

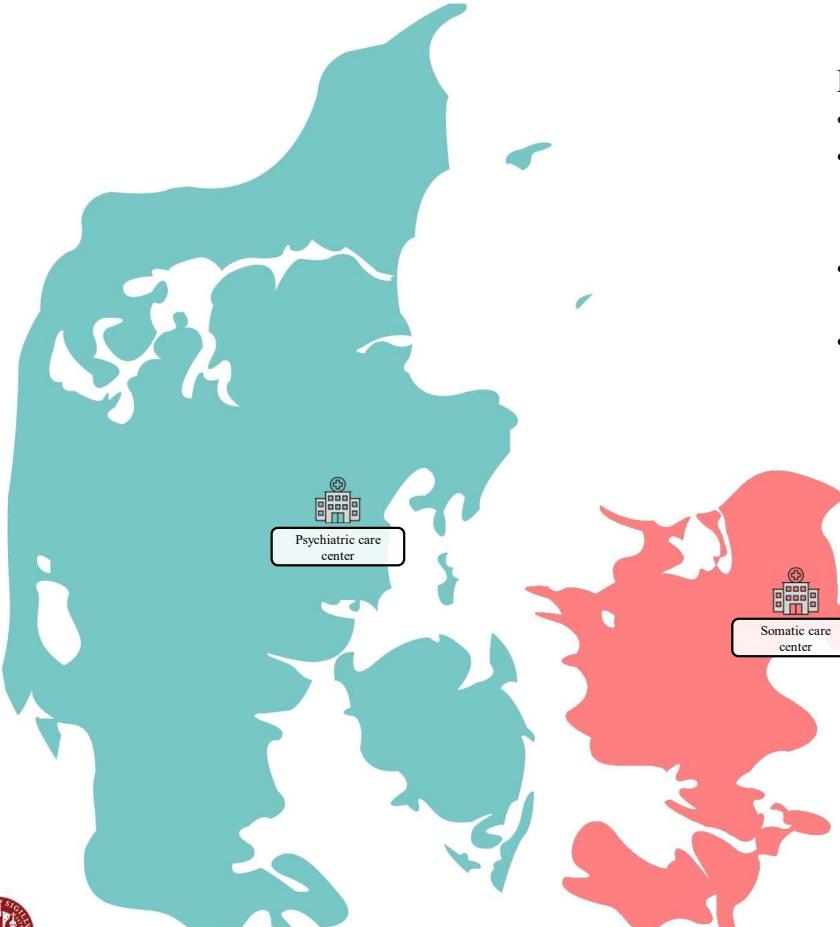
Tics in Children and Adolescents in Primary Care

Background

- Transient tics up to 25 % of the pediatric population, and Tourette Syndrome (TS) has a prevalence of 1 %
- No studies investigating referral by general practitioners in Denmark
- No current guideline in Denmark on how to treat pediatric patients with tics
- Regional variation in treatment of TS and tics – psychiatric vs somatic

Methods

- Online questionnaire regarding contact with pediatric patients with tics sent to 1600 Danish general practitioners (GPs)
- Data analyzed with SPSS



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Results

- 210 GPs with contact to pediatric patients with tics
- Significantly more patients referred to somatic care in the regions **Zealand and the Capital** compared to **the other three regions**
- Patients with psychiatric comorbidity more likely to be referred to psychiatric care no matter the region
- Referral depends more on severity of tics than on functional impairment

Conclusions

- Referral of pediatric patients with tics depend mostly on severity of tics, less so functional impairment
- Patients with psychiatric comorbidities are more likely to be referred to psychiatric care regardless of region
- Further studies are needed to determine possible differences in diagnosing, treatment and outcomes in pediatric patients with tics referred to psychiatric and somatic care