



Evaluation of a Funder-Driven Registered Report Initiative

Munin Conference on Scholarly Publishing 2025

Research Advisor/Researcher

Sigrid Hegna Ingvaldsen, PhD



FOUNDATION DAM

D= participation

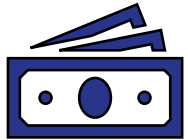
M= empowerment

A= activity



Founded
1993

First call
1996



7 billion NOK



15 000 projects

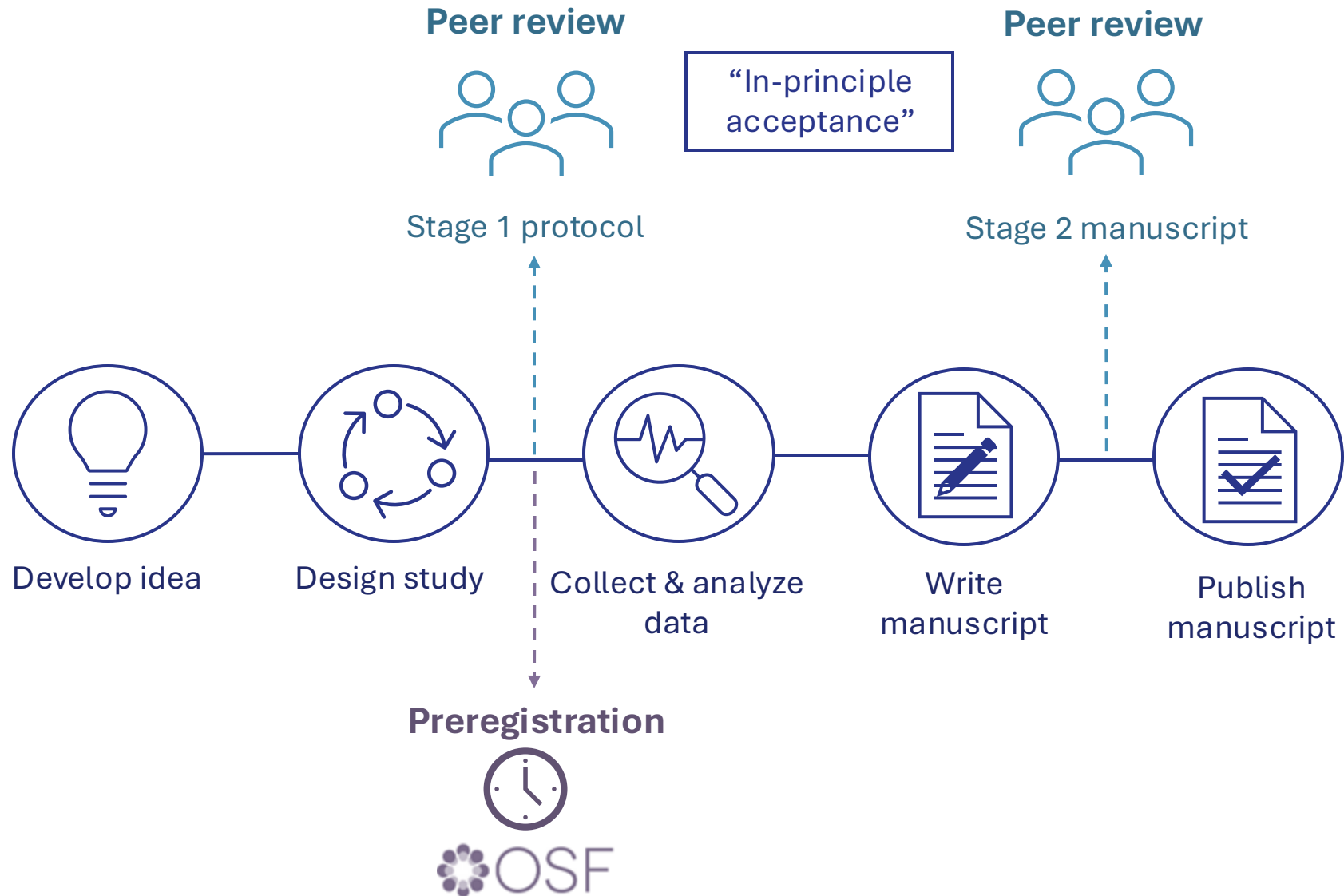


2.3 billion NOK

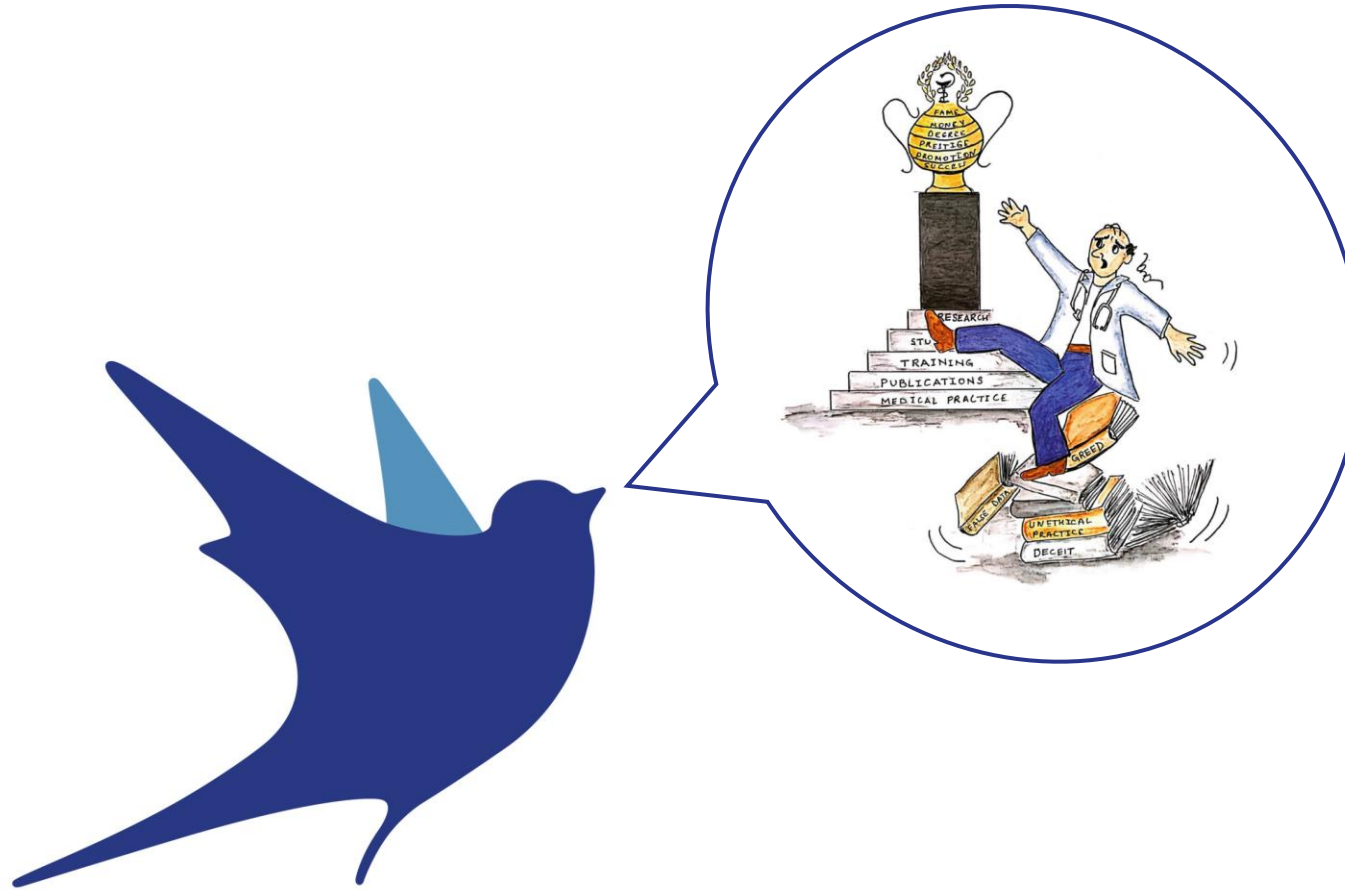
1500 projects

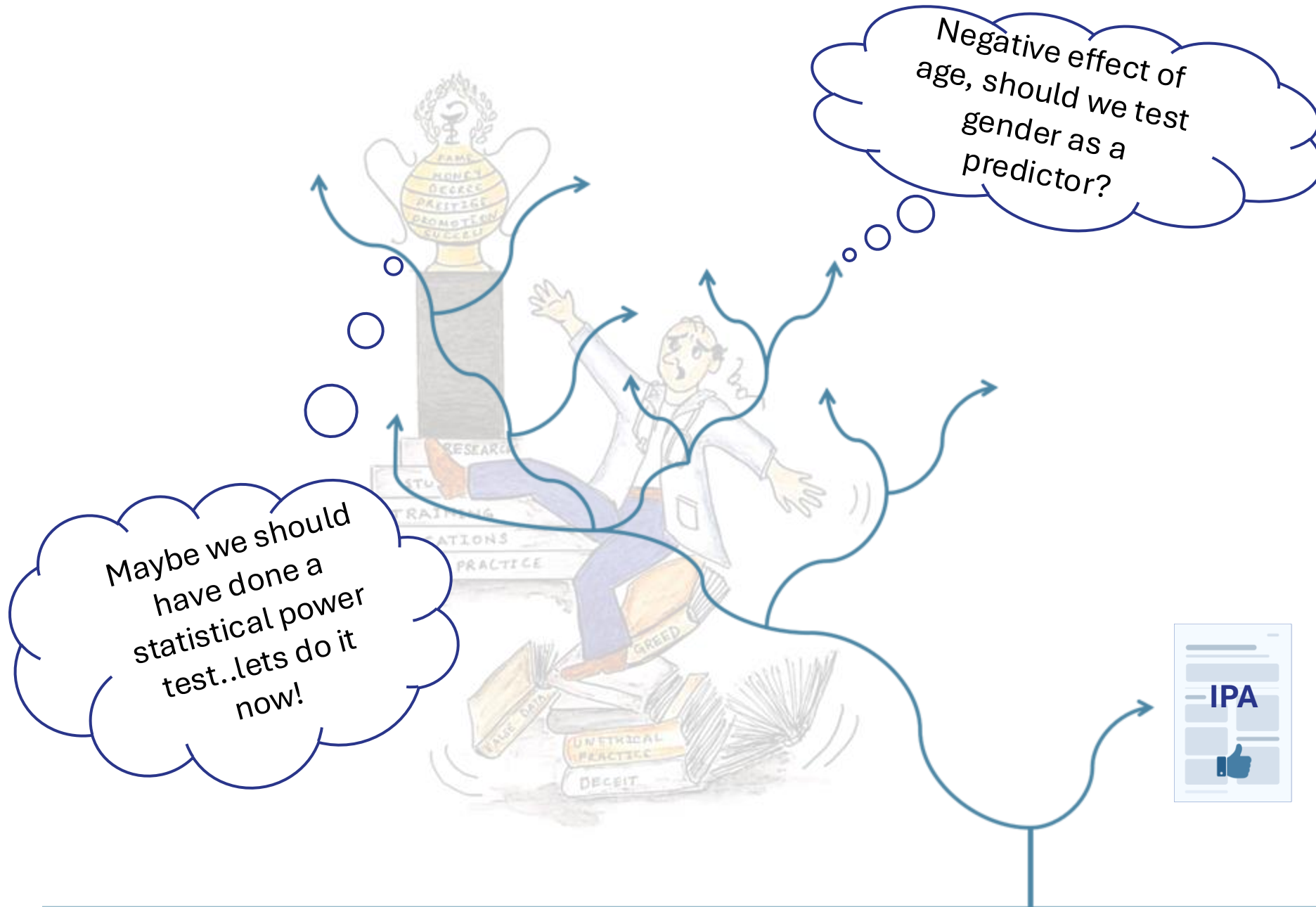


What is a registered report?



WHY REGISTERED REPORT?





The large space for changes can cause **research bias**

RR format leaves little space for changes

REGISTERED REPORT MODEL AT FOUNDATION DAM



Two-year initiative



Application process

Applicants can choose between the standard application (SA; two-step process) or the registered report application (RR; pre-proposal)

41 applications and **7 granted projects** in 2024

102 applications and **17 granted projects** in 2025



Requirements RR projects

Must commit to publishing all papers from the project as RRs

Must submit the first Stage 1 protocol within five months



Incentive for selecting the RR format

Approximately double the chances of receiving a research grant

Granted projects receive 150,000 NOK to write the Stage 1 protocol

Evaluation



Evaluation will be published as RRs

Paper I: Compare characteristics of projects opting for RR versus SA and assess whether RR applications receive higher expert scores for research quality than SA

Paper II: Explore why applicants choose to publish their research as RRs or not as RR, and gain insight into PIs' thoughts on RR in the scientific field



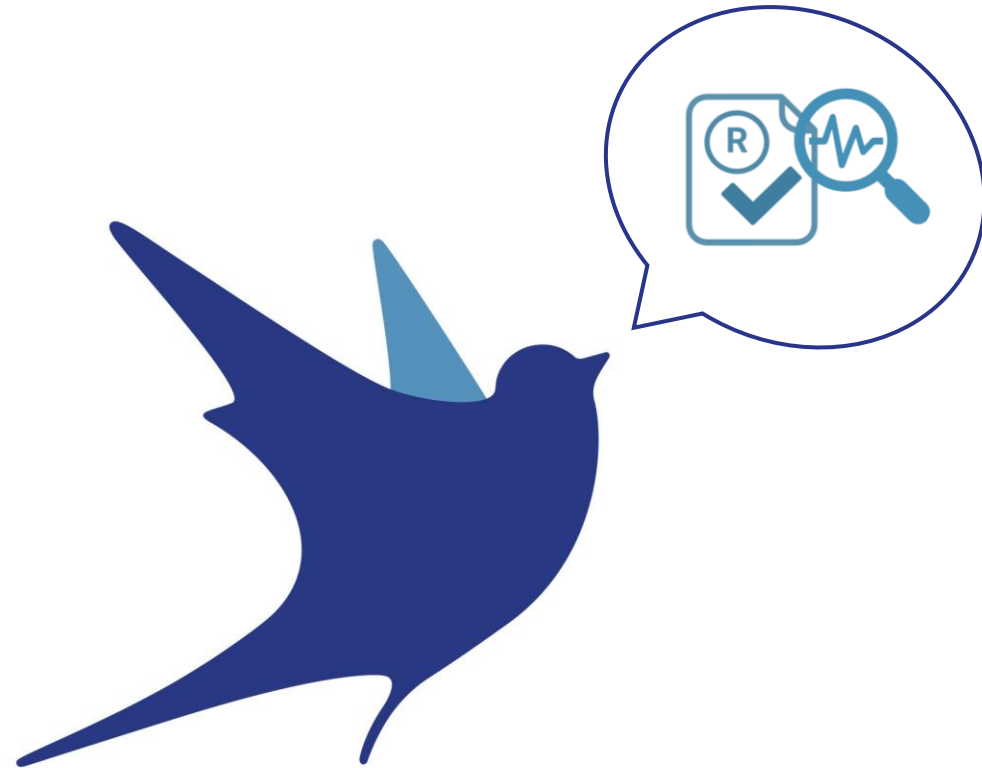
Data collection

Application data from 2023, 2024, and 2025

Questionnaires regarding project progress, peer review process in the chosen journal, and experience with writing the Stage 1 protocol

Interviews with **17 PIs** who received a grant for an RR project and **10 PIs** who received a grant for an SA project

PRELIMINARY RESULTS



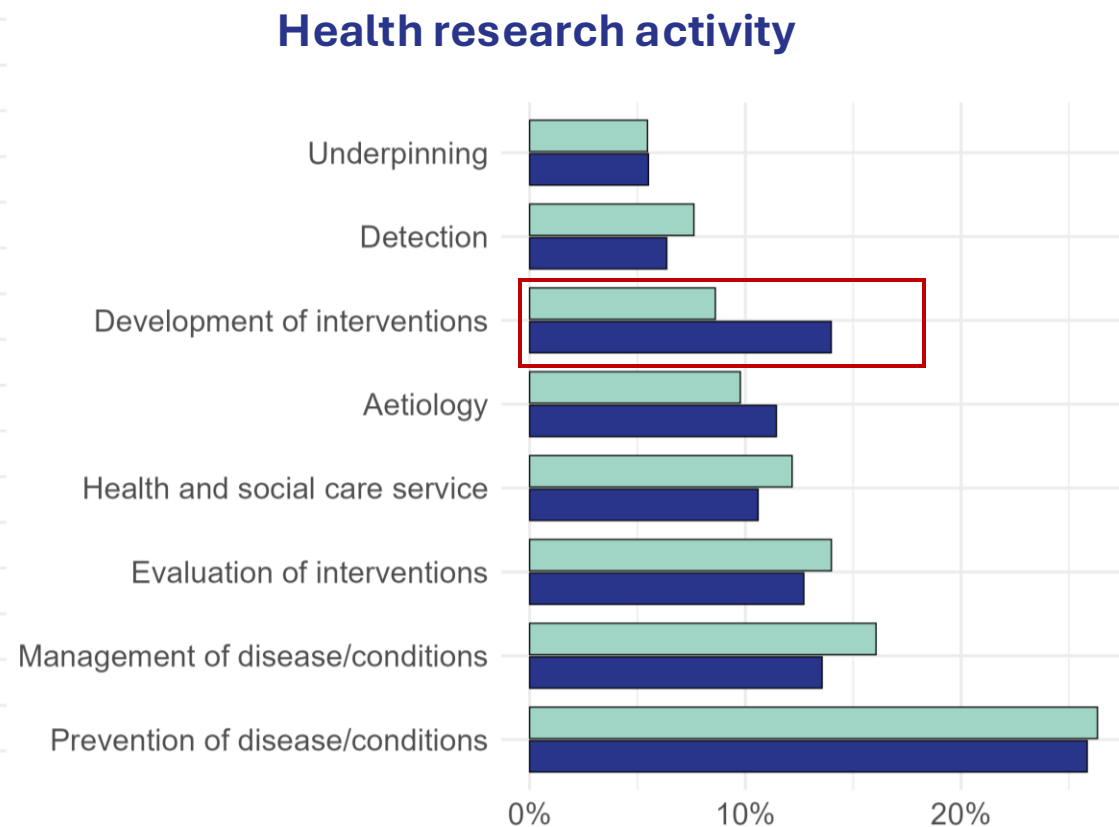
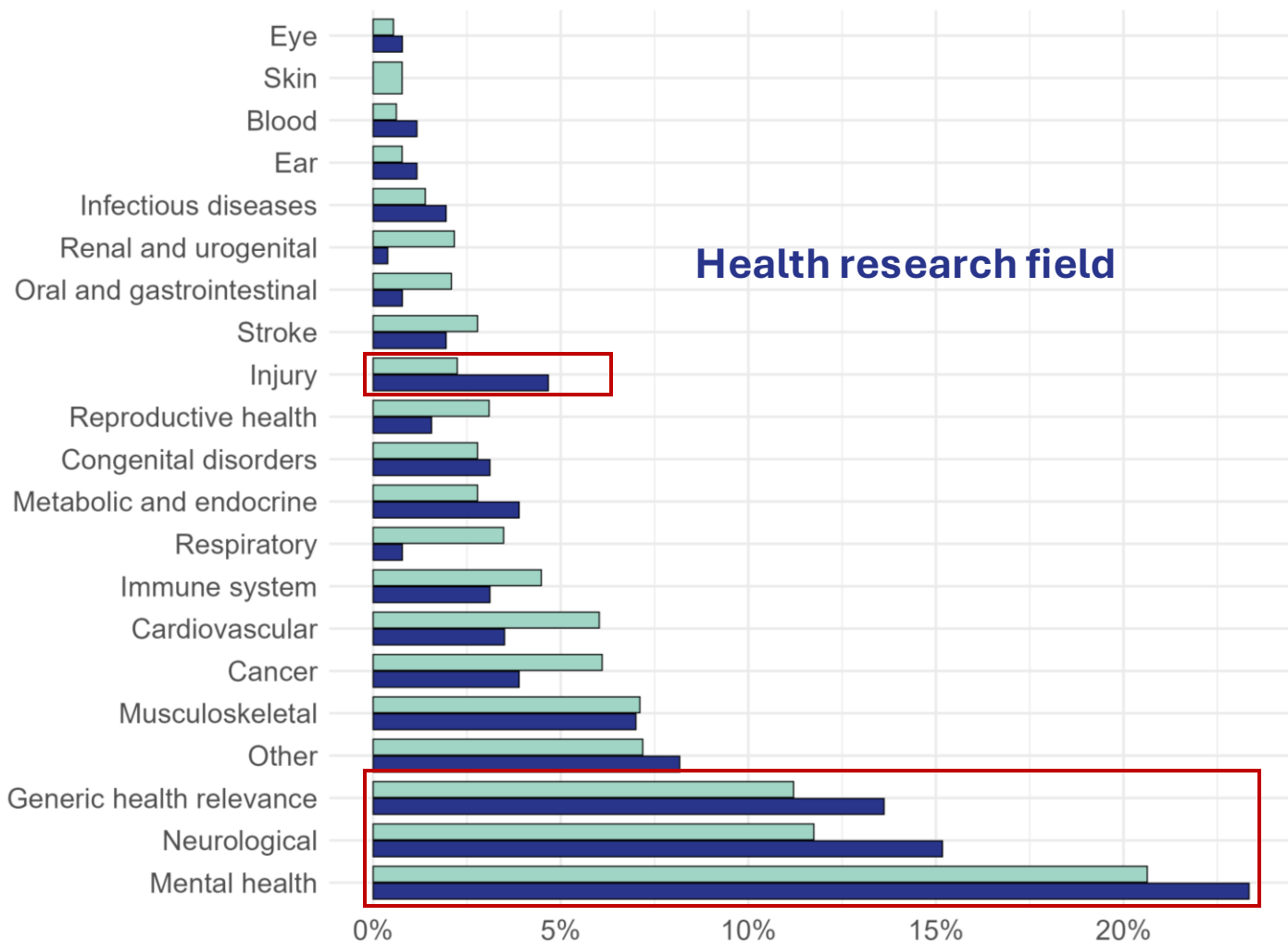
Research questions

- ① Do the projects that apply for the RR format differ from SA in terms of their health research field and method characteristics?
- ② Preliminary findings on benefits and challenges with the RR model

1

Do the projects that apply for the RR format differ from SA in terms of their health research field?

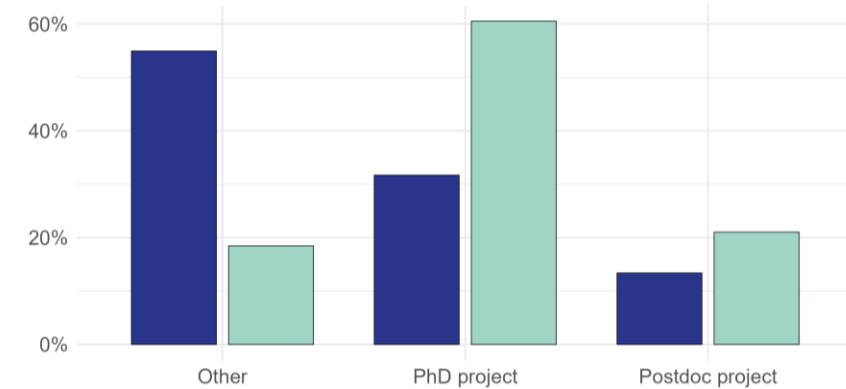
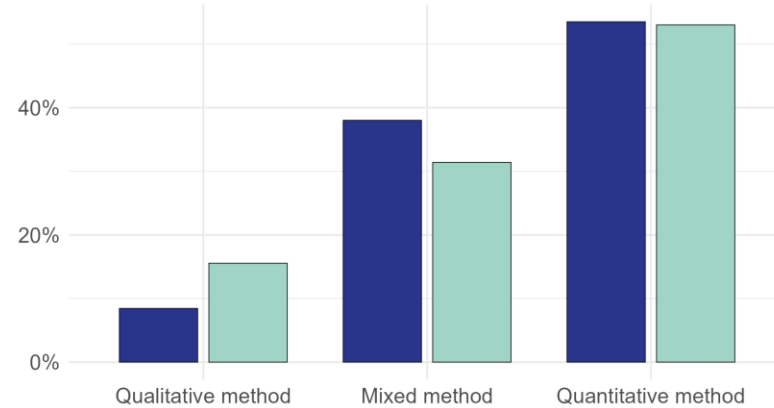
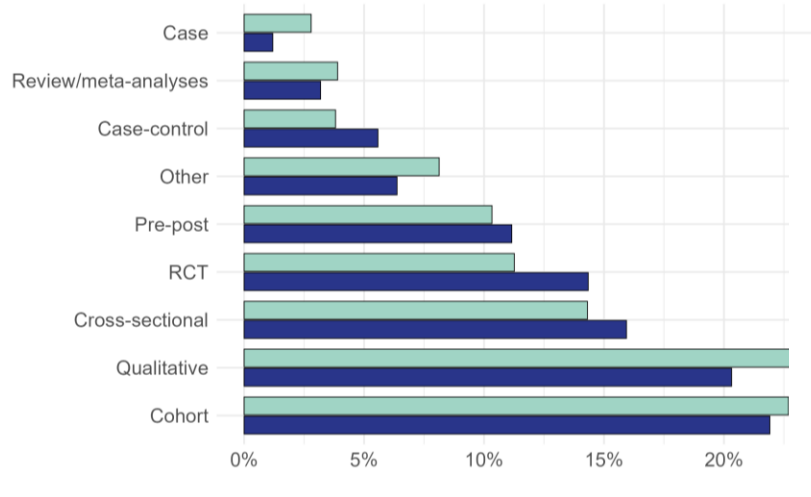
Application group RR SA



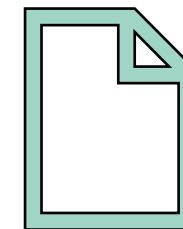
1

Do the projects that apply for the RR format differ from SA in terms of their research method/study design?

Application group RR SA



Projects that will result in one paper
Quantitative data or mixed method approach
RCT and case-control studies



PhD and postdoc projects
Quantitative data or qualitative data
Cohort and cross-sectional studies



2

Preliminary findings on benefits and challenges with the RR model



Benefits

- The extra grant of 150,000 NOK is used to free up resources for protocol writing
- The project is planned more thoroughly at an earlier stage
- The review process (depending on the journal) is more cooperative
- Opportunity to make project changes during a critical early phase in the research project is very valuable
- Greater predictability in the final publication process

Challenges

- Not all journals accept studies with qualitative research methods
- Bigger workload in the beginning of the project
- Limited number of journals to choose from
- Limited knowledge about the registered report format among researchers and reviewers
- Unknown PhD candidates cannot participate in writing the first Stage 1 protocol

Which research projects are suitable?



- ✓ Projects with clearly defined research questions and a specified approach to exploration and data analysis
- ✓ Projects with a theoretical or empirical framework for the research question and reflections on how the results may be interpreted

FAQ about registered report and information about applying through Dam:

<https://www.dam.no/rr/>



Preregistration versus registered report (NORRN):

<https://www.dam.no/osf/>

