

## Press release

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### Basic information

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Department of: Clinical Medicine

Main supervisor: Torben Riis Rasmussen

Title of dissertation: Factors Relating to Early Death in Danish Stage I Lung Cancer Patients

Date for defence: December 6<sup>th</sup> at (time of day): 14:00 Place: Auditorium M, Building 3, Aarhus University Hospital, Nørrebrogade 44, Aarhus C

Press release (Danish)

Tidlig død blandt danske stadium I lungekræftpatienter

Danske lungekræftpatienter har generelt haft en dårligere overlevelse sammenlignet med de andre nordiske lande. Et landsdækkende studie har søgt at komme årsager til dette nærmere ved at undersøge tidlig død blandt danske stadium I lungekræftpatienter.

En indledende sammenligning af lungekræftretningslinjerne i de nordiske lande afslørede markante forskelle imellem de enkelte lande.

De primære årsager til tidlig død (død indenfor 1 år efter diagnosen) hos stadium I lungekræftpatienter var lungekræft med tidligt tilbagefald med fjern spredning, siden komorbiditeter og behandlingskomplikationer. Der var færre aldrig rygere blandt tidlig død patienterne sammenlignet med lignende patienter, der overlevede mere end ét år. Indsatser mod rygning efter diagnosen var begrænset, muligvis på grund af vase rygestopsanbefalinger i de danske kræftretningslinjer. Der fandtes desuden en sammenhæng imellem alkoholmisbrug og tidlig død, men udlukkende iblandt patienter, der blev opereret for sin lungecancer.

Patienter med tilbagefald i form af hjernebetændinger blev generelt ikke identificeret af det ellers omfattende Danske opfølgningsprogram, men grundet symptomer, der typisk gav anledning til akutte indlæggelser. Tillæg af hjernescanninger i opfølgningen kan muligvis forbedre opfølgningsprogrammet.

Disse fund - blandt andre- er resultatet af et nyt ph.d.-projekt fra Aarhus Universitet, Health.

Projektet er gennemført af Niels Lyhne Christensen, der forsvarer det d. 06/12-2018.

Forsvaret af ph.d.-projektet er offentligt og finder sted den 06/12 kl. 14 i auditorium M, Aarhus Universitets Hospital, Nørrebrogade 44, 8000 Aarhus. Titlen på projektet er "Factors Relating to Early Death in Danish Stage I Lung Cancer Patients". Yderligere oplysninger: Ph.d.-studerende Niels Lyhne Christensen, e-mail: niechris@rm.dk, tlf. 26790777.

Bedømmelsesudvalg:

Overlæge, professor Mette Nørgaard,

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Onkologisk Afdeling, Finsen Centret, Rigshospitalet, København

Press release (English)

Early death among Danish stage I lung cancer patients

Danish lung cancer patients have historically had a worse survival compared to the other Nordic countries. A population-based Danish study has aimed to provide answers to why by investigating early death in Danish stage I lung cancer patients.

A preliminary comparison of the lung cancer guidelines of the Nordic countries revealed significant differences between the countries.

The primary causes of early death (death within one year after diagnosis), were lung cancer with early distant recurrence, then comorbidity and treatment complications. There were fewer never smokers among early death patients as compared to similar survivors. Interventions against smoking were limited, potentially due to vaguely specified Danish smoking cessation guidelines. There was an association between alcohol abuse and early death, but only among surgically treated patients.

Patients with cerebral recurrence were generally not identified by the comprehensive Danish follow-up program, but due to symptoms that typically resulted in acute admission. Thus addition of brain imaging could potentially improve the follow-up program.

These findings are - among others the results of a Ph.D. study carried out by Niels Lyhne Christensen, who is defending his dissertation on December 6<sup>th</sup>.

The defence is public and takes place on December 6<sup>th</sup> at 14:00 in Auditorium M, Aarhus University Hospital, Nørrebrogade 44, 8000 Aarhus. The title of the project is "Factors Relating to Early Death in Danish Stage I Lung Cancer Patients". For more information, please contact PhD student Niels Lyhne Christensen, email: niechris@rm.dk, Phone +45 26790777.

Assessment committee:

Senior Consultant, Professor Mette Nørgaard,  
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