

## Press release

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### Basic information

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Department of: Clinical Medicine

Main supervisor: Mette Krogh Christensen

Title of dissertation: "Undergraduate Surgical Talent Development: An Explorative Research Study of the Case Dream Team Using Sport Science as a Lens"

Date for defence: 15.12.2017 at (time of day): 1 pm Place: Aarhus Universitetshospital, Skejby, Auditorium B

Press release (Danish)

**Kirurgisk talentudvikling: Et case-studie af projektet Dream Team med udgangspunkt i elitesport.**

Denne afhandling har til formål at bidrage til en konceptualisering og udvikling af fænomenet prægraduat kirurgisk talentudvikling. Baseret på erfaringer og forskning fra sportens verden vil afhandlingen undersøge karrieremæssige såvel som pædagogiske muligheder, udfordringer og fremtidige perspektiver i prægraduat kirurgisk talentudvikling. Dette undersøges med udgangspunkt i uddannelsesinitiativet Dream Team, der er forankret på Aarhus Universitet. Deltagerne i Dream Team projektet afviger ikke fra andre medicinstuderende på Aarhus Universitet i forhold til karakterer. Kønsfordelingen på Dream Team projektet er dog forskellig fra Medicinstudiet på Aarhus Universitet, da projektet har en overvægt af mandlige studerende. Der synes at være tre kerneelementer i konceptualiseringen af kirurgisk talent: 1) Et højt niveau af individuelle færdigheder gør kirurgen god, 2) en kombination af individuelle færdigheder giver kirurgen potentiale for at blive et kirurgisk talent, 3) udviklingen af kirurgisk talent synes at afhænge af sammenspillet mellem person og miljø. En stor del af litteraturen om kirurgisk talentudvikling fokuserer på tekniske tematikker, mens en mindre del fokuserer på psykosociale, demografiske og strukturelle elementers indflydelse på præstationen. Opsummerende fremlægger afhandlingen ideen om at anvende koncepter fra talentudviklingslitteraturen fra sports verden – primært den holistisk økologiske tilgang – til at konceptualisere og forstå kirurgisk talent udvikling.

Forsvaret af ph.d.-projektet er offentligt og finder sted den 15/12/2017 kl. 13 i Auditorium B, Aarhus Universitetshospital, Skejby, Palle Juul-Jensens Blvd. 99, 8200 Aarhus N. Titlen på projektet er "Undergraduate Surgical Talent Development: An Explorative Research Study of the Case Dream Team Using Sport Science as a Lens". Yderligere oplysninger: Ph.d.-studerende Rune Dall Jensen, e-mail: [runedall@cesu.au.dk](mailto:runedall@cesu.au.dk) tlf. 25522652.

Bedømmelsesudvalg: Professor Torben Bæk Hansen (chairman and moderator of the defence)  
Department of Clinical Medicine - Ortopædkirurgisk afdeling, Holstebro, Denmark

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Center for Surgical Technologies, KU Leuven; Department of Urology, University Hospitals Leuven;  
Department of Urology, University Hospitals Antwerp, Belgium

Associate Professor Diana Stentoft  
Department of Health Science and Technology, Aalborg University, Denmark

Press release (English)

## "Undergraduate Surgical Talent Development: An Explorative Research Study of the Case Dream Team Using Sport Science as a Lens"

This PhD project takes its point of departure in literature from sport science, when aiming to enhance talent development in surgery.

The PhD project has illuminated the participants from an undergraduate surgical talent development project called Dream Team. The participants in the extracurricular course Dream Team voluntarily signed up for participating and had equal distribution of grades in comparison to the undergraduate medical students at Aarhus University in general. In continuation it seems, that high grades at medical school does not necessarily equal high performance in the Operation Room (OR), as some of the Dream Team students performed as assisting surgeons in the OR. Additionally, the mentorship part of the Dream Team project was found essential as it may teach the surgical talents to become surgeons, which they cannot learn in medical school or in simulated settings.

Secondly, the PhD project has showed that the literature in surgical education differs from the literature in the performance domains of sport and music when aiming to identify and develop future prospects. In continuation, surgical education may benefit from broadening its view on talent by including psychosocial variables and environmental, demographic and structural influencers when considering how surgical talent may be identified and developed.

Thirdly, the PhD project identified three key elements for conceptualizing surgical talent: 1) A high level of individual skills makes the surgical prospect 'good', 2) a mixture of skills gives the prospect the potential to become talented, and 3) becoming talented may rely on the person-environment fit.

The defence is public and takes place on 15/12/2017 at 1pm in Auditorium B, Aarhus University Hospital, Palle Juul-Jensens Blvd. 99, 8200 Aarhus N. The title of the project is "Undergraduate Surgical Talent Development: An Explorative Research Study of the Case Dream Team Using Sport Science as a Lens." For more information, please contact PhD student Rune Dall Jensen, email: [runedall@cesu.au.dk](mailto:runedall@cesu.au.dk), Phone +45 25522652.

The members of the assessment committee are:

Professor Torben Bæk Hansen (chairman and moderator of the defence)

Department of Clinical Medicine - Ortopædkirurgisk afdeling, Holstebro, Denmark

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