

# **WILL THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM GAIN ECONOMIC AND CLINICAL BENEFITS BY INTRODUCING TELEMEDICINE IN WOUND CARE**

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In Denmark telemedical wound assessment is being disseminated to all hospitals and home care in all municipalities. Cross-sector telemedicine collaboration is possible through asynchronous use of a shared care on-line ulcer record. The clinical staff can share notes, pictures, and evaluation forms. The national project will support joint skills development and will support renewal of workflow / reference flow. The overall objective of the project is to reduce the wound healing process of diabetic foot ulcers and venous ulcers by increasing the development of skills in wound care and optimize cross-sectorial collaboration by providing a telemedicine tool.

The purpose of this presentation is to present the potential benefits of using telemedicine wound assessment in the cross-sectorial collaboration. In Denmark we are working to identify both clinical and economic benefits. Use of the shared care ulcer record is being supported by recommendations and frame description of user profiles in the shared care ulcer record and professional qualifications to perform telemedicine wound assessment.

In order to estimate the economic benefits, it is important to know the number of wounds treated cross-sectorial. Although Denmark has experience with recording and reporting to national registers, it is difficult to identify the relevant wounds as wound management occurs within several specialties. Measures to identify the number of cross-sectorial wounds will be presented in this presentation.