

## **Press release**

### **Basic information**

**Name:** Lene Haldbo-Classen **Email:** lenehaldbo@oncology.au.dk **Phone:** 23342761

**Department of:** Clinical Medicine

**Main supervisor:** Morten Høyer

**The title of dissertation:** Cognitive function after radiation therapy for primary brain tumours.

**Date for defence:** 22.01.21 at 3.00pm as web defense:

<https://aarhusuniversity.zoom.us/j/67725597469>

### **Press release (Danish)**

Et nyt ph.d. projekt fra Aarhus Universitet, Health. Projektet er gennemført af Lene Haldbo-Classen der forsvare det den 22. januar 2021.

Dette ph.d.-projekt blev iværksat for at undersøge hvordan hjernen fungerer hos patienter efter at de har fået strålebehandling for en hjernetumorer. Dette med henblik på at undersøge sammenhænge mellem hjernens funktioner samt patient rapporterede problemer og stråledosis til forskellige områder i hjernen. Undersøgelsen havde specifikt fokus på stråle tolerance til et område i hjernen kaldet hippocampus, som er vigtig for hukommelse. Patienter, der havde modtaget en højere stråledosis til hippocampus, havde flere hukommelse problemer. Der var tillige sammenhæng mellem stråledosis til andre områder i hjernen og deres tilsvarende funktioner. Patienter der havde fået en højere stråledosis til visse områder i hjernen rapporterede flere kognitive problemer og dårligere livskvalitet. Disse resultater kan hjælpe til at udvikle strålebehandlingsstrategier, der minimerer strålingsinduceret kognitive bivirkninger i fremtiden.

Forsvaret af ph.d. projektet er offentligt og finder sted den 22 januar kl 15.00. Grundet Covid19 er forsvaret virtuelt og kan tilgås via dette link: <https://aarhusuniversity.zoom.us/j/67725597469>

Titel: Kognitiv funktion efter strålebehandling for primære hjerne tumorer.

For yderligere oplysninger kontakt ph.d. studerende

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Bedømmelsesudvalg

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Aarhus University Hospital, Denmark

Esther Troost M.D. Dr. med. and Professor

Department of Radiotherapy and Radiation Oncology

University Hospital and Faculty of Medicine Carl Gustav Carus

Technische Universität Dresden, Germany

Jeffrey S. Wefel, PhD, ABPP and associate Professor

Chief, Section of Neuropsychology

Departments of Neuro-Oncology and Radiation Oncology.

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, U.S.A.

### **Press release (English)**

The project was carried out by Lene Haldbo-Classen, who is defending her dissertation on 22.01.21.

This PhD project was initiated to establish methods to evaluate cognitive function in patients with brain tumours in order to explore associations between cognitive test outcomes and patients reported outcomes to radiation dose in different areas in the brain. The study had specific focus on the radiation tolerance to an area in the brain called, the hippocampus, and memory functions. Results showed that patients who had received a higher dose to the hippocampus and other brain structures were more impaired in corresponding domains and reported more cognitive problems and poorer health-related

quality of life. These results can help us in developing radiation treatment strategies that will minimize radiation-induced cognitive impairment in the future.

The defence is public and take place on 22<sup>th</sup> of January 2021 at 3.00pm. Due to Covid19 the defense will be held as a web defense: <https://aarhusuniversity.zoom.us/j/67725597469>

The title of the project is: Cognitive function after radiation therapy for primary brain tumours.

For more information, please contact PhD student

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Assessment committee

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