

IN BRIEF

RADS

THE DANISH COUNCIL FOR THE USE
OF EXPENSIVE HOSPITAL MEDICINES

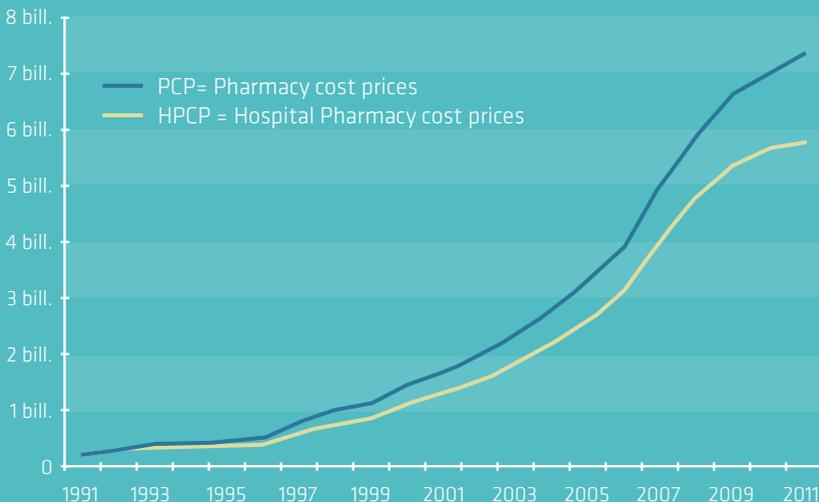


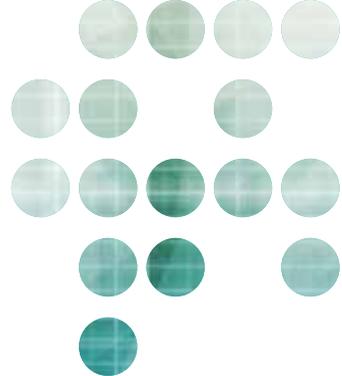
RADS - THE DANISH COUNCIL FOR THE USE OF EXPENSIVE HOSPITAL MEDICINES

GOALS:

- > Clinical consensus about best drug therapy
- > Nationwide uniform treatment
- > Increased price competition between drugs
- > More health for our money

AMGROS MEDICINES TURNOVER 1991-2011. DKK





BACKGROUND

In October 2009 the Board of the Danish Regions (the interest organization for the five regions in Denmark) decided to set up the Council for the Use of Expensive Hospital medicines (Rådet for Anvendelse af Dyr Sygehusmedicin - RADS).

RADS consists of representatives from the five regions in Denmark, the Danish Health and Medicines Agency, the Danish Society of Clinical Pharmacology, Amgros, and Danish Regions. The chairman is appointed by the regions.

RADS ensures that all patients have equal access to treatment with expensive hospital medicines on a nationwide basis. This is accomplished through common clinical treatment guidelines for the use of each medication. Adhering to these clinical treatment guidelines is mandatory.

On an ongoing basis RADS appoints committees with leading national experts in different clinical fields with the task of preparing common national treatment guidelines. The committee chairmen are nominated by the Organization of Danish Medical Societies.

The clinical treatment guidelines are revised when necessary.

The common clinical treatment guidelines give the regions a potential for achieving better prices through larger calls for tenders on the included drugs.

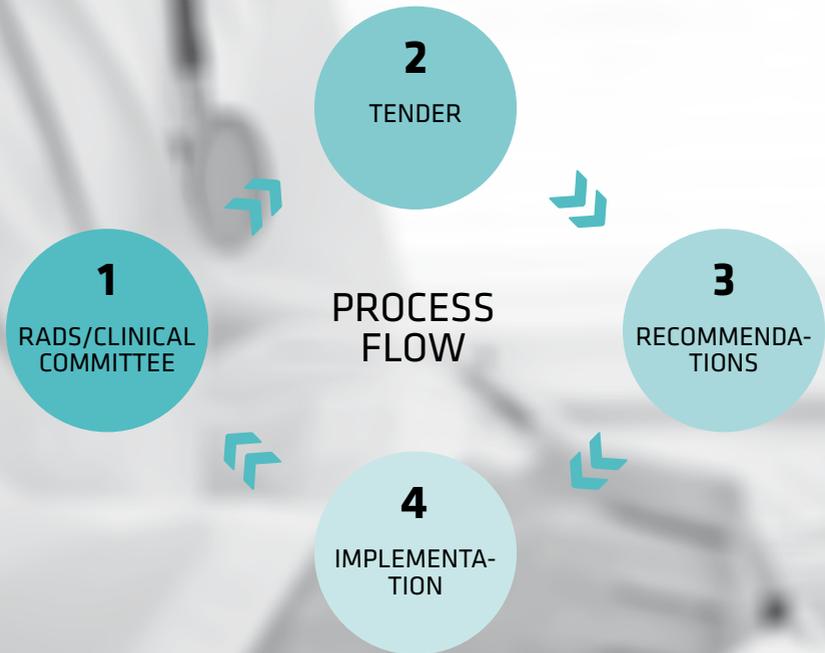
The purpose of RADS is thus dual: improved quality of drug therapy and more advantageous drug prices. In other words: more health for our money.

Danish Regions and Amgros share joint secretariat responsibility for the RADS steering council while Amgros is the committees' secretariat.

RADS DEALS WITH

- > Drugs that are a major hospital expense
- > Drugs characterized by a fast growing rise in costs
- > New medications with a high cost potential
- > Areas in which common regional consensus is needed

THE PROCESS FOR WORK IN RADS AND THE CLINICAL COMMITTEES



1



The secretariat recommends the treatment area to be dealt with



RADS sets up a clinical committee and appoints a chairman nominated by the Organization of Danish Medical Societies



The clinical committee coordinates and ensures evidence-based consensus



RADS approves the clinical treatment guidelines and evaluation of patient basis

2



Tender criteria are determined in a dialogue with the clinical committee



RADS sends out calls for tender on the basis of the Clinical treatment guidelines



Quotations are evaluated and contracts drawn up with the winners

3



Drug recommendations and compliance goals for named drugs are presented to RADS



The secretariat notifies health directors, drug committees and hospital pharmacies



The material is published

4



The Regions implement the recommendations



Amgros monitors usage figures and briefs the Regions

OPENNESS AND INVOLVEMENT IN RADS

In order to ensure as much openness as possible about work in process in RADS, various items of information are published on the Danish Regions' website. Each guideline is published on the website immediately after it has been approved by RADS. In the same way the actual recommendations following the finalized tenders will be made available on the website.

When a new clinical committee is established, all relevant Patient Associations will have the opportunity to send in any information they find should be taken into consideration by the clinical committee. These Patient Associations will also be invited to a meeting with the clinical committee chairman when a guideline draft is near completion.

In the same way the industry also has access to the clinical committees, with an opportunity to present documentation for a specific drug as well as documents pertaining to them.



GUIDELINE IMPLEMENTATION

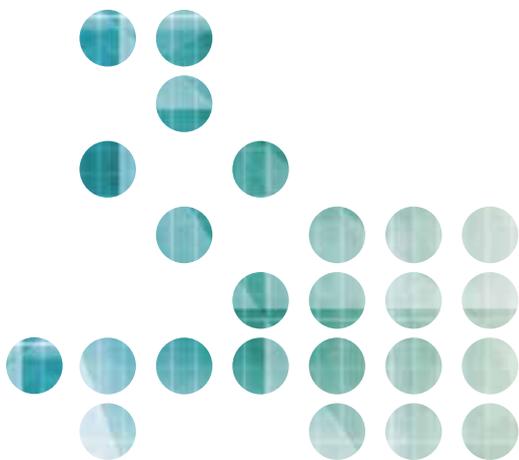
Amgros conducts each tender on the basis of the RADS guidelines. After tender completion RADS receives information about the tender results, drug recommendations and compliance goals for named drugs. This information

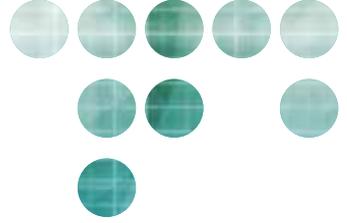
is then sent on to the Regions. The Regions are responsible for the implementation of the guidelines and the accompanying recommendations.

MONITORING AND FOLLOW-UP

Amgros has set up a method to monitor the Regions' drug use. This management information is based on consumption data, providing an indication of drug usage in each Region as well as any deviation from the stipulated compliance goals.

This system monitors the Regions' drug consumption down to hospital clinic level. This can be an aid when discussing actual use from a clinical point of view in the individual hospital clinics.





RADS TERMS OF REFERENCE

- > RADS determines the focus areas for common clinical treatment guidelines and recommendation lists
- > RADS sets up the clinical committees who work out suggestions for common clinical treatment guidelines
- > RADS appoints a chairman for each committee upon recommendation from the Medical Societies and decides which medical branches to include in the committee. The chairman of the committee can decide to add persons found to have qualifications judged essential for the committee work
- > RADS approves the guidelines drawn up by the committees
- > RADS publishes information about the setting up of a committee on the Danish Regions website
- > It is the duty of RADS to ensure that the Regions are notified about the treatment guidelines etc., followed by notification about the relevant recommendations

FURTHER INFORMATION

The RADS secretariat publishes any new information at www.regioner.dk

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