**I would hereby like to nominate the below-mentioned journalist-team to the Cavling Prize.**

**Journalists:** Jonatan Placing, Amalie Thorlund Jepsen, Astrid Fischer and Asger Mow.

**Project:** Sædskandalen, DR

I have been in contact with the journalist team during their work with the *TP53*-sperm donor Kjeld/7069 and have, as a medical doctor in the filed of oncogenetics, experienced the power of a serious and thorough journalism.

Inherited TP53 is associated with a nearly 100% cancer risk and 30% develop cancer during childhood. The remarkable effort made by the journalist-team has played crucial role in enabling us within the health care sector to identify and establish contact with the affected families. We were thus able to test the donor children and offer individuals at risk life-saving surveillance.

*At a national level,* their reporting has put a pressure on the Danish authorities and has forced them to become more transparent regarding the matter. And has increased the cooperation between Denmark and the National Board of Health and Welfare (Socialstyrelsen) in Sweden, helping the Health Care Providers to estimate the number of affected children in Sweden.

The journalist-team also, in an exemplary manner, collaborated with Swedish journalists at SVT to broadcast a report with the aim to identify more affected families, when it became clear that several affected children had not been in contact with the Swedish health care providers. Thanks to that effort we were able to - in real time - identify affected children.

*At an international level*, the journalist-team´s collaboration with researchers and doctors across Europe (within the ERN GENTURIS network) has contributed to an understanding of the extent of sperm distribution from donor Kjeld/7069, and to identify donor children with cancer in the different countries. This has made it possible for the research community to characterize the risk for different cancers (brain tumors, skeletal cancer, leukemia etc), and

for the medical community to design surveillance strategies to prevent cancer in the non-affected donor children.

I would like to emphasize that the contribution by the journalist-team has significantly accelerated our research results and the implementation of clinical intervention. Thus, their contributions have surely saved lives!

With the hope that you may consider awarding J*onatan Placing, Amalie Thorlund Jepsen, Astrid Fischer* and *Asger* Mow the Cavling Prize.

Sincerely,

*Svetlana Bajalica Lagercrantz | MSc, MD, PhD*

*Överläkare, Professor | Senior Consultant, Professor in Hereditary Cancer*

*Dept Clinical Genetics | Dept Oncology-Pathology*

*Karolinska University Hospital*

*National Coordinator ERN GENTURIS*