

The First Results from the Danish Clinical Database for Smoking Cessation Programmes



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Background

A nation wide Clinical Database (CD) is established for continuous quality assessment and development of smoking cessation programmes in Denmark. The CD originates in a research project with inclusion of data from 2001-2002. A research group* is analysing data from the CD and will publish the results within the next year.

Aim

To establish a permanent CD, which meets the criteria and needs for external monitoring and evaluation of established smoking cessation programmes in order to assess and improve the quality.

Methods

All smoke-stop units in Denmark have the opportunity to participate in the CD if they offer standardized smoking cessation programmes, and include systematic follow-up after 6 and 12 months. Data reported in this poster are from March 2002 to March 2004.

Data is collected by the units using registration forms for baseline data which include demographics and smoking habits, the intervention given and smoking status at follow-up. The forms are sent to the secretariat at Clinical Unit of Health Promotion, H:S Bispebjerg Hospital. The registration forms are scanned, quality controlled and finally transferred to the CD.

Results

Participation: In March 2004 more than 240 smoke-stop units through out Denmark have registered in the the CD. Units at hospital as well as outside (e.g. pharmacies, primary care sector) are included. All 15 Counties are represented in the CD. However 3 Counties by 1-3 units only. In total 8,000 persons are included.

Effectiveness: On a national scale the stop smoking rates are 40 % (range 17-73) and 34 % (9-82) after 6 and 12 months, respectively. The results are used for benchmarking.

Feed-back: The units get written feed-back on effectiveness of their intervention and the national results for comparison twice a year. Data from each County can be seen on our homepage www.rygestopbasen.dk (in Danish). The National Board of Health uses the CD for external evaluation of of programmes that gets financial support from the Board.

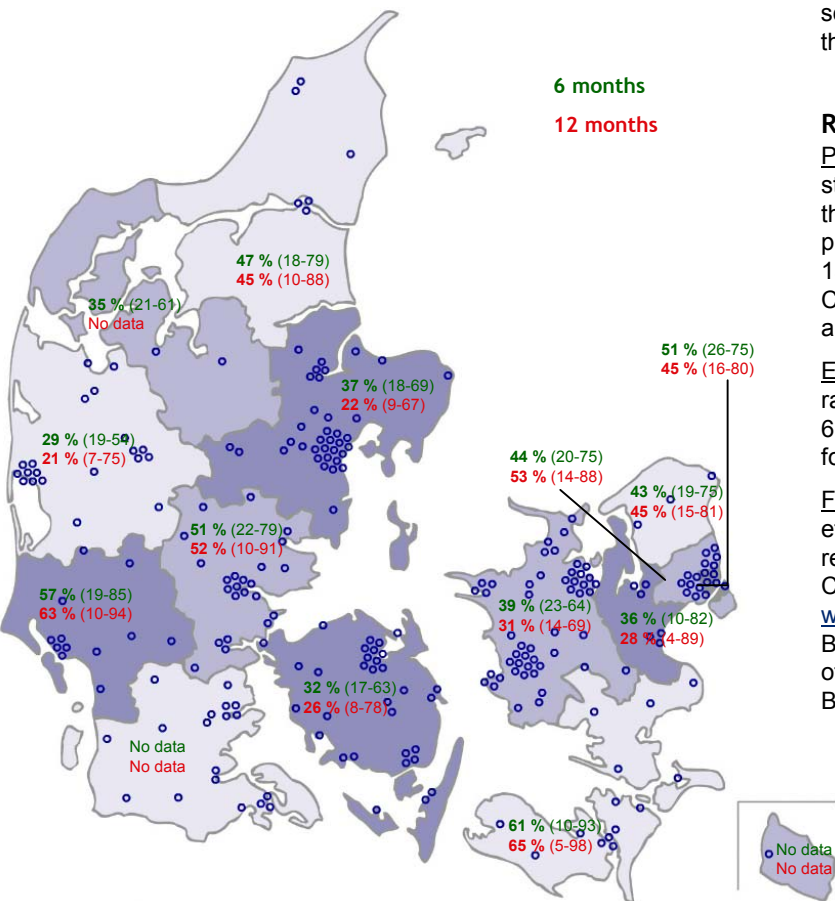


Figure 1
Geographic distribution of units in Denmark as well as stop smoking rates at follow-up after 6 and 12 months (median (range)).

Conclusion

A nation wide Clinical Database for smoking cessation programmes has been established. The database serves as documentation and as the source of feed-back information to the units. In the long term the data will be used to modify the smoking cessation programmes in order to improve the stop smoking rates. The database also serves as documentation and planning of Health Promotion Hospitals of the health promotion activities within the field of smoking cessation. So forth the results leave room for further improvement and learning.

