

### **344: MEASURING HEALTHCARE PERFORMANCE FOR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT, ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY ON NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND CLINICAL UNIT LEVEL**

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#### **Objective:**

In most healthcare systems there is a lack of documentation of how major diseases are treated. The National Indicator Project in Denmark aims at documenting the quality of care for the most important diseases through monitoring using clinical indicators. Assessment data is used for quality improvement by health professionals, accountability by health administrators and politicians and for transparency by patients and citizens.

#### **Methods:**

Evidence based clinical indicators are developed by a multiprofessional national indicator panel for each disease in a structured consensus process. For each clinical indicator standards of care are derived. Before implementation of clinical indicators and standards for each disease pilot studies and validation studies are conducted. The indicators for each disease are implemented in all clinical departments nationwide treating the particular disease. Data are collected electronically from all clinical departments. Data is analysed by clinical epidemiologists including case mix adjustments. Assessment data is interpreted by the national indicator panel and by multiprofessional panels on regional level before public release of the data.

#### **Results:**

Results from nationwide indicator measurement for six diseases (stroke, heart failure, hip fracture, acute gastrointestinal surgery, lung cancer and schizophrenia) will be presented. Nationwide variations have been identified at regional level and clinical unit level. Important quality problems will be exemplified and illustrated.

#### **Conclusions:**

This project has demonstrated how indicator measurement can contribute significantly to quality improvement, accountability and transparency of healthcare performance.