

Committee/Subcommittee on Nomenclature, Properties and Units (C-SC-NPU)

Draft minutes for the Committee meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark, April 26. - 27. 2015

Venue

Statens Serum Institut - Artillerivej 5 – DK-2300 Copenhagen S, Denmark, Building 207, room 207-301A

- Saturday April 25 2015 – Committee meeting 9:00 to 17:00
- Sunday April 26 2015 – Committee meeting 9:00 to 13:00
- Sunday April 26 2015 – Project WG meetings 13.00 to 17.00

1. Participants

- David Armbruster (DA)
- Urban Forsum (UF)
- Helle Møller Johannessen (HMJ)
- Gunnar Nordin (GN)
- Ulla Magdal Petersen, Secretary (UMP)
- Karin Toska (KT)
- Robert Flatman, Chair (via Skype) (RF)
- Daniel Karlsson (Sunday, partly via Skype) (DK)

Apologies from:

- Xavier Fuentes-Arderiu
- René Dybkær
- Florian Scherrer

Karin Toska was welcomed as newly appointed Titular member.

2.

The agenda was approved

3.

Minutes from last meeting, Istanbul 2014, were approved.

4. Members and corresponding members of the C-NPU 2015

Titular members

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| • R. Flatman Chair AU | 2nd 2015 01 - 2017 12 |
| • U. Forsum Member SE | 2nd 2014 01 - 2016 12 |
| • A. Jabor Member CZ | 1st 2013 03 - 2015 12 |
| • F. Scherrer Member FR | 1st 2015 02 - 2017 12 |

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- K. Toska Member NO 1st 2015 02 - 2017 12
- R. Dybkaer Consultant DK

Working group on the Silver Book revision

- G. Féraud Chair FR
- R. Dybkaer Member DK
- X. Fuentes-Arderiu Member ES
- D. Kang Member JP
- C. McDonald Member US
- G. Hill Expert Corresponding Member CA

Members elected via IUPAC projects

Members of current IUPAC projects initiated by the C-SC-NPU are all Elected Members of the IUPAC subcommittee, with RF serving as Chair and UMP as Secretary. Members Elected via current IUPAC projects are:

2001-070-1-700 (Properties and units for urinary calculi)

- Gunnar Nordin (chair)
- Pedro de Araujo
- René Dybkaer
- Urban Forsum
- Antonin Jabor
- Wolf Külpmann

2006-008-1-700 (Mapping of IFCC-IUPAC laboratory coding system to SNOMED CT)

- Ulla Magdal Petersen (chair)
- Ivan Bruunshuus
- Urban Forsum
- Daniel Karlsson
- Gunnar Nordin

2010-035-3-700 (Establishing definitions for non-referenced terms in the NPU terminology)

- Helle Møller Johannessen (chair)
- Ivan Bruunshuus
- Robert Flatman
- Urban Forsum
- Ulla Magdal Petersen
- Gunnar Nordin

2013-009-5-700 (Properties and units in clinical molecular biology and genetics – supplement)

- Ulla Magdal Petersen (chair)
- Johan den Dunnen
- Xavier Fuentes-Arderiu
- Ariadna Padró i Miquel
- Jens Michael Hertz

2014-017-1-700 (Piloting SCT mapping)

- Daniel Karlsson (chair)
- Robert Flatman
- Urban Forsum

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- Ulla Magdal Petersen
- Helle Møller Johannessen

2004-023-1-700 Internationally agreed terminology for observations in scientific communication (VIN)
Gunnar Nordin (chair)

- René Dybkær
- Urban Forsum
- Xavier Fuentes-Arderiu
- Gunther Schadow

Corresponding members

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Gilbert Hill Canada | Society of Clinical Chemistry (CSCC) |
| • Ulla M. Petersen Denmark | Society of Clinical Biochemistry (DSKB) |
| • Aracelis Germán | Colegio Dominicano de Bionistas (CODOBIO) |
| • Alessandro Marocchi Italy
(SIBioC) | Society of Clinical Chemistry and Clinical Molecular Biology |
| • Masayuki Totani Japan | Society of Clinical Chemistry (JSCC) |
| • Dalius Vitkus Lithuania | Lithuanian Society of Laboratory Medicine |
| • Nada Majkic-Singh Serbia | Society of Medical Biochemists of Serbia (DMBS) |
| • Ariadna Padró-Miquel Spain
Molecular (SEQC) | Sociedad Española de Bioquímica Clínica y Patología |
| • Arden Forrey U.S. | American Association for Clinical Chemistry (AACC) |
| • Dave Armbruster | Corporate Member - ABBOTT Diagnostics |

5. Budget for the meeting

All participants have adequate funding. 2 older IUPAC projects on mapping (2009-005-1-700, and 2013-009-5-700, chaired by UF and UMP) still have resources left - they should be used in connection with meetings this year.

6. Date and place for next meetings

UMP will try to set up a meeting for those who can manage, in Paris in connection with the EuroMedLab conference in Paris 21.-25. June 2015, preferably on Saturday 20. or Sunday 21. This might enable us to meet the new C-NPU Titular Member Florian Scherrer.

The IUPAC General Assembly this year will be 9.-14. August 2015 in Bousan, Korea; HMJ will participate, but there will be no C-NPU meeting.

UF and DK will arrange a C-NPU meeting in Linköping in the fall of 2015.

For 2016 the Scandinavian Conference of Health Informatics planned for Gothenburg was suggested as the venue.

7. Report from members (short items not on the agenda)

(Some items not discussed at this point of the meeting are collected here for reasons of readability).

GN is a member of the JCGM WG 2 for VIM, 4th edition.

KT suggested that all National Release Centers have representatives in the NPU Steering Committee

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8 Report from the NPU Steering Committee

HMJ reported from work in the NPU Steering Committee. Design and development of the international website-to-be at npu-terminology.org is ongoing.

9. Should we nominate one or more IUPAC Div. VII titular members besides HMJ?

Yes! More Titular Members in IUPAC Division VII will help communicate knowledge on the NPU work in IUPAC context. UMP to circulate a call for potential nominees to members of all IUPAC project groups. The call should stress that TMs are supposed to participate actively in IUPAC GAs and Div.VII committee work, which means international travelling, and should encourage response from members with an interest in metrology, terminology, international standardization and medical knowledge.

10. IUPAC project 2004-023-1-700 (VIN)

GN reported on the project 'Vocabulary for nominal properties and nominal examinations — basic and general concepts and associated terms. The document is near to finalizing, but there is still need for more work.

11. Silver Book Revision

Georges Férard had reported via email that IUPAC has agreed to publish Silver Book version 2. Publication will be both as a printed book version and an electronic version. The electronic version can be accessed against payment.

12. IUPAC project 2010-035-2-700 (Definitions)

HMJ reported on the definition project for non-referenced terms. 1500 terms have been through a first definition process, and a set of guidelines established. 1300 terms remain unprocessed.

13. IUPAC project 2013-009-5-700 (Molecular genetics)

UMP reported on the project on Molecular Genetics. Meetings are usually via Skype. Some decisions have already been made and implemented in the NPU terminology, but the field is very large and the main part is still under consideration. GN suggested extending the WG with a Swedish participant.

14. Use of the Norwegian laboratory code system

KT reported on the history and development of the Norwegian Laboratory Coding System, which is largely based on the NPU terminology, but with a considerable Norwegian extension. Like in Sweden, only codes authorized for use in Norway are released. The international NPU definitions are not translated into Norwegian, but are published in English and supplemented with Norwegian 'use terms'. Besides being used in electronic communication, public reimbursement of laboratories is expected to be based on the laboratory codes.

15. Cooperation with industry on international standardization on properties and units.

DA reported on the use of units and nomenclature in the U.S. in general in automated lab instruments - harmonization of nomenclature, synonyms and units, and of terms for methods would be useful. CNPU participation in a symposium on nomenclature and units at the AACC conference in Philadelphia in September 2016 was discussed. DA will contact C-NPU when the 2016 conference is closer to the planning stage.

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16. Advancing of the C-NPU work

The NPU terminology is in use in many branches of laboratory medicine - but is owned and supported by organizations mainly concerned with chemistry. Can we attract/appoint active members from other laboratory fields, or from the industry? Corresponding members must be appointed by the national IFCC member organizations - can they appoint more than one? IFCC has been supportive via both website and newsletter, and C-NPU could perhaps use it more.

17. Plans for revision of the present NPU database. What do we want/need?

The Present database was built in 2008 - and soon will need to be revised/replaced. The data model needs adjustment, and the user access should be modernized. UMP asks for some ideas of future need before we start a large project. Project plans should be reported to SC. Some suggestions:

- Better information access - more ways to search, based on e.g. clinical information
- Think education - more info on why the NPU terminology 'looks like that'
- Adapt the website to mobile phone use
- Publish all national versions with their national extensions
- Ability to exchange/import/export alle data between National Release Centers

Work should be coordinated between NPU users - A new database may shortly be needed in Sweden - and perhaps Norway. UMP will send the present information model to KT. DA suggested that as different terminologies map or merge, there may be only one lab terminology left in ten years - so why do we need a new database? All members are asked to send their notions, needs and use cases to UMP.

UMP will send the collection of Danish/English synonyms and Danish 'Short names' in the Danish database to Daniel.

18. IUPAC project 2014-017-1-700 (Piloting NPU-SNOMED CT mapping)

DK gave a short report on the project. Minor investigations have been performed, but there are no conclusive answers yet. IT-support will be needed, and funding is being sought from the Swedish government.

19. Older SNOMED CT mapping projects

UMP: There is still some funding left in two older IUPAC projects in this field: 2006-008-1-700 (UMP) and 2009-005-1-700 (UF). It is suggested that they be used for reimbursement for members at meetings this year.

20. Terminology issues

- Some microbiology users in Denmark and Sweden routinely use NPU-codes without specified system (they are intended only for rare systems). Information on sample material (not system) is placed elsewhere in the (text) reports. It was agreed that this practise should be discouraged. But that there is a need for procedural information on sampling and sample material in reports. There is today no international agreement on information content of orders and reports, but in cases like this the C-NPU will advise the NRCs, who in their turn should advise their users, on best practise on actual NPU use. C-NPU members may contact individual laboratories on this.
- The unit % goes against the general rule of steps of a factor 1000 between units, and extended use will prevent use of the European standard EN12435. % as a unit is to be

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reserved for special cases, e.g. where an IFCC recommendation demands % as unit. UMP and GN continue as arbiters.

- Definitions of entitic as a modifier to kinds-of-property, and/or establishment of the concept ‘entitic property’ is suggested from the genetics project. UMP to circulate examples and use cases.
- Names of microorganisms are agreed by the scientific communities, and there is not necessarily any ‘right’ name. But the NPU terminology may adhere to stable collections of names, recommended by the CNPU, e.g. ICTV for virus, rather than querying all scientific communities.
- Broader specialist support is needed, as the NPU terminology expands its use to more fields of clinical laboratory science. ‘All-round experts’ are not sufficient.
- The concept and term taxon was discussed - there may be two different concepts involved: a formal biological hiarchical nomenclature, and the more general concept of ‘category’, involving types of various kinds - blood groups, immunoglobulins, drugs, etc. No decision was made on the term(s) to use. If the value set of a ‘category’ is not clear, it may be named or included as a specification in the NPU definition
 - NPU26941 Cell membrane(Trcs)—Antibody; taxon(IgA; IgG; IgM) = ?

21. Suggestions for new projects

The microbiology and immunology fields both need revision.

KT offered to manage a revision project on Microbiology (first described in Part VIII. Properties and units in clinical microbiology (Technical Report 1999)), with suggestions on how to manage needed ‘non-NPU information’ in laboratory communication in the field. DK will share documents on ‘susceptibility examinations’ from the SNOMED CT/LOINC mapping of the 1990’s

A new project on translation on the NPU terminology into more languages was discussed.. UMP will search for earlier C-NPU work in the field and circulate it.

22. Items left from the Istanbul meeting 2014

- NPU on Wikipedia (RF) - a draft (in the ‘[sandbox](#)’ for experimenting) exists, and all are invited to add corrections etc.
But it is not available as a regular Wikipedia entry. It still needs to be [established as a real article](#).
- Project on Urinary Calculi (2001-070-1-700) (GN). KT suggests and will contact new participants who may contribute to a finalizing or rewrite.

23. Miscellany

UF reported from work in ISO/IEC TC215 on “Quantities and units in e-health - ISO/IEC 80003” dealing with quantities in chemistry, physics and biology, to be communicated between medical devices. It did not appear to be coordinated with earlier metrological work.

24.

The meeting closed Sunday 26. 2015 at 13:00. Project groups continued until 17:00.

/UMP

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