

DASAM

Dansk Selskab for Arbejds- og Miljømedicin

- Welcome to Denmark and Domus Medica



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meeting Copenhagen 20-21. march 2015

The logo for DASAM (Dansk Selskab for Arbejds- og Miljømedicin) features the word "DASAM" in a bold, italicized, black sans-serif font. The text is centered between two horizontal black lines. A large, light gray, stylized letter "D" is positioned behind the text, partially overlapping the lines.

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Occupational Medicine in Denmark

Ole Carstensen



Outlines



- History
- Danish Society of Occupational Medicine
- Tasks
 - Clinical work
 - Prevention
 - Research
- Education and Training
- Occupational Diseases and Injuries in Denmark
- Main Challenges for the future



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History

- 1872 The Danish Physician E. Hornemann's research about children working in factories
- 1873 The first Labour Protection Act
 - Children and young people
 - Health and safety in the production



History



1920-1940

- Sophus Bang – toxicology of heavy metals
- Carl Sonne - pneumokoniosis/asbestosis
- Skuli Gudmundson
 - - First physician in the Danish Labour Protection Agency
- Poul Bonnevie - Occupational Skin disorders



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History



- Newer history 1970 >
 - The Student revolts in Denmark resulted in a collaboration between medical students and the labor organizations and workplaces with focus on work environment.
 - Several critical reports about work environment in different branches with focus on ergonomics and toxicology
 - Political focus from the left wing parties and labour organizations on work environment
 - 1977 the new Working Environment Act with description of
 - regional Occupational Medicine Clinics and there tasks
 - plans of establishment of an Occupational Health and safety service with trained Occupational Physicians
 - mandatory memberships for companies of Occupational Health and Safety Service within the most dangerous industries.
 - 1977-78 Occupational Health Clinics at the university hospitals in Aarhus and Odense
 - 1978-90 Fourteen regional Occupational Health Clinics in Denmark.



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History



Highlights:

- 1931 Institute of Hygiene Copenhagen University
- 1945 First consultant in Occupational Medicine in the Danish Labour Inspectorate
- 1946 First Occupational Medicine Clinic, now Bispebjerg
- 1954 New Labour Protection Act
 - Physicians in the labour inspectorate
- 1977 New Working Environment Act
 - Occupational Health Services
 - Occupational Medicine Clinics



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The logo for DASAM (Danish Society of Occupational and Environmental Medicine) features the word "DASAM" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The letters are slightly shadowed, giving a 3D effect. The logo is set against a light gray background that includes a faint, stylized graphic of a person's head and shoulders.

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Danish Society of Occupational and Environmental Medicine

1980

- Danish Society of Occupational Medicine
- Tasks:
 - Forum for medical doctors with special interest in Occupational Medicine
 - Education and training in Occupational Medicine
 - Promoting Research in Occupational Medicine

1984

- Recognition of Occupational Medicine as the area of expertise
- Members 2015:
 - 132 Physicians
 - 32 Psychologists and other groups



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Population and Physicians in Denmark

2014

•Inhabitants

- 5.511.451
- 2.800 000 in the workforce

•Physicians

- 19.840 physicians
- 134 specialists in Occupational Medicine
- 57 working in the specialty

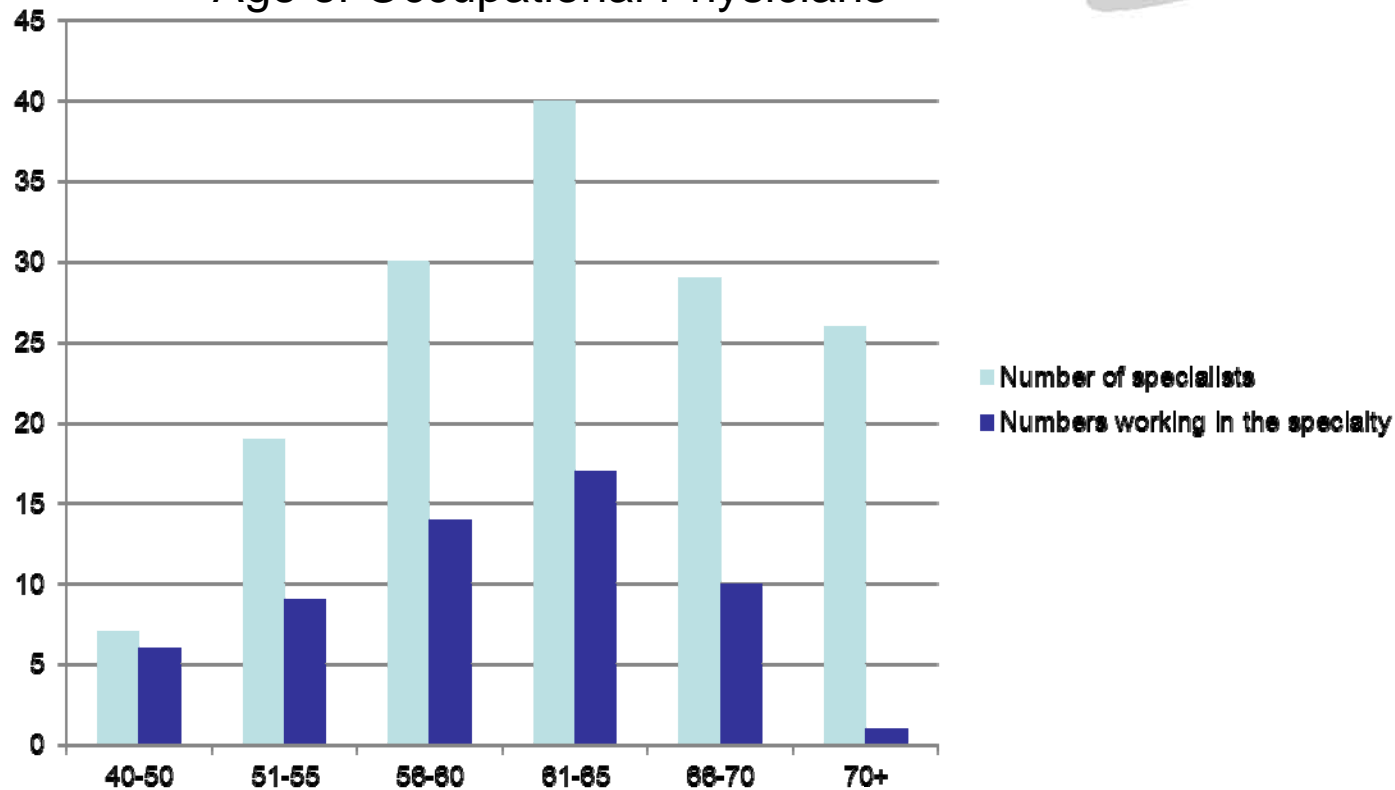


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Age of Occupational Physicians



Age

50 % > 60



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Main Tasks

- Advising the National Board of Health
 - Specialist training
 - Needs for specialists
 - Development of the specialty
 - Surveillance of developments in occupational and environmental diseases
- Clinical guidelines/Best practice (Armoni dk)



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Danish Society of Occupational and Environmental Medicine



Main Tasks

- Developing highly specialized functions
 - Allergology
 - Toxicology
 - Rehabilitation
- Participate in the public debate
 - Health
 - Work environment
- Influence politicians and government
- Working for a better work environment both nationally and internationally.



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Training



- **The society is responsible for offering the theoretical part of specialist training**
- **Regional hospitals are responsible for offering the clinical part of specialist training**
- **The Society is responsible for offering Continuous medical education**



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Training



5 years

- 1 year introduction to clinical work
- 2 or 2½ years clinical training in an Occupational Medicine Clinic (One year can be substituted with work in another institution, e.g. research, social medicine, occupational health services and environmental health)
- 1½ or 2 years in psychiatry, rheumatology, lung diseases.
 - min. 6 months in each speciality



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Training



Theoretical training and research – courses arranged by “The National Board of Health”

**Supervisor training
Research methods
Management
Communication**

Theoretical training and research – courses arranged by “Society of Occupational and Environmental Medicine”

**Research methods
Epidemiology
Risk assessment
Health economics
Law
Risk communication
Health promotion
Project management
Health policy
International Work and Environmental Health**

Theoretical training and research – arranged by “Occupational Medicine Clinics”

- **Occupational diseases**
- **A research project of min. 3 months duration**



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Control of training

- The training is controlled by the National Board of Health.
 - No exams
 - Formative evaluation
 - (e-)Logbook
 - Evaluation of competencies
 - 360 degrees evaluation (external bedside evaluation, observation, interviews)
 - Research resulting in a PhD or peer-reviewed article, recognized by one of the professors in the specialty



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Control of training

- The quality of training is controlled by the National Board of Health.
- Inspections
- Evaluation from the trainees.



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Occupational Health Clinics

2009-2015 Number of Occupational Health Clinics reduced from 14-7

- All people in Denmark have access to an occupational physician
 - Referral from family doctor, labour organisation or the companies' Health and safety committee
 - Clinical work
 - Diagnosing
 - Risk assessment
 - Advice
 - » Treatment
 - » Prevention (individual/company)
 - » Return to work
 - » Notification if work related disease
 - Teaching and information
 - Research



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Occupational Health Services

- 1997-2004
 - Reduced from 118 to 24



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Research



- Four clinical professors (Occupational Medicine Clinics at the five University clinics)
- One professor at the University in Aarhus
- One professor at the National Research Center for Working Environment
- 5-10 PhD finished pr. Year from the 7 Occupational Medicine clinics
- App. 7 mill. Euro yearly from the Working Environment Research Fund to research at the Occupational Medicine Clinics



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Research - Topics

- Reproduction
- Musculoskeletal disorders and work
- Accident prevention
- Psychosocial work environment and disease
- Lung diseases and work environment
- Cancer and work
- Toxicology



Workers compensation Act

More than 117 years since 1898.

- Compensation claims for
 - Work related accidents
 - Work related diseases



Workers compensation Act

- Persons protected
 - All working in a paid or nonpaid job in a working situation comparable to that of employees



Definition of an occupational disease

- The disease must have developed due to exposures in the workplace and the correlation between the exposures and the disease should be well known in medical research.
- And it must not be likely, beyond reasonable doubt, that the disease is caused by factors other than work.
- The Director General of the National Board of Industrial Injuries can, after negotiations with the Occupational Diseases Committee, decide and make a list of what diseases should be recognized on the basis of research and recent medical documentation



Benefits

- reimbursement of expenses for medical care, etc.
- compensation for loss of earning capacity (iii)
- compensation for permanent injury
- compensation for loss of breadwinner
- compensation for surviving dependants

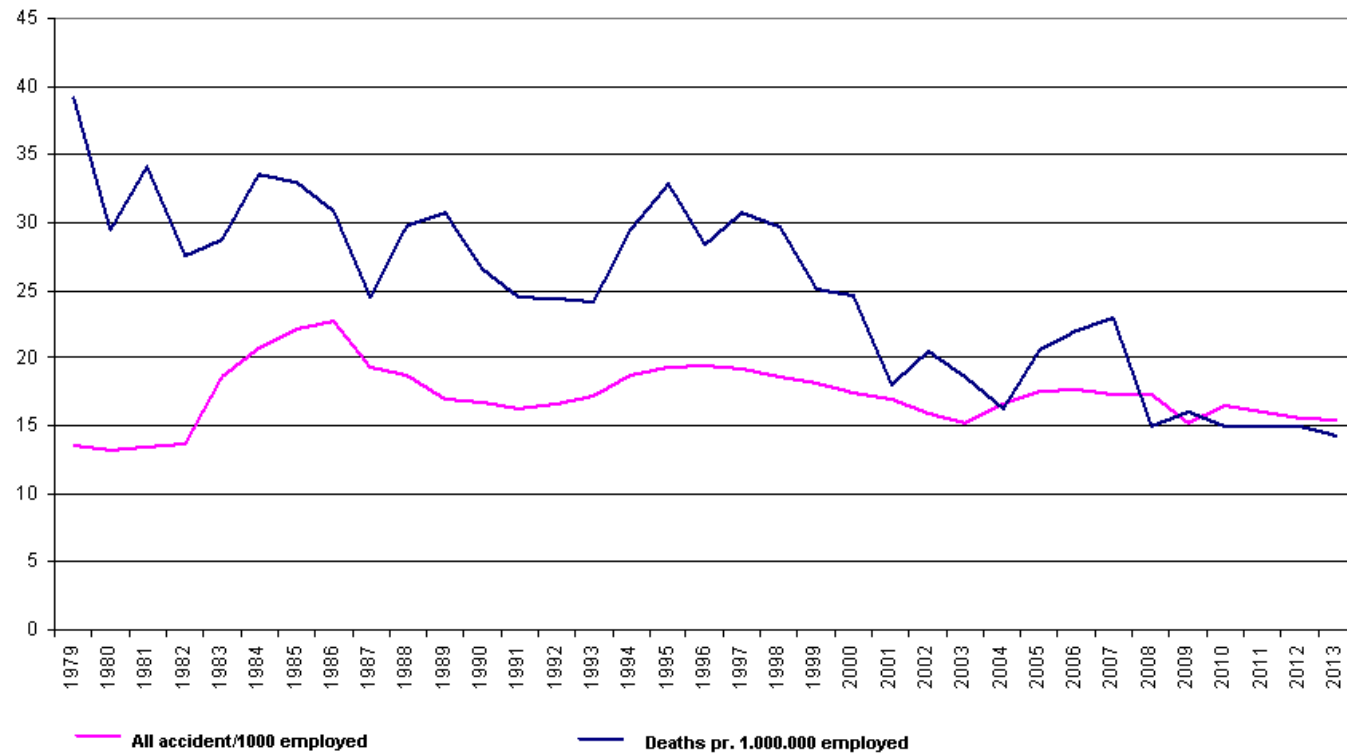


Workrelated accidents

(2013: 20.000 cases, deaths 60)

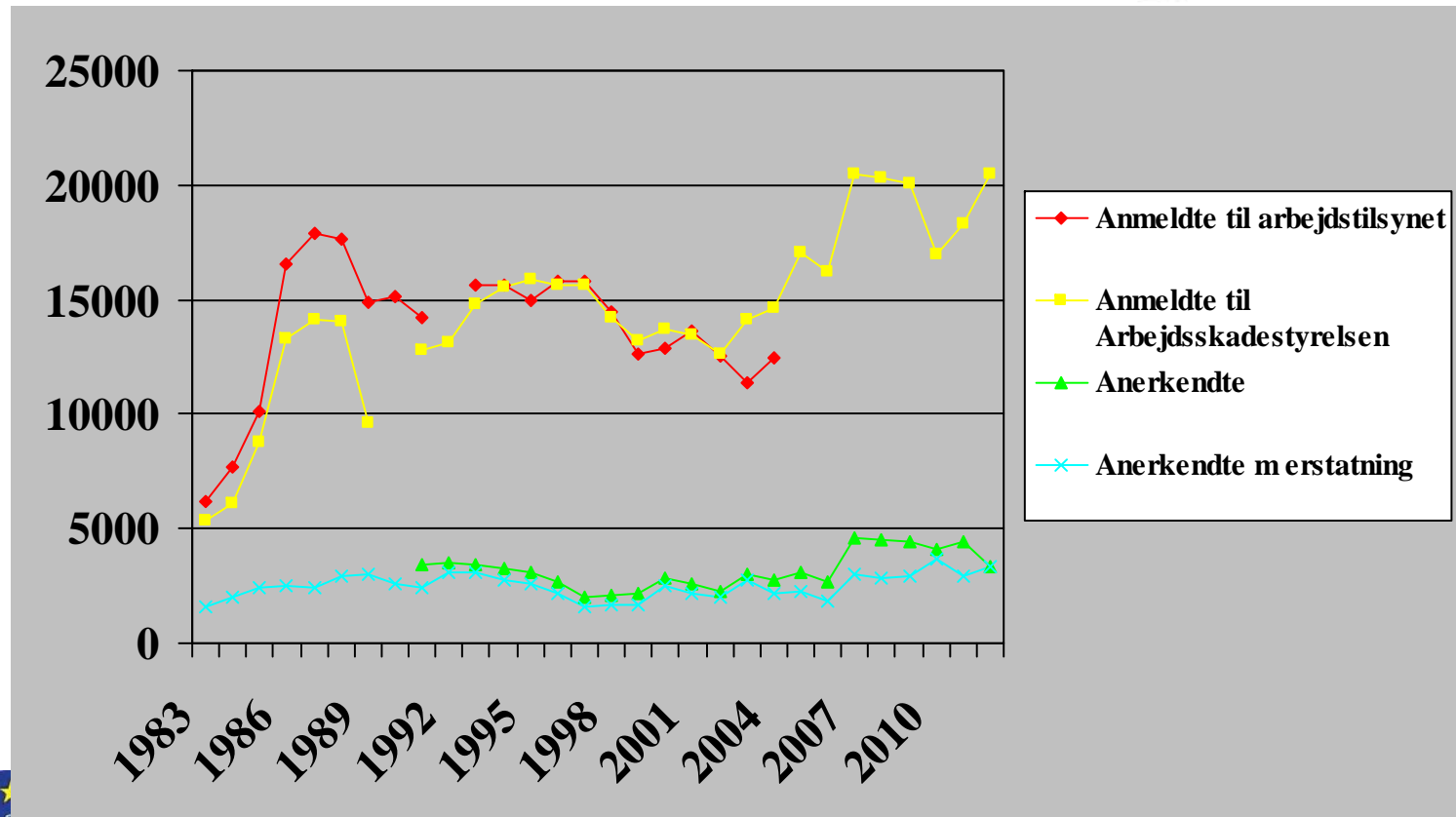
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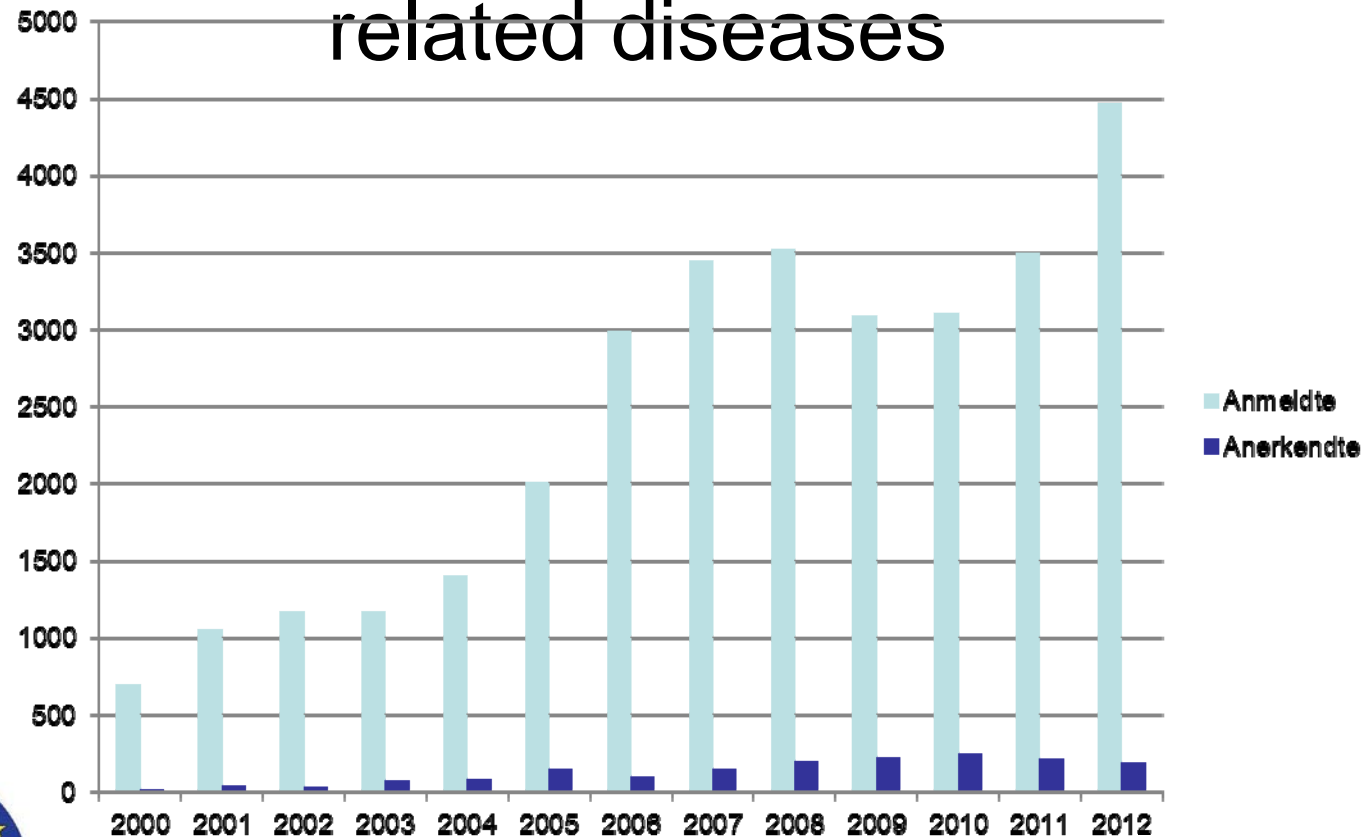


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Number of notified and recognized Occupational Diseases



Number of notified psychosocial work related diseases



Challenges – the speciality

- Age and generation shift among specialists
- Recruitment of young doctors to the specialty



Challenges – work environment

- Ageing workforce
- Migrant workers
- Globalisation of workforce
- Psychosocial diseases
- New diseases – new technology
- Return to work management



Future



- Focus on the positive effects of working life
- Focus on the professional future for all in workforce
- Focus on prognosis and counselling of persons with occupational diseases
- Increased focus on international Occupational and Environmental Medicine



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Discussion and Questions



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