

Press release

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Basic information

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Department of: Clinical Medicine

Main supervisor: Sisse Helle Njor

Title of dissertation: Adherence to recommendations for follow-up in breast- and cervical cancer screening in Denmark

Date for defence: 31st August 2021 at (time of day): 13.00 Place: Randers Regional Hospital, Auditorium

Press release (Danish)

I hvilken grad følges anbefalingerne for opfølgning efter unormale screeningsresultater i det danske bryst- og livmoderhalskræftscreeningsprogram?

I et netop afsluttet ph.d.-projekt fra Aarhus Universitet og Regionshospitalet i Randers har Susanne Fogh Jørgensen undersøgt i hvilken grad anbefalingerne for opfølgning efter unormale screeningsresultater i bryst- og livmoderhalskræftscreeningsprogrammerne er blevet fulgt og hvorledes det samlede ressourceforbrug påvirkes.

Rettidig og korrekt opfølgning er afgørende for et kræftscreeningsprograms effektivitet. Der mangler dog viden om, hvorvidt forløbene efter unormale screeningsresultater i de danske kræftscreeningsprogrammer samt det deraf følgende forbrug af tests og udredende procedurer er i overensstemmelse med anbefalingerne. Dette ph.d.-projekt har kortlagt forløbene for alle kvinder med et unormalt eller uegnet svar efter screening for livmoderhalskræft og brystkræft ved hjælp af nationale registre. Kortlægningen viste at under halvdelen af kvinderne med et unormal resultat efter livmoderhalskræftscreening fik den anbefalede opfølgning mens langt størstedelen af kvinderne med et unormalt resultat efter brystkræftscreening fik den anbefalede opfølgning. Forløbene efter livmoderhalskræftscreening var desuden meget lange og der var et større forbrug af diagnostiske tests og procedurer end forventet.

Resultaterne understreger vigtigheden af en systematisk monitorering af opfølgningen efter unormale screeningsfund, men også det faktum, at vi mangler viden om, hvornår det er sikkert at afslutte nogle af de meget lange forløb efter livmoderhalskræftscreening.

Forsvaret af ph.d.-projektet er offentligt og finder sted den 31/8 - 2021 kl. 13.00 i Auditoriet, Regionshospitalet Randers, Skovlyvej 15, 8930 Randers NØ.

Titlen på projektet er "I hvilken grad følges anbefalingerne for opfølgning efter unormale screeningsresultater i det danske bryst- og livmoderhalskræftscreeningsprogram?". Yderligere oplysninger: Ph.d.-studerende Susanne Fogh Jørgensen, e-mail: susanne.fogh@rm.dk, tlf. 7842 0189.

Bedømmelsesudvalg:

Professor Rikke Søgaard , chairman of the committee and moderator of the defence
Department of Public Health, Aarhus University, Denmark

Professor Solveig Hofvind, Cancer Registry of Norway, Section for Breast Screening, Oslo, Norway

Associate Professor Marianne Waldstrøm
Institute of Regional Health Research, University of Southern Denmark, Denmark

Press release (English)

Adherence to recommendations for follow-up in breast- and cervical cancer screening in Denmark

In a recently completed PhD project from Aarhus University and Randers Regional Hospital, Susanne Fogh Jørgensen has evaluated the adherence to recommendations for follow-up after abnormal findings in the Danish breast and cervical cancer screening programmes as well as the derived resource use.

Timely and appropriate follow-up is crucial for the effectiveness of cancer screening programmes. However, there is a lack of knowledge on how the entire pathways of follow-up after abnormal screening results perform, whether the pathways follow recommendations and the derived resource use. In this PhD thesis, the entire pathways of follow-up after abnormal findings in the cervical and breast cancer screening programmes were mapped using national health registries. The mapping showed that less than half of the women had follow-up in accordance with the national recommendations following an abnormal cervical cancer screening. In contrast, the majority of women had follow-up in accordance with the national recommendations after abnormal breast cancer screening. Furthermore, follow-up after cervical cancer screening was excessively long in many cases and the use of diagnostic tests and procedures higher than expected.

The results call for a more systematic monitoring of follow-up after abnormal screening and more evidence to develop guidelines on how to terminate these excessively long follow-up pathways in the cervical cancer screening program.

The defence is public and takes place on 31/8 - 2021 at 13.00 in the auditorium at Randers Regional Hospital, Skovlyvej 15, 8930 Randers NØ.

The title of the project is "Adherence to recommendations for follow-up in breast- and cervical cancer screening in Denmark." For more information, please contact PhD student Susanne Fogh Jørgensen, email: susanne.fogh@rm.dk, Phone +45 7842 0189.

Assessment committee:

Professor Rikke Søgaard , chairman of the committee and moderator of the defence
Department of Public Health, Aarhus University, Denmark

Professor Solveig Hofvind, Cancer Registry of Norway, Section for Breast Screening, Oslo, Norway

Associate Professor Marianne Waldstrøm, Institute of Regional Health Research, University of Southern Denmark, Denmark

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