Professor Jón Karlsson receives the Nordic Medicine Award 2015

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Professor Jón Karlsson was recently awarded the Nordic Medicine Award (“Nordiska Medicinpriset”) 2015 for his research and achievements in sports medicine and physical activity. The award was shared by four outstanding scientists in this field: Lars Engebretsen from the University of Oslo, Roald Bahr from the Norwegian School of Sport Sciences, Michael Kjær from the University of Copenhagen and Jón Karlsson from the University of Gothenburg.

Prince Daniel of Sweden awards the Nordic Medicine Award to Professor Jón Karlsson. Photograph: Lars Nyman © 2015

The Nordic Medicine Award is one of the most prestigious awards in medicine in Scandinavia, and it is awarded every year to one or several researchers for outstanding scientific achievement. The prize money is 1 million Swedish Kronor, and it is handed out by the Foundation for the Nordic Medicine Award for particularly eminent research contributions in areas regarding people's health and illness. The foundation has its roots from 1979, and the award has been given since 1998. The prize laureates are chosen through an extensive nomination procedure in which 16 Nordic medical faculties are invited to propose any individual for the award. The nomination committee consists of internationally renowned scientists and doctors in the current research areas. The research areas for the award are: cardiology, psychiatry, orthopaedic surgery, odontology and immunology.

The motivation for all the prize laureates was:

For their internationally leading research that has created a scientifically based knowledge on the sig-

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nificance of physical activity for people's health, and scientifically based knowledge regarding measures concerning prevention and treatment of sports related injuries.

The individual motivation for Jón Karlsson was:

Jón Karlsson is appointed laureate for his fundamental research on ligament injuries in the ankle and knee joint, in which he has raised the level in clinical research in orthopedic surgery and sports medicine through a large number of well-made prospective randomized controlled trials. He has thus created a significant and clinically relevant evidence-based knowledge, in which both sports physicians and patients can utilize in the decision making in treatment of sports-related injuries.

With several hundred peer-reviewed studies including an unmatched number of randomized controlled trials in sports injuries and more than 30 books, the award did not come as

surprise for those who know Prof. Karlsson and are familiar with his work. His enthusiastic and engaging manner in all that is research is also well renowned in the community. As well as his gentle and humble manners. We have seldom met such a generous and welcoming person both at a professional and personal level, who gives so much to so many without ever asking for anything in return.

The award ceremony was held on 27 January 2016 in Stockholm, and Prince Daniel of Sweden, Duke of Västergötland, presented the award to each laureate. Prof. Karlsson gave a speech on "Evidence-based knowledge on ligament injuries in the ankle and the knee that can be used in the decisions about treatment". Several distinguished researchers and doctors attended the event to celebrate the prize winners, among them Prof. Karim Khan, Editor-in-Chief of British Journal of Sports Medicine.

The entire KSSTA board would like to congratulate our dear editor on a very well deserved award and wish him all the success in the future!