

Translated press release from the Ministry of Health and Care Services:

[Regjeringen.no](https://www.regjeringen.no) [Trygve Ottersen blir ny direktør for Direktoratet for medisinske produkt - regjeringen.no](https://www.regjeringen.no)

Trygve Ottersen appointed as new Director of the Norwegian Medical Products Agency

Trygve Ottersen (41) was 27. September appointed as the new Director of the Norwegian Medical Products Agency (NOMA). Ottersen took on the role of acting Deputy Director of NOMA in June this year.

Between 2021 and 2024, he was the Area Director for Infection Control at the Norwegian Institute of Public Health.

– "I look forward to leading the agency with many new tasks and an even more important societal mission. It is a demanding, but very meaningful responsibility," says Ottersen.

– "I would like to congratulate Ottersen on securing one of the most exciting roles in Norway's healthcare system. He has distinguished himself as an authority in infection control and preparedness. I look forward to collaborating with him and NOMA in the future," says Minister of Health and Care Services Jan Christian Vestre.

Background from The Norwegian Institute of Public Health

Ottersen has a background from the Norwegian Institute of Public Health, where he began as a researcher in 2014 before taking on the role of Area Director for Health Services in 2017.

Ottersen is a physician with a PhD and has held several international roles, including with the UN Special Envoy for Ebola. Furthermore, he was a researcher at the University of Bergen from 2012 to 2016 and Associate Professor at the University of Oslo from February 2016.

Taking over a new, yet old agency*

NOMA was established on 1 January 2024 but is a continuation of the Norwegian Medicines Agency, which dates back to 1974. Additionally, from the start of the year, NOMA took over responsibility for blood, cells, and tissues from the Norwegian Directorate of Health, and health technology assessments of medical devices and vaccines, as well as the procurement of vaccines from the Norwegian Institute of Public Health. Furthermore, the agency has been given a clearer and broader mandate concerning supply security and preparedness.

– "The months I have spent in the agency so far have only strengthened my desire to contribute to its further development. The expertise and commitment from everyone here give me great confidence that we will succeed with the new, expanded mandate," says Ottersen.

– "The field is evolving rapidly, and the next few years will be particularly crucial. We are going to develop the agency, help Norway face significant challenges, and seize the opportunities available. We will be a driving force for better supply security and preparedness, sustainability in the healthcare system, and European collaboration," he concludes.