

Strategy and Action Plan for Research 2024-2025

Department of Gastroenterology, Oslo University Hospital

The Department of Gastroenterology covers all main areas within gastroenterology. These include endoscopy, hepatology, pancreatology, inflammatory bowel disease, and neurogastroenterology including functional examinations. This plan applies to all these specialty areas.

1. Strengthen the focus on patient-centered clinical research

The Department of Gastroenterology will:

- Work to increase the number of clinical studies and patients included in such studies. This effort applies to both researcher-initiated and industry-funded studies.
- Prioritize clinical studies and innovation projects that are an integrated part of patient assessment and treatment.
- Involve users (representatives of patients and relatives) in all studies.
- Work to establish more clinical studies in collaboration with industry, for example in the form of industrial PhDs.
- Work towards more permanent positions that support clinical research, such as study nurses, bioengineers, and research coordinators.

2. Facilitate register-based clinical research and translational research by developing the departmental thematic quality and research registers and thematic biobanks

The Department of Gastroenterology will:

- Facilitate the establishment and further development of thematic research registers and thematic biobanks so that:
 - The department can utilize the large clinical and well-characterized patient materials available.
 - The department can conduct continuous quality and research projects on its own patient materials.
 - Researchers get the best possible access to materials and data.
 - The department becomes an attractive partner for local, national, and international research groups.

3. Targeted recruitment for research and systematic training and career follow-up of researchers

The Department of Gastroenterology will:

- Work for dynamic and visible research groups with active researchers at all levels (master's, PhD, postdoctoral) and from different professional groups (doctors, nurses, healthcare workers, clinical nutritionists).
- Ensure career guidance in research employee interviews both for researchers and clinicians (doctors and nurses) who are not currently researching.
- Facilitate combined positions (clinical/research) both during PhD programs and after completed PhDs, enabling translation of knowledge between research and clinical activities and vice versa.
- Support researcher training and good supervisory relationships.
- Support further development of researchers through postdoctoral courses, supervision courses, and courses in research leadership.
- Facilitate researchers' participation in international research programs, stays abroad, and other exchange programmes.