

Nordic Health Webinar:

The Future Primary Healthcare System

17 november 2020

Introduction

In 2020, the Kingdom of Denmark holds the Presidency of the Nordic Council of Ministers. The main priority for the Danish Presidency is *Working Together on Solutions for the Future*. On Tuesday, 17 November 2020, the Danish Health Authority, in collaboration with the Danish Ministry of Health and supported by the Nordic Council of Ministers, will host a webinar on the future of the primary healthcare systems in the Nordic countries. As the primary healthcare system has a pivotal role in solving some of the structural challenges our healthcare systems currently face, the primary purpose of the webinar is to look at the development of the primary healthcare systems in the Nordic countries. Therefore, the main context of the webinar is organisation and structures in the primary healthcare system and a productive debate on ways in which to develop and strengthen it.

The Danish Center for Social Science Research will publish a report, which will form the basis of the webinar. The report, which is the first of its kind, presents the results of a comparative analysis of the primary healthcare systems in the Nordic countries. The report focuses on fundamental challenges in terms of demography, changes in hospitals, and an altered pattern of disease and recruitment when providing primary healthcare across the Nordic countries. Furthermore, the report contains a description of the ways of organising primary healthcare and new trends in primary healthcare systems.

The common core of the Nordic countries instigates the concept of *the Nordic model* and *the Nordic healthcare system*. Although the Nordic healthcare systems are considered well performing, our countries are currently faced with challenges in delivering primary healthcare to our populations. There is an overlap of some of these challenges between our countries, and experiences from other countries can be both valuable and instrumental in solving some of our current challenges. The goal of the webinar is therefore to create a platform and inspirational forum for the exchange of new ideas and solutions for the healthcare systems.

The report from the Danish Center for Social Science Research will be presented at the webinar. To facilitate a discussion, we have invited international fellow health professionals to give their perspective on the designs of and future solutions for the primary healthcare systems in the Nordic Region. The Director General of the Danish Health Authority Søren Brostrøm will deliver the keynote address at the webinar.

Programme

11.30-11.40 **Welcome and keynote address**

Søren Brostrøm, Director General, Danish Health Authority

11.40-11.45 **Introduction to the theme and purpose of the webinar**

Moderator Lene Johansen

11.45-12.10 **Presentation of the challenges facing primary healthcare across the countries with a focus on demography, changes in hospitals, and an altered pattern of disease and recruitment**

Betina Højgaard, Project Director, Danish Center for Social Science Research

12.10-12.30 **Challenges facing primary healthcare, put into perspective with examples from Nordic countries**

Petra Zetterberg Ferngren, Senior Adviser, Division for Public Health and Health Care, Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, Sweden

Petter Øgar, Director General, Department of Primary Health Care, Ministry of Health, Norway

12.30-12.40 **Break**

12.40-13.40 **Presentation of findings and trends from the report followed by examples from the Nordic countries of initiatives and solutions addressing the developments in primary healthcare**

Betina Højgaard, Project Director, Danish Center for Social Science Research

Christian Harsløf, Director, Local Government Denmark (KL)

Taina Mäntyranta, Medical Counsellor & Acting Director of the Steering Unit of Health Care and Social Welfare, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health Care, Finland

13.40-13.50 **Break**

13.50-14.25

Panel discussion of new trends and possible solutions to the challenges in primary healthcare in the Nordic countries

Taina Mäntyranta, Medical Counsellor & Acting Director of the Steering Unit of Health Care and Social Welfare, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health Care, Finland

Christian Harsløf, Director, Local Government Denmark (KL)

Søren Brostrøm, Director General, Danish Health Authority

Asta Valdimarsdóttir, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health, Iceland

14.25-14.30

Closing remarks

Søren Brostrøm, Director General, Danish Health Authority

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