

TALEPAPIR

Det talte ord gælder

Tilhørerkreds:	Sundhedsfagligt personale med fokus på medicinsk teknologi vurdering (MTV) (health technology assessment (HTA))
Anledning:	Det europæiske netværk for MTV's (EUnetHTA's) afslutningskonference
Taletid:	10 min. (ingen spørgsmål)
Tid og sted:	20. november kl. 9.15 Pasteur Institutttet i Paris
Fil-navn:	Dokument 2

[Introduction]

Dear participants. It is a great pleasure to welcome you to this important conference. I am proud to be co-hosting this event. It marks the culmination of a three year long project for The European Network for Health Technology Assessment, called EUnetHTA.

This conference addresses the future of health technology assessment in Europe. The topic has developed a lot during the last years. European HTA-institutions have worked together to produce concrete tools and methods to support a more effective production of HTA.

Now, it is important to take this opportunity to discuss current developments and to set the stage for future collaboration.

[Medicinsk teknologivurdering i sundhedsvæsenet]

Health care faces a major challenge: How can we afford all the new technologies in health care? The gap becomes wider and wider between, what we can achieve if we do things right, and the trouble and discontent we can cause if we fail.

In order to deal with this challenge, assessments of health technologies are important. If we cannot afford everything, the least we can do is to

make sure that we use the right technologies. And health technology assessment is the right tool to use.

HTA plays an important role in modern health care. It provides a systematic and transparent input to health care policy-making and planning. And it contributes to quality development and effective use of resources in health care services across Europe.

In addition to the challenge of new technology, we also face several other challenges. Let me give you some examples: Patients seek more information, when they are in need of treatment. Secondly, patients seem willing to move more in order to get better treatment. And finally, health care workers are willing to cross borders.

These challenges can among others be monitored through a mechanism like HTA. And combined with the current European discussions on patients' rights in cross-border healthcare, these developments underline the need for us to work together.

[EUnetHTA arbejdet – medicinsk teknologivurdering i Danmark og internationalt]

HTA in Denmark dates back to the early 1980'ties. More than twenty years ago the first discussions on this new tool took place, and the first reports were published. 12 years ago Denmark developed and published a national strategy for HTA. This event created a joint basis for HTA at all

levels of Danish health care, and it established the foundation for the national HTA-institution in 1997. A central aspect has since the beginning been to ensure that international HTA projects were monitored, and that the results applied to the Danish National Health Service.

Over the years it has become more and more obvious that international collaboration is crucial, if we want to handle the challenges of introducing health care technologies. Therefore, Denmark has worked together with many other European countries. And this gave rise to the EUnetHTA-project.

Denmark has hosted the secretariat for EUnetHTA, and it has been a pleasure to see that the joint efforts have produced useful new tools and activities. Major medical device-producers, pharmaceutical interest organisations and patients-organisations all participate in the EUnetHTA activities today. All this has added to the sustainability of the European collaboration on HTA.

I know EUnetHTA and its member institutions have worked to overcome obstacles. An example is the developments of products that help streamline the production of HTA across Europe. At the same time the

HTA-institutions have maintained the obligation to serve the national and regional decision-makers responsible for provision of health care in Europe.

[Videreførelsen af EUnetHTA]

I find it important that the collaboration in EUnetHTA continues. The Danish Ministry for Health and Prevention has supported EUnetHTA through the National Board of Health during these last three years. We will continue to support the collaboration.

[Closing]

It is my hope that the development of a European collaboration on health technology assessment will continue in the future. I am honoured to open this conference, which is a symbol of the great work that has been going on for the last years. Welcome to the conference.