

## Danish Society of Dermatology and Venereology – An Update

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The Danish Dermatological Society (Dansk Dermatologisk Selskab, DDS) has 358 members, of whom 248 are board certified specialists in dermato-venereology (as of August 25<sup>st</sup>, 2014). The present board, in office since May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014, consists of:

*President:* Eva Benfeldt, Roskilde  
*Past President:* Robert Gniadecki, Copenhagen  
*Vice president:* Rikke Skoet Cvetkovski, Hoersholm  
*Treasurer:* Jesper Elberling, Gentofte  
*Secretary:* Mette Mogensen, Copenhagen  
*Web master:* Annesofie Fauruschou, Copenhagen

### The board has the following priorities

To secure and expand the interfaces of Dermato-Venereology, where the speciality meets Medical Allergology, Plastic Surgery, Infectious Diseases, Rheumatology.

To re-design and develop the [www.dds.nu](http://www.dds.nu) web page, where all information, guidelines, surveys and voting processes are hosted.

To develop, through assigning task force Committees, relevant national guidelines for treatment of major skin diseases – the latest guidelines developed concern fungal infections, atopic dermatitis, radiation therapy of skin cancer and treatment of actinic keratoses (in immunocompetent as well as solid organ transplant patients).

Over the next year the DDS board intends to distribute a significant proportion of the capital of the DDS towards research projects conducted by Danish dermatologists, following an application round.



The Board of the Danish Dermatological Society (*from left*): Jesper Elberling (Treasurer), Robert Gniadecki (Past President), Rikke Skoet Cvetkovski (Vice President), Eva Benfeldt (President) and Mette Mogensen (Secretary). Absent: Annesofie Fauruschou (Web master). You may recognize that the Venue is Nyhavn in Central Copenhagen.

## Research

Denmark continues to have a high level of research activity, involving both clinical and basic research, research employing national registries, population studies concerning cancer and allergy and industry-sponsored drug trials.

## Continuing medical education

Continuing medical education (CME) is arranged as an Annual Course by the CME Committee under the Danish Society of Dermatology and lasts for 2½ days.

## Recruitment of specialists and new treatments in non-hospital practices

We have a slight excess of specialists and a small influx of dermatologists from other countries. Nevertheless, it is still difficult to recruit dermatologists for non-hospital positions in the rural parts of the country.

Despite a small reduction in the production of new specialists in dermato-venereology, a continued slight excess production (when balancing numbers with current positions) over the next few years is projected. However, during recent years a proportion of non-hospital practitioners have established facilities for cosmetic laser treatment and injections of botox and fillers. These treatments are, of course, not included in the public health plan.

## Shaping the future dermatologist

The DDS board has initiated 2 Committee works involving specialists as well as doctors in training:

1. The selection criteria as well as interview procedure for residents are revised. The aim is to conduct bi-annual

national application rounds, where applicants are evaluated for both their curriculum and their performance in a clinically focused Multiple Mini Interview (MMI). The purpose of this is to ensure a higher impact of talent for clinical reasoning, whilst still acknowledging the traditional curriculum activities (research, publications, dermatological and medical experience).

2. The Curriculum Plan for the Dermato-Venereology speciality is revised, employing descriptions and learning goals closely associated with everyday clinical work situations, based on the Entrustable Professional Activities (EPA) framework.

## Meetings

The DDS holds two member meetings each year: in May, a meeting with scientific presentations from the Department of Dermatology hosting the meeting, followed the next day by a half-day program with clinical cases and discussion, an invited speaker and finally the General Assembly. The Annual meeting in November follows the same concept. Both meetings are important venues for cooperation between hospital and non-hospital members and with support and participation from pharmaceutical companies.

## Nordic networking opportunities

The first Nordic Course on Skin Surgery, arranged under the auspices of the NDA, is held in Copenhagen in August 2014, in September the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual ESDR Meeting is hosted in Copenhagen; and in 2015 the 24<sup>th</sup> EADV Congress will take place here, too.

We hope to welcome many of our Nordic colleagues to one or more of these venues!

