

# Vision, ambition, goals, and strategy for the research group at SSE

**Vision:** Our research leads to a better life with epilepsy

**Ambition:** Our research strives to be at the forefront of specialized assessment, diagnostics, and treatment of complex, therapy-resistant and rare epilepsy throughout life.

**Objectives:** We will lead, both nationally and internationally, in research on complex, therapy-resistant, and rare epilepsy across the lifespan with particular focus on:

Specialized diagnostics, investigation, and treatment of epilepsy

- Seizure type
- Epilepsy type
- Epilepsy syndromes
- Aetiology
- Differential diagnoses in epilepsy, including functional dissociative seizures
- Investigation
  - Imaging, genetics, neurophysiology, neuropsychology
- Additional difficulties, comorbidities, and quality of life
- Pharmacological and precision-guided treatment
- Epilepsy surgery
- Ketogenic diet, neuromodulation
- Special groups
  - Children, pregnant women, the elderly, patients with intellectual disabilities

## Strategy

- Research based on our specialized clinical experience and our unique patient population
- Research that contributes to ensuring a high professional level in the clinic and maintaining our cutting-edge expertise and holistic approach

- Advance research in:
  - Specialized assessment, diagnostics and treatment of epilepsy as a component of our national areas of responsibility
  - Vulnerable patient groups: children, pregnant women, and people with developmental disabilities
- Facilitate and develop research with a view to PhD students and post doctoral researchers, while maintaining senior research expertise
- Recruitment of skilled colleagues
- Build and further develop research at a high international level
- Further develop and prioritize our involvement in national and international research networks
  - EpiCare (European Reference Network for Rare and Complex Epilepsies)
  - ILAE (International League Against Epilepsy)
  - EURAP (European Registry of Antiepileptic Drugs and Pregnancy)
  - EpilepsiNett (national)
  - NorEpiNett (Nordic countries)
- Build up relevant research support
  - Study coordinator with research expertise
  - Statistical support to cover the needs of the entire research group
  - Integration of clinical activities into research
  - Employ more specialists
  - Provide the opportunity for senior researchers to focus time and efforts on specific projects when necessary