

REVITALISING AN OLD IMPORTANT FRIEND: NORWEGIAN FORUM FOR HOSPITAL INFECTION CONTROL

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Background

The Norwegian Forum for hospital infection control (Forum) is an independent organization associated with The Norwegian Hospital and Health Service Association (a member of International Hospital Federation). Forum was established in 1971 with its focus on prevention of health care-associated infections. The main activity of Forum has been to arrange an annual national conference. Forum has about 170 members, the majority of these are infection control nurses and doctors. Almost 50 % of members are > 50 years old, and few members have been recruited the last years. In order to counteract this development the board of Forum has started a process to revitalize the organisation.

Method

The board of Forum has copied the successful process experienced in Prevention Society (IPS), UK, since IPS has modernized their organization significantly in a strategic process involving all members. Therefore, in spring 2012 a member survey sent to all Forum members. The survey was answered by 78 members, answers were used to initialize a process of transformation. In autumn 2012 the General Assembly anchored a process giving the board the responsibility needed.

Results

During 2013 board members have prepared a strategic document including:

- **Vision**
- **Mission**
- **Three strategic aims**
- **Eight strategic objectives**

The annual national conference scheduled autumn 2013 will include a whole session that is scheduled to engage members on this strategic document and further process. Head of IPS (Julie Storr) will open this session which is scheduled October 16th 2013. Board members will lead this session.

Conclusion

The board has experienced growing engagement among all board members in this strategic process. The board is planning to use the General Assembly October 16th 2013 to anchor further process.
