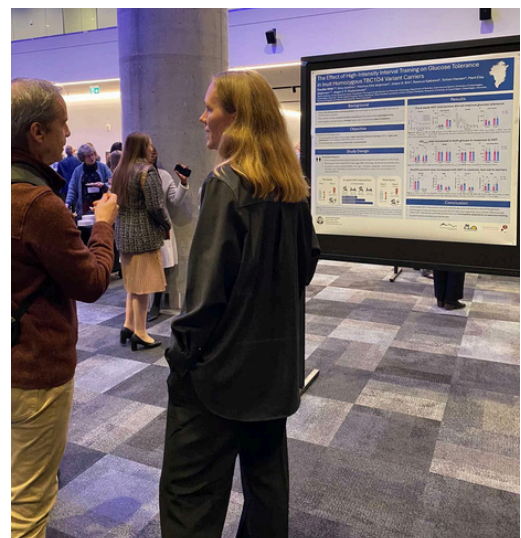
Photo by Arctic Hub

International Conference on Circumpolar Health ICCH18 - Halifax, Canada

The International Congress for Circumpolar Health, ICCH18, was held in Halifax, Canada in November 2024. Quite a number of researchers from the Center and from Greenlandic Health Care as such presented their work, held meeting, and participated in plenary discussions, which in many ways impacted the conference positively. The participants have returned home with inspiration for their continued work, international collaboration, and the upcoming NUNAMED conference.

Anders Koch received the Jack Hildes Health Award 2024 in recognition of Excellent Seasoned Researchers & Workers in the Field of Circumpolar Health to Increase International Collaboration in Circumpolar Health Research and Education.

Nick Duelund received the Hart Hansen Award 2024 - a support for emerging circumpolar health researchers and health workers.



Contaminants in Arctic wildlife and humans in the Arctic - cross-cutting issues; follow up on the Workshop 23-25 May 2023, Sandbjerg, Denmark

This workshop was a part of a long-term process to develop more integrative activities (cross-cutting) among AMAP expert groups working on contaminants and their associated effects in wildlife and in humans. Four cross cutting writing groups were established: 1. PFAS-cases, 2. Zoonosis, 3. Health effect, 4. CEACs (Human exposure to chemicals of emerging Arctic concern).

The CAHME (Center for Arctic Health & Molecular Epidemiology) Centre is involved in three writing groups: 1. (published, Lohman et al. 2024); group 3. CAHME being coordinator, expected to submit manuscript summer 2025; and group 4.

Researchers' Forum

The Researchers' Forum consists of all researchers and PhD students affiliated with the Greenland Center of Health Research. The Researchers' Forum aims to support information and mutual dialogue regarding ongoing projects, activities, and strategies for affiliated researchers in Greenland and Denmark. During 2024, one hybrid meeting was held on May 15.

On this meeting information was provided on

- Annual meeting with the GCHR's Advisory Committee, with an emphasis on research implementation
- PhD courses in arctic health
- The NUNAMED conference
- Final approval of strategy

PhD project: Hand Eczema in the Fishing Industry in Greenland

Mathilde Tuborg Andersen has started a pre-project for 3 months at Bispebjerg Hospital, Dept. of Dermatologi and 3 months at Dronning Ingrid's Sundhedscenter. In May 2025 she will start the PhD project: Hand Eczema in the Fishing Industry in Greenland.

Fish (in particular cod and halibut) and shellfish (in particular shrimps and snow crabs) constitute more than 90% of Greenland's exports and thus are of tremendous importance for the economy of Greenland. As many as 20% of the population is employed in the fish industry.

There are in principle two types of fisheries in Greenland a) Ocean trawlers with production units on board and b) Coastal fishing with land-based procurement. Working in the fisheries is associated with a high risk of developing occupational contact dermatitis (OCD). Contact dermatitis (CD) is a common occupational skin disorder affecting the hands and is characterized by itchy, red, dry and scaly hands eventually with open sores, fissures, pain and secondary skin infection.

Occupational dermatitis is a significant concern in the food processing industry, particularly in seafood processing. By relevant research on dermatitis in occupational settings, we can gain a comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by workers in their environments and work towards implementing strategies to mitigate the risks associated with occupational contact dermatitis.

Leo Foundation has decided to award a grant of DKK 3,437,000 to support the project Hand Eczema in the Fishing Industry in Greenland.

Nunavik-Greenland Midwifery & Perinatal Health Knowledge Exchange

On the 19th of April 2024 midwives from Nunavik and Nuuk met at Hotel Hans Egede to have an exchange on their midwifery practices, knowledge and education. It was a fruitful and important exchange that gave participants professional inspiration but also touched them personally as they connected on experiences they have had.

Ingelise Olesen, Ruth Montgomery-Andersen and **Christine Ingemann** participated as maternal and child health researchers from Ilisimatusarfik and shared their knowledge on the field with the group.



COMING ACTIVITIES IN 2025

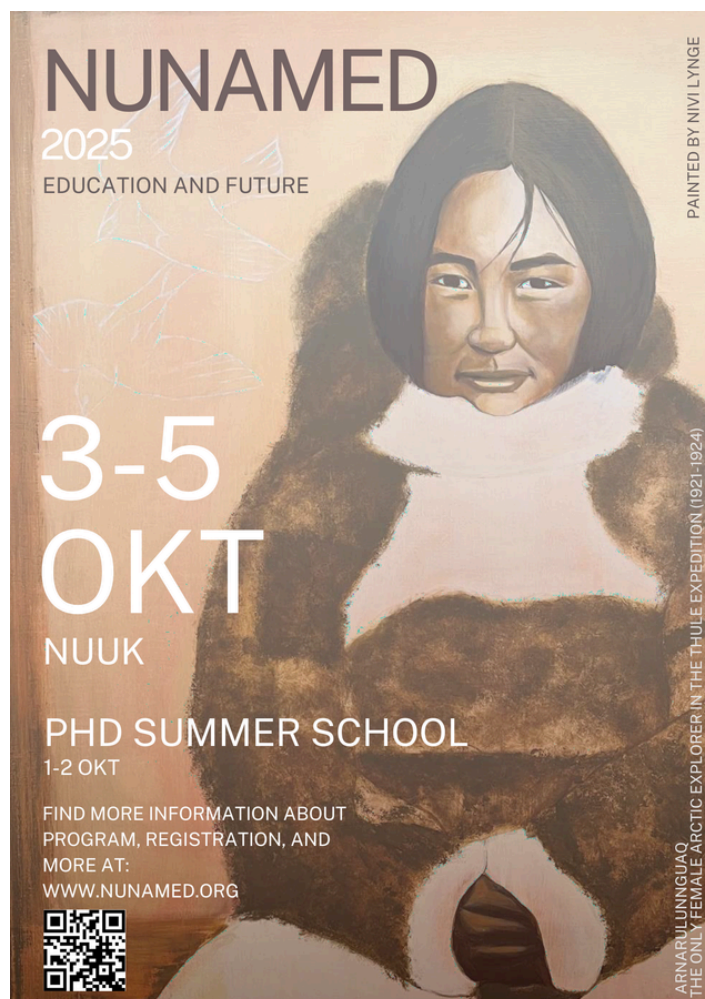
NUNAMED 2025

The NUNAMED conference will take place on October 3-5, 2025, in Nuuk. This year's theme is Education and Future.

Everyone with an interest in Greenlandic health is invited to participate and submit an abstract (registration opens in March 2025 - abstract submission deadline 1 August 2025).

In connection with the conference, a PhD Summer School on One Health in the Arctic will be held on October 1-2.

For more information, visit www.nunamed.org



CAHME (Center for Arctic Health & Molecular Epidemiology)

CAHME has received a new project grant from DANCEA which will run over 2025-2027. The project is an ACCEPT follow-up focusing on diet, lifestyle and health, and POP biomonitoring of mothers and children at 9-11 years of age.

CAHME are participating in the EU project "Partnership for the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals" (PARC) in which we are working on various statistical data evaluation for further exposure effect as EU comparisons.



Arctic Medicine optional course for medical students

The CAHME Centre, Aarhus University will again in 2025 run the course "Arctic Medicine optional course for medical students" being offered for more than 13 year – always filled up with the given limited number of 30 students. The course includes arctic experienced teachers from Greenland, Copenhagen, Aalborg and Aarhus.

Self-arranged clinic stays for medical students in Greenland and Nordic Countries, Aarhus University

For several years, the CAHME Centre, Aarhus University have coordinated the "Self-arranged clinic stays for medical Student in Greenland and Nordic Countries". In general, yearly between 15-20 medical students plan and conduct a clinical stay mostly in Greenland or Nordic Countries. The CAHME coordinate the stay involving 1) stay description to obtain prior approval by the Board of Studies; 2) selection of external supervisors; 3) supervision during the clinical stay; 4) selection of co-assessor of the final clinical stay report; 5) assessment of final clinical report of the stay.

NEWS FROM RESEARCHERS AND RESEARCH GROUPS

Well-being, Education, and Retention

Project Team Members:

Carsten Juul Jensen, Anna Kleist Egede, Louise Lennert Olsen, Pauline Olesen, Naduk Eriksen, Silvia Isidor, and Lene Seibæk from the Nursing Education Program, Institute of Health and Nature, as well as **Annette Maahr Hansen** from Queen Ingrid's Hospital.

The Nursing Education Program at Ilisimatusarfik and the Greenlandic healthcare system are working towards a vision of ensuring a sustainable study and work life. In this regard, we are in the process of structuring and analyzing extensive data on well-being, education, and retention. The project is based on data that sheds light on nursing students' experiences with well-being and education, including their encounters with traumatic situations such as suicidal behavior, as well as newly graduated nurses' experiences adapting to the realities of the Greenlandic healthcare system. This data provides valuable insights into educational development and aims to create better conditions for nursing students and newly qualified nurses. Furthermore, we have collected interviews and field notes from all regions in Greenland, reflecting nurses' and leaders' experiences. This insight forms the basis of an article describing how nursing work operates despite the well-known challenges in the Greenlandic healthcare system.

Greenlandic Textbook for Nursing Students

Editors:

Carsten Juul Jensen, Anna Kleist Egede, Lise Hounsgaard, and Tine Aagaard.

Over recent years, the Institute of Health and Nature has been working on developing a Greenlandic textbook for nursing students. The textbook, which will be available in both Greenlandic and Danish, is intended to make the teaching material more relevant and relatable for nursing students in Greenland. The new textbook will reflect the unique conditions that nursing students encounter during their internships at hospitals, health centers, and health stations in Greenland. We hope to present and publish the book in connection with NUNAMED 2025.

Health Behaviour in School-aged Children Greenland

The Health Behavior in School-aged Children (HBSC) Greenland is the only national survey on adolescent's health in Greenland. The study monitor health among Greenlandic adolescents, and contribute to research and to health promotion in schools. The survey mirrors actual health and health behavior among adolescents and HBSC Greenland survey data are continuously used in policy making both nationally and in the municipalities. The survey has also provided data on core indicators monitoring the national public health programs in Greenland (Inuuneritta I to III).

HBSC Greenland is a part of the WHO supported international HBSC study, that is performed in 50 countries and regions primary in Europe every fourth year. From 2024 and onward, HBSC Greenland carry out an intermediate version of the international study out every second year to support the monitoring of Inuuneritta III.

In 2024, HBSC Greenland has contributed to the national reference group under the Department of Health on the two national public health surveys. The study in 2024 constituted the 8th wave of the HBSC Greenland study. As in earlier study waves, reports to the participation schools and all municipalities was made and send out in July 2024.

Expectations for 2025

We have dedicated the year 2025 to planning of the next survey round in 2026, including a new version of the questionnaire to school principals as well as to piloting of new questions.

As a result of the cooperation with the organization of the handicap spokesman, a special report on children with handicap in underway and is expected launched in March 2025 and the long-requested national report is expected to be launched before summer 2025.



hbosc
KALAALLIT NUNAAT /
GREENLAND



PhD **Birgit Niclasen**,
Principal investigator HBSC Greenland

Center for Substance Abuse Research in Greenland

The Center for Substance Abuse Research in Greenland conducts research on substances and substance abuse treatment in Greenland, either independently or in collaboration with other university environments.

The background for establishing the center was that, in connection with the creation of Allorfik, the national substance abuse treatment center in 2016, a National Database on Substance Abuse Treatment in Greenland was established under Allorfik – the Knowledge Center on Addiction. This database has so far been the cornerstone of the research originating from the Center for Substance Abuse Research in Greenland.

Previous research has primarily been in collaboration with the Unit for Clinical Alcohol Research at SDU and in cooperation with Professor **Ulrik Becker**, the Danish National Institute of Public Health, SDU. Currently, the center is engaged in a post-doctoral project examining whether citizens after substance abuse treatment contribute more to the economy than before their treatment.

In 2024, Allorfik established a collaboration with the University of Oslo, Steno Diabetes Center in Greenland, and the Unit of Clinical Alcohol Research, SDU, on two new larger projects, GRAL and SUScreen. These projects are interconnected and complement each other in the knowledge they generate.

The Center for Substance Abuse Research in Greenland is primarily run by doctor and DrPH **Birgit Niclasen**, with the current leader of Allorfik, **Efraim Olsen**, providing support.



Greenland is keeping up with the digital development – but what is the best way forward?

Digitalization, with rapid and secure 5G internet connections, access to reliable servers, updated software programs, and app implementations, is advancing rapidly and provides excellent opportunities for further developing telemedicine in Greenland. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is also increasingly being adopted and will undoubtedly play a significant role in society and for individuals in the future.

Health research - and particularly clinical practice - depends heavily on high-quality and accessible data. Achieving valid health data requires various elements to work together, including high standards in data collection, registration, curation, and storage. Additionally, there is a need for ongoing education in handling sensitive personal data, discussions on ethical, legal, and security aspects, and thorough societal conversations about technological developments.

For more details on the topic, see the article in *Nakorsanut* No. 2, 2024 (page 34), titled: "Grønland er godt med i den digitale udvikling og vi skal videre frem... men hvordan bedst?" (<http://www.laeger.dk/portal/page/portal/LAEGERDK/Laegerdk/Om%20L%C3%A6geforeningen/L%C3%A6gekredsforeningen%20Gr%C3%B8nland>)

Gert Mulvad and **Ulla Wewer**

Effects of vaccination against invasive pneumococcal disease in Greenland

In many countries in the world, vaccination against the bacterium *Streptococcus pneumoniae* ('pneumococci') is a part of the childhood vaccination program. Pneumococci are the cause of many common infections, such as acute middle ear infection (otitis media) and pneumonia, diseases which are highly prevalent in Greenland. In rare cases, however, the bacterium can cause severe and deadly disease in the form of blood poisoning (septicemia) and meningitis, so-called invasive pneumococcal disease (IPD). Vaccination against 13 of the approximately 100 subtypes of pneumococci is done to reduce the number of cases of IPD. Relative to the size of the population, IPD used to be more common in the Greenlandic population than in many other populations around the world.

In 2010, vaccination against pneumococci was introduced in the childhood vaccination program in Greenland. In two studies, of which the last was published in 2024, a research group from, including others, Ilisimatusarfik, studied the effects of this introduction in the period 2010-20. Main results showed that the number of new cases of IPD in Greenland was reduced after introduction of the vaccine, mostly among young children (the primary target group), but also among older children and adults, as they were less infected by the young children. Only old persons did not experience reduced rates of IPD after vaccine introduction. Secondly, mortality from IPD after introduction of the vaccine was studied. This showed that the death rate among patients with IPD was also reduced after introduction of the vaccine, and no persons <39 years died from IPD after 2010. Taken together, not only the number of patients with IPD was reduced, but also mortality among patients with IPD after vaccine introduction. This shows that the introduction of the vaccine in the Greenlandic childhood vaccination program has been a success.

By **Kristiana Nikolova** and **Anders Koch**

Research and Educational Initiatives in Otolaryngology in Greenland

Research on the prevalent middle ear diseases among the Greenlandic population continues within the field of otolaryngology. Collaborative projects are ongoing, including work with Professor Lene Seibæk, who is developing a video instructional film primarily for parents in Greenland. There is also a collaboration with the ENT Greenland Function at DIH, currently led by Senior Consultant and PhD. **Ramon G. Jensen**. Additionally, the project on sleep apnea in high-risk patients is undergoing data processing for imminent publication.

A specialized course on Greenlandic medicine for medical students at the University of Copenhagen has been successfully established in collaboration with the Greenlandic Health Service, including Steno Diabetes Center Greenland, the Greenlandic Patient Home in Copenhagen, and various departments at Rigshospitalet. The course will be available for application for the first time in the fall of 2025.

Preben Homøe, Adjunct Professor at Ilisimatusarfik and Professor at SUND,
University of Copenhagen

News from Steno Diabetes Center Greenland

Steno Diabetes Center was involved in a wide range of research projects related to cardiometabolism in 2024. Three ongoing PhD projects on gestational diabetes, obesity in the Greenlandic population, and the POLAR study on cold exposure and metabolism are described elsewhere. In addition, a high intensity training study in carriers and non-carriers of a diabetes variant in the TBC1D4 gene has been completed and the samples and data are currently being analysed.

Two PhD dissertations on cardiovascular disease in the adult population and vision problems in children were defended in 2024.

Among patients with diabetes or severe obesity affiliated with Steno Diabetes Center, both in and outside Nuuk, we are investigating the prevalence of several comorbidities, including sleep apnea and neuropathy, as well as the risk factors of these conditions.

Register studies are still ongoing, primarily for diabetes demographic studies, and recently we conducted a study on temporal trends in childhood overweight and obesity in Greenland, and compared risk factors for diabetic retinopathy between a Greenlandic and Danish population.

Many of the center's activities are based on the population health surveys in Greenland. We are currently developing a model to predict the risk of stroke, and metabolism data are being integrated with meteorological data in the epidemiological part of the POLAR study. These data are also part of an extensive collaboration with the University of Copenhagen on genetic studies. We have, for instance, demonstrated that the genetic profile of the Inuit population differs distinctly from that of European and Asian populations, and there are a handful of hereditary diseases related to diabetes and cardiovascular health that are Inuit-specific and require specialized treatment or prevention. Greenlanders are therefore at risk of misdiagnosis since genetic disease screenings are usually based on European and Asian populations.

However, the population health studies are still not accessible in Greenland, meaning that researchers residing in Greenland need access to relevant Danish research institutions to utilize the data from these studies. We have therefore completed comprehensive documentation of the population studies and are awaiting data approval so that the data can, in the future, be accessed via Statistics Greenland.



Inuunerissaavik Steno Kalaallit Nunaat
Steno Diabetes Center Grønland

Ruth Montgomery-Andersen, Project Manager NuQi, Midwife, MPH, DrPH

As an independent researcher, time is spent between research projects, and other forms of initiatives that support to the wellbeing and development of civil society.

In 2024 the main focus of my work has been on the diversity within civil society especially with a focus on Greenland and the Nordics. I have been invited to participate in programs, workshops and conferences.

In February 2024 I delivered a keynote on "Diversity in The Cultural Sector Of The Nordics: Dance In Greenland: Development, Activism And Self-Determination. (Thursday 15th February 2024, Oslo Norway).

Since July 2024, I have been a part of the steering committee of the Greenland Arts and Mental Health Project. It is a collaborative project that brings colleagues from WHO, the Centre for Public Health in Greenland, the Royal College of Music (UK), and New York University (a colleague at NYU with SDU, GUX Aasiaat and Who that seeks to integrate arts and culture in health care:

<https://nordiskkulturfond.org/en/projects/the-arts-health-collective-creative-solutions-for-complex-challenges>

Together with Syddansk Universitet , and Christine Ingemann and in collaboration with Qaujigiartiit Health Research Centre, Iqaluit Nunavut, a 5 day workshop was conducted to discuss and learn from each other. In August 2024 fieldwork was conducted in Iqaluit - Naapinneq – Inuit Kalaallit Nunavummiullu/Gathering – Inuit from Greenland and Nunavut.

I am a founding member of the organising committee for the Circumpolar Maternal and Child Health network and a part of the editorial board for our special Issue of International Journal of Circumpolar Health: Culture, Language and Land in Childbirth Practice Special Issue.

I have been an active member of the NMEF – Nordic Migrant Expert Forum. Greenland's as one of two national representatives.

I also have the honor of being a part of the Editorial Advisory Board of the Health Promotion Journal of Australia and the PhD Contact Person – Ilisimatusarfik for Michelle Douchette - Government of Nunavut & Ilisimatusarfik. A research that spans across the geo-political boundaries, that focus on women's similar experiences and encounters with health systems during pregnancy and during medical evacuation for birth. It seeks to understanding how food security is impacted during this time.

Lene Seibæk, PhD, RN, Professor, Institute of Health and Nature

Completed studies in 2024:

- Children with otitis media and their parents – Improving treatment efforts through parental involvement. Project group; Monica Nedergaard Ejsing, Malene Nøhr Demant, Preben Homøe, Jette Marcussen, Carsten Juul-Jensen, Ramon Gordon Jensen & Lene Seibæk (head of project).
- Living with Uncertainty in Old Age. Ageing in Uummannaq, Greenland. Project group; Mette Schlütter, Tenna Jensen, Janne Flora, Lene Seibæk (main supervisor).

Ongoing studies:

- Patient education in Greenland: Development and feasibility testing of an intervention to patients with diabetes and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. Project group; Maja Hykkelbjerg Nielsen, Annesofie Lunde Jensen, Michael Lyng Pedersen, Lene Seibæk (main supervisor).
- Retention of nurses in education and working life. Project group; Carsten Juul Jensen, Anna Kleist Egede, Lene Seibæk (project responsible).
- Mental well-being in education – support for nursing students who experience loss, grief and trauma. Project group: Carsten Juul-Jensen, Anna Kleist Egede, Lene Seibæk (project responsible).

UArctic Thematic Network on Health and Well-being in the Arctic

The Thematic Network works for increasing the quantity and quality of scientific research and education on health and well-being carried out in the Arctic. The leads of the network are **Gert Mulvad, Christine Ingemann, Anastasia Emelyanova** and **Anna R Rönkä**.

In 2024, we put a lot of work into developing and expanding the network. This work was conducted in connection to the cross-arctic collaboration project lead by Christina VL Larsen, which focuses on “Strengthening circumpolar network in Arctic health research through mentorship, education, and research activities”.

We held a successful network meeting in Copenhagen in May, you can read more here: <https://www.uarctic.org/news/2023/8/kick-off-project-meeting-to-strengthening-circumpolar-network-in-arctic-health-research/>.

In November we held an online network member meeting, read more here: <https://www.uarctic.org/news/2024/11/online-meeting-of-the-members-of-uarctic-thematic-network-health-and-well-being-in-the-arctic/>.

Together with an advisory board consisting of Arctic research colleagues, we have developed a mentorship program, which will begin in spring 2025 (read more here: <https://www.uarctic.org/news/2024/12/apply-today-mentorship-program-thematic-network-on-health-and-well-being-in-the-arctic/>).

Being part of this open network is a great opportunity to connect with professionals and researchers across the Arctic, and by signing up for our newsletter you will stay informed on information related to health research and education activities in the Arctic.

Visit our website: <https://www.uarctic.org/activities/thematic-networks/health-and-well-being-in-the-arctic/>



Research Priority Team 5 – Co-production and indigenous methodologies

Affiliated researcher **Christine Ingemann** is a representative in the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) research priority team 5 (RPT5) on co-production and indigenous-led methodologies. The goal of the RPT5 is to address research priorities and their implementation regarding topics such as: co-production of knowledge; empowerment; capacity sharing; creating space and opportunities for Indigenous institutions / scholars to lead research and develop collaborations; Indigenous leadership; bringing education, science, and Indigenous knowledge together; producers and users of knowledge; and Indigenizing Arctic research. You can read more here: <https://icarp.iasc.info/engagement/research-priority-teams/research-priority-team-5>

Naapinneq – Inuit Kalaalit Nunavummiullu/Gathering – Inuit from Greenland and Nunavut

UArctic financially supported the project “The first thousand days of Inuit children in the Arctic” under the Thematic Network for Health and Wellbeing in the Arctic. In August 2024 a midwife, a public health nurse, four policy makers and two researchers from Nuuk travelled to Iqaluit to attend the Inuunguiniq workshop. The workshop is offered by Qaujigiartiit Health Research Center. The aim of the project was to strengthen collaboration between Greenland and Nunavut, and to provide an opportunity for people to connect and learn from each other.

Many special connections were made and participants from Nuuk describe how the workshop has affected them positively as a person and that it will have a great influence on their work.

We would all like to continue this project, which is way we have applied for funding to Qaujigiartiit team to Nuuk.

Written by **Christine Ingemann**



Yearly Report 2024 from Center for Arctic Health & Molecular Epidemiology (CAHME)

During year 2024 we have further worked on our Greenlandic research projects

The Greenlandic birth cohort ACCEPT, established during 2010–2015, aims to follow up each fifth year on the mother, (the father) and child including: diet, lifestyle and health, and Persistent Organic Pollutants (POP) biomonitoring. These planned long-term data can contribute to a valuable source for elucidating and understanding the role of exposure levels and sources, lifestyle factors and trends over time on the health of women and their children in Greenland

Biomonitoring and health for ACCEPT cohort follow up: the BioSund-ACCEPT project

The project BioSund-ACCEPT include follow-up on Inuit women (pregnant in the period 2013–15), the father and the ACCEPT child (age 3–5 years) collected 2019–2020 including 101 families and their children (102). Data on lifestyle and POP biomonitoring of the mothers and fathers were already published [1, 2]. Currently, a manuscript on the ACCEPT children's development and health is in preparation [3].

The BioSund-ACCEPT research results have contributed to the following conclusions: several factors could affect dietary habits [1]. The mothers' POP concentrations from inclusion to follow-up (3–5 years later) decreased, being higher in fathers than in mothers; POP differed by residential town with the concentration order Ilulissat > Sisimiut and Nuuk [2]. The mothers metal concentrations increased (Fe, Mg, Se, Zn, As, Hg, and Pb) from pregnancy to follow-up, and some decreased (Ca, Cu, Mn, Cd, Cr). Traditional marine food intake associated positively with Se, As, and Hg and inversely for Zn. A high percentage (25–45%) exceeded the international guidance values for Hg [4]. ACCEPT child follow up at 3–5 years: Mothers smoking during pregnancy affect the child's BMI and blood pressure [5]. Prenatal organochlorine pesticide exposure associate significantly with problematic behaviour [6]. POP exposure increases the risk for referral of the child to a psychologist; exposure to heavy metals (As, Pb, Hg) can cause later physical ability of the child to start standing; exposure to Hg can lower the child's diastolic blood pressure [3].

Persistent organic pollutants among seafood processing workers in West Greenland

Project aim: investigate the relation between exposure to POP and risk of allergy and respiratory diseases among 365 Greenlandic seafood processing workers (16–68 years old). Results & conclusions: The POPs levels are higher in men than women and increase with age and serum selenium. The POP concentrations differed significantly with the ethnic backgrounds of the participants, and only the Inuit population were included in the final analyses. The working place was also a determinant of the PFAS concentrations, but not for the lipophilic POPs. The PFAS concentration were to some degree associated with lung function, but not with asthma and atopy [7].

Cross-cutting studies of per- and polyfluorinated alkyl substances (PFAS) in Arctic wildlife and humans

This cross-cutting review focuses on the presence and impacts of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in the Arctic. The review is a product of the agreed integrative activities among AMAP expert groups working on contaminants and their associated effects in wildlife and in humans. The highlights given are: 1. Long-range transport, reactions and novel PFAS affect profiles and levels in Arctic; 2. Time-trends of PFAS across Arctic diverge among environment, wildlife and humans; 3. Greatest PFAS concentrations were present in liver of mammals and seabird eggs; 4. PFAS persist, accumulate, and pose threats to Arctic biodiversity and humans; 5. PFAS effects in humans and wildlife seem similar, but polar bears are at greater risk [8].

Levels and Temporal Trend of Phthalates in the Greenlandic Population

Project aim: cross-sectional study on levels and temporal trend of phthalate exposure in 602 adults during 2000-2019, based on urinary concentrations of phthalate metabolites. Background: Humans are exposed to phthalate plasticizers through food, air dust, water, personal care products and medical devices. They can elicit reproductive and developmental adverse health effects. To our knowledge, there are no reports on the temporal trend of phthalates in Greenlanders. Results & conclusions: Demographic, lifestyle and region of living (east participants had higher levels) affect the urinary concentrations. Urinary concentrations of phthalate tended to be higher at older age, women, overweight & obese, high marine fatty acid, lower education level, smoking. Among women, generally pregnant women had lower urinary concentrations, and parity influenced the urinary concentrations of some phthalate metabolites. A decreased time trend of regulated phthalate and an increased time trend of non-regulated phthalate substitute were observed [9].



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NEWS FROM PHD STUDENTS

Mads Mose Jensen

During 2024, we completed participant inclusion for my PhD project, Sleep Apnea Among a High Risk Population in Greenland. In February 2024, we moved the inclusion process from Nuuk to Ilulissat, finalizing it in May. Since March, I have been on leave while working as a surgical resident at Queen Ingrid's Hospital, which has provided me with invaluable insights into the healthcare system, which is also the focus of my PhD project. As my leave is coming to an end, I am preparing for the second phase of the project, which will involve data analysis and the implementation of diagnostics and treatment for sleep apnea in Greenland.

Nathalie Fryd

As I enter the final year of my PhD, patient inclusion in the GreenBladder study, our clinical study on bladder cancer in Greenland, is now complete. The study investigates the use of a urinary biomarker test for early detection of bladder cancer, aiming to improve diagnostic pathways in regions with limited access to urological services. Conducting this study has been an exciting, challenging, and highly educational process. In total, 198 patients have been enrolled across Nuuk, Tasiilaq, Sisimiut, Ilulissat, and Qaqortoq. The article is currently in preparation.

In addition to this study, I am also working on two other projects. One focuses on mapping the incidence, mortality, and diagnostic patterns of urological cancers in Greenland compared to Denmark. The other is a smaller proof-of-concept study in collaboration with the Department of Pathology at Rigshospitalet and the Department of Molecular Medicine (MOMA) at Aarhus University Hospital, examining gene expression in bladder cancer tissue from Greenlandic and Danish patients. The aim is to explore potential molecular differences in bladder cancer between Greenlandic and Danish patients, as such variations could influence the effectiveness of the urinary biomarker test and its applicability in a Greenlandic setting.

I expect to submit my PhD thesis by the end of 2025.

Medac stipendium 2024 (25,000 DKK) supporting 'the GreenBladder study – Early Detection of Bladder Cancer in Residents in Greenland Using a Urinary Biomarker'

Nadja Albertsen

2024 marked the end of my PhD. I defended the thesis surrounded and supported by friends, family and colleagues on March 11th on a cold, sunny and very festive day in Aalborg. It was a wonderful experience to not only share the results of the studies, but also discussing them with the opponents, associate professors Karina Frahm Kirk (Aalborg University), Kasper Glerup Lauridsen (Aarhus University) and Kristina Hermann Haugaa (University of Oslo).

Although my PhD has come to an end, my passion for research has not. I am currently employed as an assistant professor at Aarhus University and is fortunate to also still be involved in research projects anchored in Greenland.

Bodil Dalsgaard Hoffmeyer

2024 has been an exciting year for me as I initiated my PhD project, "Gestational diabetes, hypertensive disorders of pregnancy, and the risk of adverse pregnancy outcomes in Greenland."

Since enrolling at Ilisimatusarfik in August 2024, I have presented my project protocol at several exciting events in different formats: I participated in a poster session at a DDEA-Cambridge event, where I was honored to receive the Best Poster Award. In addition, I delivered an oral presentation at the International Conference on Circumpolar Health in Halifax, Canada, and gave several presentations to local clinicians in Greenland. I also published a lay article on gestational diabetes in the Greenlandic medical journal Nakorsanut.

While awaiting the extraction of data for my first two studies, I spent the time taking several relevant PhD courses. I recently received the data and am now thrilled to begin the analysis. I aim to present the first results of Study 1 on hypertensive disorders of pregnancy and Study 2 on gestational diabetes during 2025.

Finally, in 2024, I was humbled to receive the Greenlandic Medical Council's PhD stipend, which provides essential support for my project.



Maja Hykkelbjerg Nielsen

Maja Hykkelbjerg Nielsen, a PhD student at Steno Diabetes Center Greenland, Ilisimatusarfik and Aarhus University, has spent half of 2024 on maternity leave and returned to her PhD project during the summer of 2024.

In her PhD project, Maja investigates how to improve patient education for individuals with type 2 diabetes or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). She explores what it is like to live with a chronic disease and the knowledge needed to manage it. Additionally, the project examines healthcare professionals' experiences with patient education and integrates perspectives from clinical practice. In the final phase, a patient education intervention will be developed in collaboration with individuals living with type 2 diabetes or COPD.

The first paper from the PhD project was published in 2023 and the second paper is currently in review.



Mette Motzfeldt Jensen

I moved to Nuuk in June and work at Ilisimatusarfik alongside PhD students and health researchers from GCHR. My PhD dissertation will be submitted this fall. My first article has been published in the European Journal of Thyroid, featuring data on thyroid hormones measured in hunters from Isortoq following beta-blocker administration. Several more articles are underway, and I plan to present results from the clinical trial on brown fat in Greenlanders and Danes at NUNAMED 2025, as well as at my PhD defense, which I hope will also take place in Nuuk this fall.

Mie Møller

In 2024, I completed the final two studies examining the effectiveness of pre-departure COVID-19 screening in travellers to Greenland and the impact of the pandemic on acute respiratory disease trends in Greenland from 2018 to 2023. Both studies are based on register data from Greenland and Denmark. The findings demonstrated that pre-departure screening was highly effective in the early stages of the pandemic in mitigating the importation of COVID-19 into Greenland. Combined with other public health measures, this intervention likely played a significant role in reducing the burden of COVID-19 in the region. Additionally, the studies revealed that the pandemic had a limited impact on the transmission of other acute respiratory infections in Greenland, with only a slight decline observed during the pandemic period. This suggests that preventive measures introduced to curb COVID-19 may have contributed to a modest reduction in acute respiratory infections. However, due to relatively minimal societal restrictions in Greenland, the population remained somewhat exposed to other respiratory viruses.

Furthermore, I participated in the Greenlandic PhD competition, Paasisavut, where I presented my research in just five minutes during a live television event at Katuaq.

I am now in the final stages of completing my PhD thesis, which is set to conclude my PhD project in April 2025.



Helene Nielsen

In 2024, I began my enrolment as a PhD candidate with my project focused on obesity in Greenland. Obesity is an increasing and major public health concern in Greenland. Currently, I am working on the first part of the project, investigating the temporal trends in adult obesity, with a focus on different subgroups of the Greenlandic population. I have attended several scientific conferences with the project and presented it to multiple research groups. By providing a nuanced understanding of obesity specific to the Greenlandic population, we hope that the project will provide important knowledge relevant to the Greenlandic healthcare system, policymakers, and public health experts.

The PhD project is a collaboration between a cross-disciplinary group of researchers from Ilisimatusarfik, Steno Diabetes Center Greenland, and the University of Copenhagen.



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Posters

- Møller, M. Robust immune response to COVID-19 vaccination in the island population of Greenland, ECCMID 2024, Barcelona, Spain.
- Development and health of children 3-5 years of age in relation to exposure to environmental contaminants. M. Wielsøe, M. Long, E. C. Bonfeld-Jørgensen. 58th Congress of the European Societies of Toxicology (EUROTOX 2024), Copenhagen, Denmark, 8-11 September 2024.
- Levels and temporal trend of phthalates in the Greenlandic adults during 2000-2019. Long M., Wielsøe M., Bonfeld-Jørgensen E. C. 58th Congress of the European Societies of Toxicology (EUROTOX 2024), Copenhagen, Denmark, 8-11 September 2024.
- Hoffmeyer BD, Byberg S, Damm P, Pedersen ML. Gestational Diabetes Mellitus and the Risk of Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes in Greenland. DDEA-Cambridge networking event on Maternal-Fetal Interactions in Health and Disease. Cambridge, UK.
- ICCH18, Halifax Canada 2024. Jensen CJ, Egede AK, Marcussen J, Olsen LL, Eriksen N, Hansen AM, Olesen P, Isidor S, Seibæk L. Advancing Greenlandic Nursing Education for Circumpolar Health Challenges.
- ICCH18, Halifax Canada 2024. Jensen CJ, Egede AK, Marcussen J, Olsen LL, Eriksen N, Hansen AM, Olesen P, Isidor S, Seibæk L. Developing Education and Retention-Promoting Activities in the Nursing Profession in Greenland
- Koch, A. Andersson, M. Søborg, B. Krogfelt, K.A., Ocias, L.F. Evengaard, B. Andersen-Ranberg, E.
- Sonne, C. Dietz, R. Jørgensen, E.B. & Jørgensen, C.S. Climate sensitive infections in Greenland and Northern Sweden: a serological study. 9th Northern European Congress on Travel Medicine (NECTM9). Copenhagen, Denmark, 22. – 24. May 2024
- Nikolova, K. Andersson, M. Slotved, H.C. & Koch, A. Mortality of invasive pneumococcal disease following introduction of the 13 valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine in Greenland. 18th International Congress of Circumpolar Health (ICCH17), Halifax, Canada, 03. – 05. November 2024

Oral presentations

- Møller, M. Robust immune response to COVID-19 vaccination in the island population of Greenland, ICCH18, Halifax, Canada.
- Møller, M. Pre-departure PCR testing of travellers for SARS-CoV-2 was an effective tool in limiting transmission in Greenland during the early phases of the COVID-19 pandemic, ICCH18, Halifax, Canada.
- Møller, M. Aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic in Greenland. Åbent møde i Grønlands Medicinsk Selskab, Nuuk.
- Hypertensive disorders of pregnancy in Greenland: prevalence, risk factors, and risk of adverse pregnancy outcomes. Presentation at International Conference on Circumpolar Health 2024, Halifax, Canada.
- ICCH18, Halifax Canada 2024. Isidor S, Jørgensen ME, Seibæk L, Senftleber N, Schnoor C, Pedersen KS, Marcussen J. Greenlanders experiences of living with sucrose intolerance and attitudes towards genetic research in Greenland – A user perspective in research.
- ICCH18, Halifax Canada 2024. Ejsing MN, Homøe P, Demant M, Jensen RG, Marcussen J, Jensen CJ, Seibæk L. Children with otitis media in Greenland – parental experiences as a foundation of quality in care and family support
- ICCH18, Halifax Canada 2024. Seibæk L, Egede AK, Mulvad G. Greenland Center of Health Research: building up capacity during more than fifteen years.
- Albertsen, N. Inspire 22: International South Pole Research Expedition. The Royal Geographical Society, London, UK. October 2024.
- Fryd, N. The GreenBladder study – Early Detection of Bladder Cancer in Residents in Greenland Using a Urinary Biomarker. 18th International Congress on Circumpolar Health, Halifax, Canada – November 5th, 2025
- Fryd, N. The GreenBladder study – Early Detection of Bladder Cancer in Residents in Greenland Using a Urinary Biomarker. Danish Urological Society (DUS) Annual Meeting 2024, Horsens, Denmark – November 15th, 2025
- Koch, A. Adaptations of Microbial populations in the Arctic. 9th Northern European Congress on Travel Medicine (NECTM9). Copenhagen, Denmark, 22. – 24. May 2024
- Koch, A. Andersson, M. Søborg, B. Krogfelt, K.A., Ocias, L.F. Evengaard, B. Andersen-Ranberg, E. Sonne, C. Dietz, R. Jørgensen, E.B. & Jørgensen, C.S. Seroprevalence of seven climate-sensitive zoonoses in Greenland and Northern Sweden at baseline and over time – high prevalence of antibodies to leptospirosis and rickettsioses. 18th International Congress of Circumpolar Health (ICCH17), Halifax, Canada, 03. – 05. November 2024
- Brokhattingen, N. Andersson, M. Søborg, B. & Koch, A. Risk of progression from tuberculosis infection to tuberculosis among children in Greenland. 18th International Congress of Circumpolar Health (ICCH17), Halifax, Canada, 03. – 05. November 2024