

## Press release

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### Basic information

Name: Berit Dalsgaard Nielsen                      Email: [bernil@rm.dk](mailto:bernil@rm.dk)                      Phone: 42648685

Department of: Clinical Medicine

Main supervisor: Professor Ellen-Margrethe Hauge

Title of dissertation: Evaluation of Ultrasound and PET/CT in the Diagnosis of Giant Cell Arteritis

Date for defence: 18/1 2018                      at (time of day): kl 14                      Place: Palle Juul Jensen Auditoriet,  
Nørrebrogade 44, bygn 10, Århus

Press release (Danish)

PhD forsvar om diagnostik af kæmpecellearterit

Kæmpecellearterit-diagnosen er en vanskelig diagnose at stille, ikke mindst fordi man tidligere ikke har haft gode diagnostiske værktøjer. De seneste år, har billeddiagnostik fået en betydelig rolle i udredningen.

Hurtig iværksat behandling er nødvendig for at undgå komplikationer som f.eks. synstab, men behandlingsopstart kan mindske chancen for at bekræfte diagnosen med billeddiagnostik. Omvendt er er sikker diagnose essentiel, da behandlingen er langvarig og potentiel bivirkningstung. I dette ph.d. projekt undersøges nye billeddiagnostiske undersøgelses evner og begrænsninger i forskellige subgrupper af patienter før og lige efter iværksat behandling. Projektet er gennemført i perioden november 2015-oktober 2018 af 1. reservelæge, ph.d. studerende Berit Dalsgaard Nielsen, der forsvare det den 18/1 2019.

Forsvaret er offentligt og finder sted i Palle Juul-Jensen Auditoriet, Aarhus Universitetshospital, Nørrebrogade 44, bygning 10.

Yderligere information:

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Press release (English)

PhD defence regarding Diagnostic imaging in Giant Cell Arteritis

Diagnostic imaging has become an important tool in the evaluation of giant cell arteritis suspected patients. The high risk of potentially serious GC related adverse events and the cost of new GC sparring drugs, emphasises the need for accurate diagnostic tools. The risk of ischemic GCA complications requiring early treatment, stress the importance of understanding the possible

effect of GCs on the sensitivity of diagnostic modalities. In this PhD project, the accuracy of ultrasound and PET/CT in specific disease subsets before and after treatment initiation was evaluated in order to optimize the diagnostic evaluation of GCA suspected patients. The project was carried out by Berit Dalsgaard Nielsen, MD, who is defending her dissertation on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

The defence is public and takes place on 18<sup>th</sup> January at 2 PM at Aarhus University Hospital, Nørrebrogade 44, building 10 at in Palle Juul-Jensen Auditorium. The title of the project is 'Evaluation of Ultrasound and PET/CT in the Diagnosis of Giant Cell Arteritis'. For more information, please contact PhD student Berit Dalsgaard Nielsen, email: bernil@rm.dk, Phone +45 4264 8685.

Assessment committee: Professor Trine Mogensen, Department of Infectious Medicine, Aarhus University Hospital, Denmark (Chairman)  
Associate professor, PhD Lene Terslev, the Copenhagen Center for Arthritis Research (COPECARE), Center for Rheumatology and Spine Diseases, Glostrup, Denmark  
Associate professor, PhD Elisabeth Brouwer, Department of Rheumatology and clinical immunology, University of Groningen, Netherlands

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