



## REGIONAL AGREEMENT

### **Regional agreement between Lund University and Region Skåne concerning cooperation in undergraduate medical education, clinical research and development of healthcare services.**

#### Background

Region Skåne and Lund University, below referred to jointly as the Parties, hereby enter in to a regional agreement in accordance with section 16 of the *Agreement between the Swedish Government and certain county councils concerning cooperation in undergraduate medical education, clinical research and development of healthcare services*, appendix 1. The agreement covers expanded and deepened cooperation between the Parties and detailed regulation regarding the management of ALF funding.

The present agreement replaces the previous regional agreement between Lund University and Region Skåne dated 24 February 2004.

#### Joint declaration of intent

The county council is the principal body for healthcare services. The Government is the principal body for universities and thereby responsible for the education that leads to a medical degree, for third cycle education and for the research conducted at applicable universities.

Through this agreement, the Parties agree to promote the development of healthcare services through expanded and deepened cooperation in research, education, development and nursing. Furthermore, the Parties agree to strive towards increased coordination and concentration of the resources that are made available for the cooperation.

The striving for the best possible results is to be of crucial importance in the planning and implementation of research, development, education and healthcare services.

In this joint strategic work, the Parties are to consider the various resources that both organisations have at their disposal. The ALF funding that is intended for education, development and research at the respective Parties is to be directed through active prioritisation and be clearly identifiable.

The Parties will, within the framework of their own organisations, take into consideration the joint goals that have been set. Decisions regarding the use of ALF funding within their own organisations are, however, made autonomously within Region Skåne and Lund University and in accordance with each Party's decision-making process. The Parties will in the future continue to have autonomy over their own resources.

The Parties are to work so that all activities in research, development and education will include a clear gender perspective and that gender equality aspects and diversity are to be integrated in all decisions. In addition, the Parties are also to work jointly for increased internationalisation.

In view of the above-stated background and declaration of intent, the Parties are agreed on the following:

### *Section 1 Collaboration*

The Parties, based on their respective conditions, are each to organise their activities in order to facilitate deepened, expanded and cost-effective collaboration. To facilitate transparency regarding each other's decision-making processes, the Parties are to have a representative or representatives with the right to attend and the right to make statements in relevant decision-making bodies. In the event of major structural changes that affect the other Party, the affected Party is to be informed and involved at an early stage.

The Parties are to have a collaboration organisation that is to be configured in accordance with appendix 2 *Collaboration organisation*.

### *Section 2 Working methods*

Collaboration is based on consultation between the Parties. Overall strategic matters within the framework of the national ALF agreement are processed in the ALF management group, see appendix 2. In daily activities, operations managers and project managers or course directors are to consult on questions of how, in practice, research and education are to be informed about resources, calculation of costs, and regular financial follow-ups etc.

There are two drafting groups; one for education matters and one for research matters, see appendix 2. The Parties are to be represented equally in each of the two drafting groups. Region Skåne's director of research and the person or persons tasked by the dean of the Faculty of Medicine with responsibility for ALF matters regarding both research and education are jointly responsible for drawing up the agenda for the drafting groups' meetings. All matters within the framework of the ALF agreement are to be drafted and documented in notes in the relevant drafting group. Depending on the type of matter concerned, matters are decided either in the ALF management group or by individual decision-makers tasked in accordance with the respective Party's rules and regulations.

### *Section 3 University healthcare, units for clinical training, and clinical research*

Units that conduct university healthcare in accordance with section 1 of the national agreement are primarily units within healthcare that are characterised by a high standard of healthcare quality, the healthcare principal's stated remit with regard to research and education, innovative culture and an incentive structure for knowledge development. The national ALF steering group's definition of university healthcare is to be observed. The units that conduct university healthcare are stated in an annually revised list approved by the ALF management group.

Clinical training within medical education is currently carried out at three education hubs; the healthcare administrations at Skåne University Hospital in Lund and Malmö, and at Skånevård Sund, Helsingborg.

In addition to this, research, development education are conducted at other units within Region Skåne. All units within Region Skåne's healthcare services, or which provide care according to an agreement with Region Skåne, are committed through that agreement or through accreditation documentation to make their resources

available for clinical training, if required, and to assist regarding patient material in research conducted by the Faculty of Medicine at Lund University.

#### *Section 4 Clinical research*

The University and healthcare services are to strive to create the best conditions for clinical research.

ALF funding is to be used for clinical research in accordance with section 7 of the national agreement:

*Clinical research refers to research in which the structures and resources of healthcare are a precondition and that has an aim to solve problems of ill health or to identify factors that lead to improved health.*

#### *Section 5 Quality and competition*

ALF funding is to stimulate high quality and is directed in accordance with the financing plan (see section 8). Research organisations are to compete for the awarding of ALF funding. The selection process to determine which organisation is to be allocated ALF funding is based on prioritisation. ALF funding is to be allocated so that the intentions in the national agreement can be fulfilled in the best way.

#### *Section 6 Prioritisation*

Lund University is responsible through the Faculty of Medicine for prioritisation of the ALF funding that is allocated directly to research and education. Research funding is advertised through a call for applications and is subject to scientific prioritisation by a specially appointed prioritisation committee. The Parties are to reach consensus on the criteria for prioritisation of research and to jointly appoint the members of the prioritisation committee, a process based on scientific and research strategy qualifications. In connection with the call for applications for ALF funding, the call and prioritisation committee members are to be approved by the ALF management group.

The Faculty of Medicine approves the learning outcomes of the courses that are included in the programme. Based on this, the course directors and organisations involved draw up joint course and semester budgets. The educational content of the course is ultimately prioritised by the Faculty of Medicine within the framework of the education budget.

In consultation with the Faculty of Medicine, Region Skåne prioritises the ALF funding that the financing plan allocates for hospital-wide costs, infrastructure and investments.

The prioritisations that are made form the basis for allocation of ALF funding. However, the allocation of ALF funding is decided by the Parties in their own organisation and in accordance with each Party's rules and regulations.

#### *Section 7 Costs within the healthcare organisation and the University*

ALF funding constitutes compensation for those costs that arise in healthcare in connection with resources in the form of premises, staff etc. being made available for the University's research and education in accordance with section 4 of the national agreement.

All costs that arise in healthcare within the framework of this agreement are to be covered. ALF funding is to be used in its entirety for the prioritised education,

research and other activities in accordance with the approved financing plan, and funding is directed to the healthcare units in which the costs arise. Calculation of costs is to be based on the affected party's cost structure.

#### *Section 8 Financing plan*

Each year, the Parties are to draw up a financing plan for the use of ALF funding, which is divided into the following items:

- Undergraduate medical education
- Other undergraduate education i.e. speech therapists, physiotherapists and medical physicists
- Research projects and research assignments
- Innovative small or newly started projects
- Specific measures, platforms and back-up
- Hospital-wide costs, infrastructure and investments.
- Joint administration

#### *Section 9 Division of responsibilities*

It is the responsibility of operations managers to provide research and education with resources in accordance with the established prioritisation. Project managers and course directors are responsible for ensuring that the units receive full compensation for the costs relating to research projects and education at these units, see section 7. The reporting of deviations is the responsibility of both the Parties.

#### *Section 10 Flexibility*

The use of ALF funds is to be flexible. Funding is not to be tied to a certain unit or a certain type of cost. However, regarding costs for staff and premises, flexibility during the year is limited. Flexibility in the use of resources from year to year is not to lead to a long-term change in the dimensioning of healthcare.

#### *Section 11 Management of ALF funding*

ALF funding is to be separate from funding intended for healthcare. The funding is in a special account linked to Region Skåne's R&D Unit. After a decision on allocation of funding for a specific purpose, funding is transferred to an account within the administration concerned that has been designated solely for this purpose. The operations manager or equivalent is responsible for the funding being used in accordance with the agreed budget.

#### *Section 12 Follow up and accounting*

ALF funding that is allocated in accordance with section 11 of the national agreement "is to be used in the year for which the Swedish parliament has approved allocation". To ensure that ALF funding is used in the applicable period, Region Skåne is to submit a report twice per year on the approved ALF funding and the actual use thereof to the drafting groups. Funding that is not used during the year is to be repaid no later than three months after the end of the calendar year. In view of this, allocated ALF funding is to be followed up by the Parties in accordance with jointly agreed principles.

In accordance with section 14 of the framework agreement, Region Skåne will submit financial accounting of ALF funding divided into education and research to the University in such time that it can be included in the University's annual accounts and which is to be preceded by a dialogue between the Parties. The accounting is to fulfil the national agreement's requirement for reporting divided into premises costs, salary costs and other costs. In addition, Region Skåne is to follow the accounting template that has

been approved by the ALF national steering committee. During the year, individual researchers and course directors are to regularly, and in good time before year-end, provide information on the financial situation in individual ALF funding budgets.

Activity-based accounting is to be carried out in such a way that it can be taken into consideration in forthcoming prioritisations and evaluations.

#### *Section 13 Evaluation*

The Parties are to collaborate in order to find the best possible way to carry out the evaluation regarding structure, process and results in matters of research, development and education, which will be conducted every fourth year in accordance with section 3 of the national agreement.

#### *Section 14 Undergraduate education for speech therapists and medical physicists as well as clinical training for physiotherapists*

ALF funding for research may be allocated to cover the undergraduate education of speech therapists and medical physicists as well as clinical training allocation for physiotherapists. Such re-allocation is carried out through the approval of the financing plan in accordance with section 8.

#### *Section 15 Disputes*

Disputes that arise due to ALF collaboration and application of the ALF agreement and its practical application, are in the first instance to be resolved by the Parties within the framework of the joint collaboration organisation, see appendix 2. If a consensus is not reached, Region Skåne's regional director and Lund University's vice-chancellor are to settle the dispute after customary discussion within LUMARS. If the Parties are agreed on how the dispute is to be resolved, this decision is to be followed within the Parties' organisations.

#### *Section 16 Validity of the agreement*

This agreement enters into force on 1 May 2015 and applies until further notice with a notice of termination period of two years from the start of the next calendar year after the notice of termination. However, the agreement expires automatically at the time that the national ALF agreement, appendix 1, ceases to apply. The Parties' previous ALF agreement, dated 24 February 2004, ceases to apply with the signing of this agreement.

For Lund University

Datum

15/04/22

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Torbjörn von Schantz  
Rektor

For Region Skåne

Datum

15/04/22

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Jonas Rastad  
Regiondirektör

Appendix 1 National ALF  
Agreement  
Appendix 2 Collaboration  
organisation



## **Collaboration organisation**

### **Collaboration organisation between Lund University and Region Skåne in accordance with the national ALF agreement section 2 and section 16, point 3 – appendix 2**

#### **ALF management group**

The management group's remit is based on the regional ALF agreement. This means that collaboration is to be based on consultation between the Parties. The ALF management group is the collaboration body that manages the ALF agreement. Overall strategic matters within the framework of the national ALF agreement are processed in the ALF management group. For this there are two drafting groups; one for education matters and one for research matters. All matters within the framework of the ALF agreement are to be prepared in the relevant drafting group. Decisions on matters are made either in the ALF management group or in accordance with the respective parties' rules and regulations, depending on the type of matter.

Region Skåne's director of research and the person or persons tasked by the dean of the Faculty of Medicine at Lund University with responsibility for ALF matters regarding both research and education consult on current issues of an operative character within the framework of ALF cooperation.

#### **Chair**

The chair of the ALF management group is to alternate annually between the dean of the Faculty of Medicine at Lund University and Region Skåne's director of research.

#### **Working groups**

The ALF management group may, if required, jointly decide on assignments and appoint specific working groups to carry out investigations or produce documentation for decision-making that are not drafted directly by the ALF management group's drafting body.

#### **Composition**

##### **Lund University**

Dean, Faculty of Medicine  
Pro-dean, Faculty of Medicine  
Vice-deans, Faculty of Medicine  
One representative, University management  
Student representative, Medical Students' Association

##### **Region Skåne**

Director of research  
Two representatives, SUS  
One representative, Sund  
One representative, Kryh  
One representative, Medical Service



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## Drafting groups

The drafting groups are the education drafting group and the research drafting group. Notes are to be taken at meetings and added to the documentation submitted to the ALF management group. The groups have the following remits and composition:

- **Education drafting group**

The group is responsible for drafting overall education matters within the courses and programmes covered by the ALF agreement, primarily medical education. Education matters processed in the drafting group are to be of common interest for the Parties based on the regional ALF agreement.

### *Composition*

#### **Lund University**

Vice-dean, responsible for education, Faculty of Medicine  
Programme director, medical degree programme, Faculty of Medicine  
Chair NBMFU, Faculty of Medicine  
Education financial officer, Faculty of Medicine  
Student representative, Medical Students' Association

#### **Region Skåne**

Director of research  
Director of medical education, SUS  
Director of medical education, Sund  
R&D financial officer, SUS

- **Research drafting group**

The group is responsible for drafting matters relating to ALF funding for research. This relates to the setting up of prioritisation groups, application procedures and the production of the annual financing plan. In addition, the research drafting group processes operative matters within the framework of the annually drawn up financing plan.

### *Composition*

#### **Lund University**

Vice-dean, responsible for ALF matters, Faculty of Medicine  
Head of finance, Faculty of Medicine  
ALF financial officer, Faculty of Medicine

#### **Region Skåne**

Director of research  
ALF officer  
R&D financial officer, SUS

Other overall structures for collaboration between the Parties regarding medical research, education and development.

## **LUMARS**

LUMARS is a collaboration body within the healthcare area between Region Skåne, Lund University, Malmö University and Kristianstad University. As the highest joint body, LUMARS is ultimately to



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reach a consensus on unresolved ALF matters, after which the vice-chancellor and regional director make a decision. The chair of LUMARS is to alternate annually between the vice-chancellor of Lund University and the regional director of Region Skåne.

### ***Composition***

#### **Lund University**

Vice-Chancellor  
Dean, Faculty of Medicine  
Pro-dean, Faculty of Medicine  
Representative, University  
management  
Vice-Chancellor, Malmö University  
Head of faculty office, Faculty of  
Medicine

#### **Region Skåne**

Regional director  
Director of research  
Director of research SUS  
Business manager  
HR director

### **Framework agreement for clinical training (VFU)**

There is a special framework agreement between Lund University, Malmö University, Kristianstad University and Region Skåne. This regulates the management of clinical training (VFU) for so-called medium-term nursing education. A special group has been formed to handle matters relating to this.

### ***Composition***

HR director, Region Skåne  
HR, talent management, Region Skåne  
Dean/head of department, Faculty of Medicine, Lund  
University  
Head of department, Department of Psychology, Faculty of Social Sciences, Lund University  
Head of department, School of Social Work, Faculty of Social Sciences, Lund University  
Dean, Faculty of Health and Society, Malmö University  
Deputy vice-chancellor, Kristianstad University

## Infrastructure

Between the Parties there is well developed collaboration regarding infrastructure that is important for medical research, education and development. This includes biobanks, IT, library resources and premises. In some cases, collaboration is regulated by agreement, e.g. biobanks, whereas collaboration in other cases is regulated by a joint assignment by the Parties to a group with a specific task to solve.