



NHIS GLOBAL FORUM **2025**

Community-centered healthcare: Strengthening care through digitalization

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for Health Services Research**

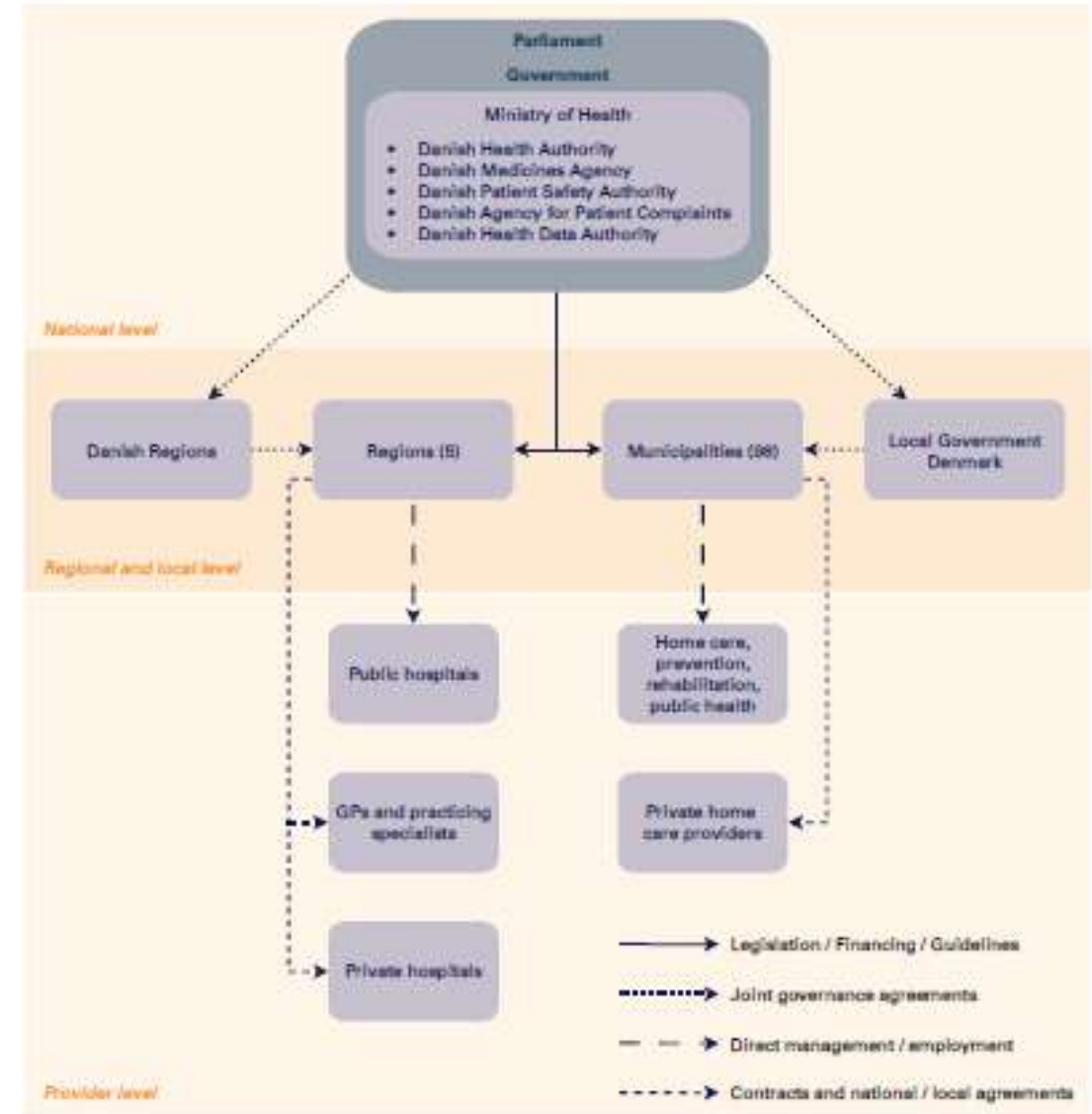
The Kingdom of Denmark

- The Kingdom of Denmark consists of Denmark, Greenland and the Faroe Islands, and is also referred to as the Danish Realm.
- Total population: 6.0 million
- High income economy with relatively even income distribution
- Stable democracy, consensus driven, minority governments
- Leading in digitization in Europe



Danish Healthcare System: key features

- Three administrative levels: state, region and municipality
- All registered Danish residents are entitled to publicly financed care, which is largely free at the point of use.
- The key public health challenges are similar to those across countries in northern Europe
- Advanced data infrastructure



Key health care features: Denmark vs Korea

- **Expenditure, Percentage of GDP**

9.44% vs. 9.88%

- **Number of Practicing physicians, Per 1000 inhabitants**

4.25 vs. 2.51

- **Total doctor consultations, Number per capita**

6.20 vs. 17.50

- **Average length of hospital stay**

6.10 vs. 7.20



Source: OECD



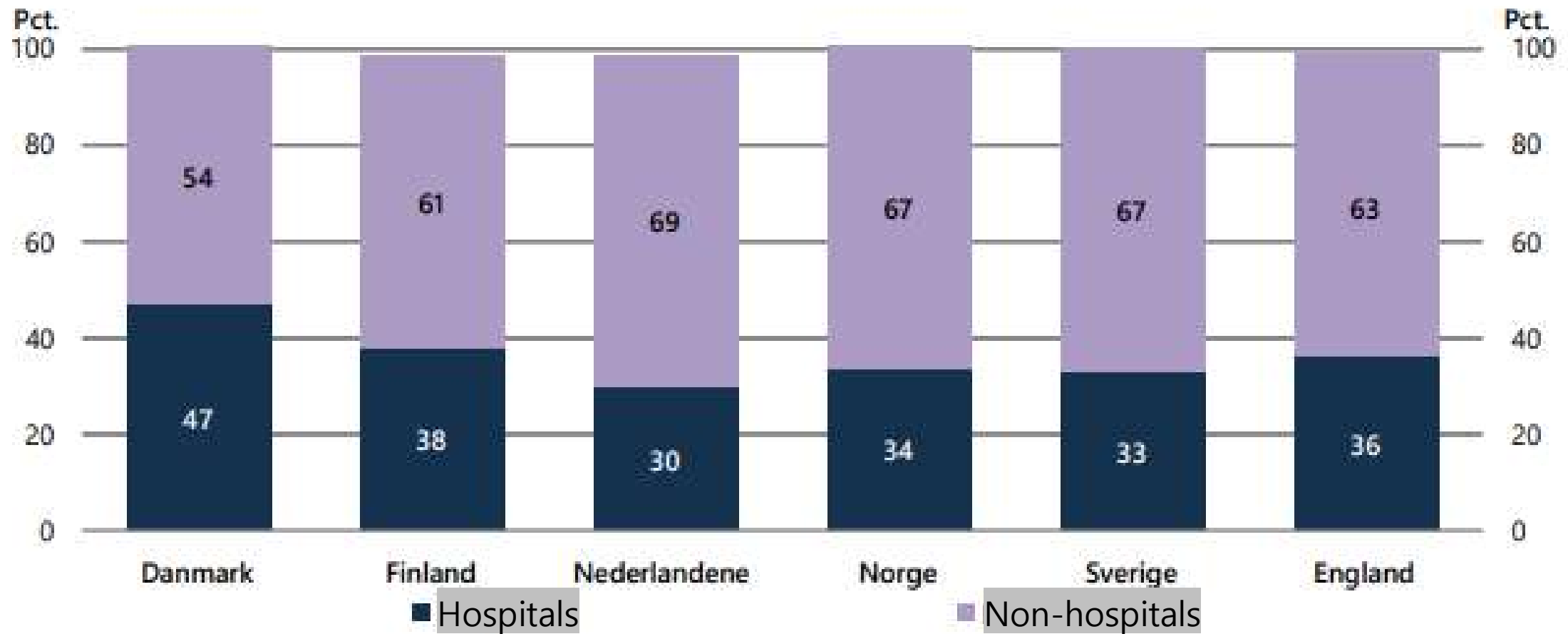
Backdrop

- The double demographic pressure
- Development in expenses
- Growth in technological opportunities
- Citizens' expectations
- Recruitment, retention, and well-being of staff
- Inequality in health service delivery

Source: Health Structure Commission, June 2024

Figur 3

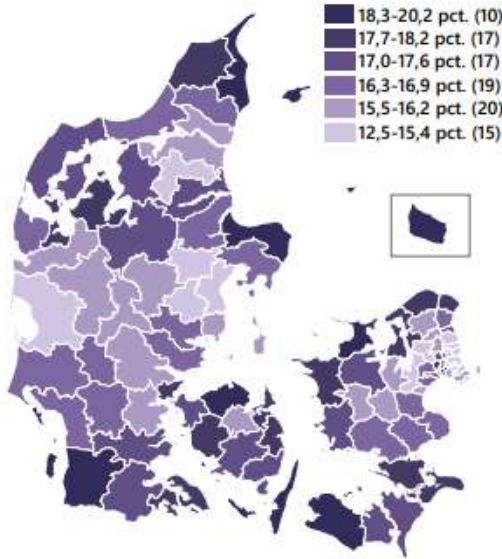
Health care costs, according to sector, selected countries 2019



			
	Specialist	Junior doctors	Nurses
REGION HOVEDSTADEN	121	110	32
REGION SJÆLLAND	236	199	50
REGION SYDDANMARK	178	186	39
REGION MIDTJYLLAND	170	156	34
REGION NORDJYLLAND	196	200	41

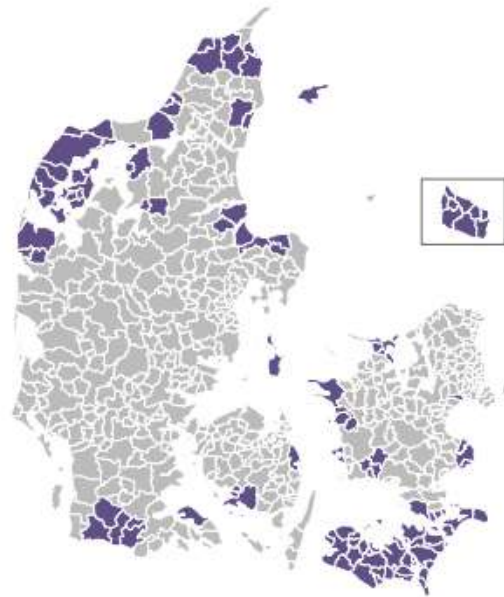
Number of citizens +60 years per specialist, junior doctor or nurse

Proportion of citizen with chronic disease, per 1000



Anm.: De udvalgte kroniske sygdomme: astma, demens, kronisk obstruktiv lungesygdom (KOL), leddegigt, osteoporose, type 1-diabetes og type 2-diabetes.
Kilde: Registeret for udvalgte kroniske sygdomme og svære psykiske lidelser (RUKS), CPR-registeret, Sundhedsdatastyrelsen.

Areas with shortage of doctors



Anm.: Lægedækningstruede områder er fastlagt for hele den indeværende overenskomstperiode 2021-2024. De er kendetegnet ved at have en stor andel borgere tilknyttet, fx udbuds- og regionsklinikker, patientgrundlag med relativt store sundhedsbehov, vanskeligheder ved at sælge en lægepraksis, og de nuværende læger nærmer sig pensionsalderen.
Kilde: PLO, landsdækkende lægedækningstruede områder.



Kommission
for **robusthed i**
sundhedsvæsenet

Robusthedskommissionens anbefalinger

SUNDHEDSSTRUKTUR-
KOMMISSIONEN



Sundhedsstruktur- kommissionens rapport

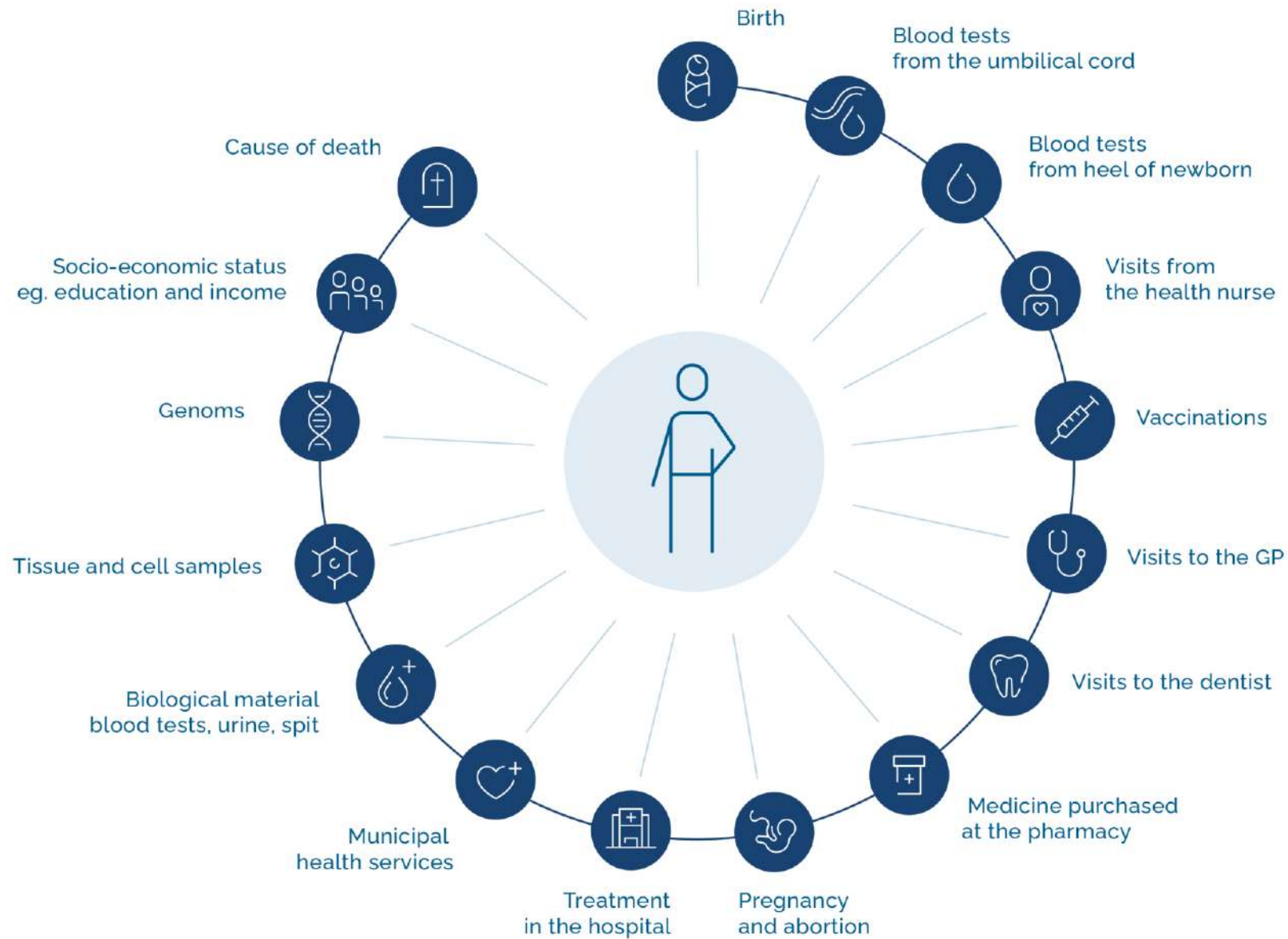
Beslutningsgrundlag for et mere lige, sammenhængende
og bæredygtigt sundhedsvæsen

Juni 2024

Key elements of the Danish health care reform

- **Shift focus** from hospitals to **primary, local, and home-based care**
- **Reduce regional inequalities** in access to GPs and specialists
- **Strengthen care continuity**, particularly for chronic and mental health conditions
- **Boost digitalization and innovation** to support more efficient and accessible care
- **Achieve greater transparency** in health care prioritization

Health data from cradle to grave



A long history of data collection



1960

Biological
samples



1970

Cause of death



1973

Abortion



1977

Pregnancy



1977

Visits from the
Health nurse



1977

Treatment
in the hospital



1990

Visits to the GP



1987

Socio-economic
status (income)



1982

Blood test from the
heel of newborns



1991

Socio-economic
status (education)



1995

Clinical Quality Registries

e.g. Quality Database for
Breast Cancer (DBCQ)



1996

Vaccinations



1997

Medicine purchased
at the pharmacy



2004

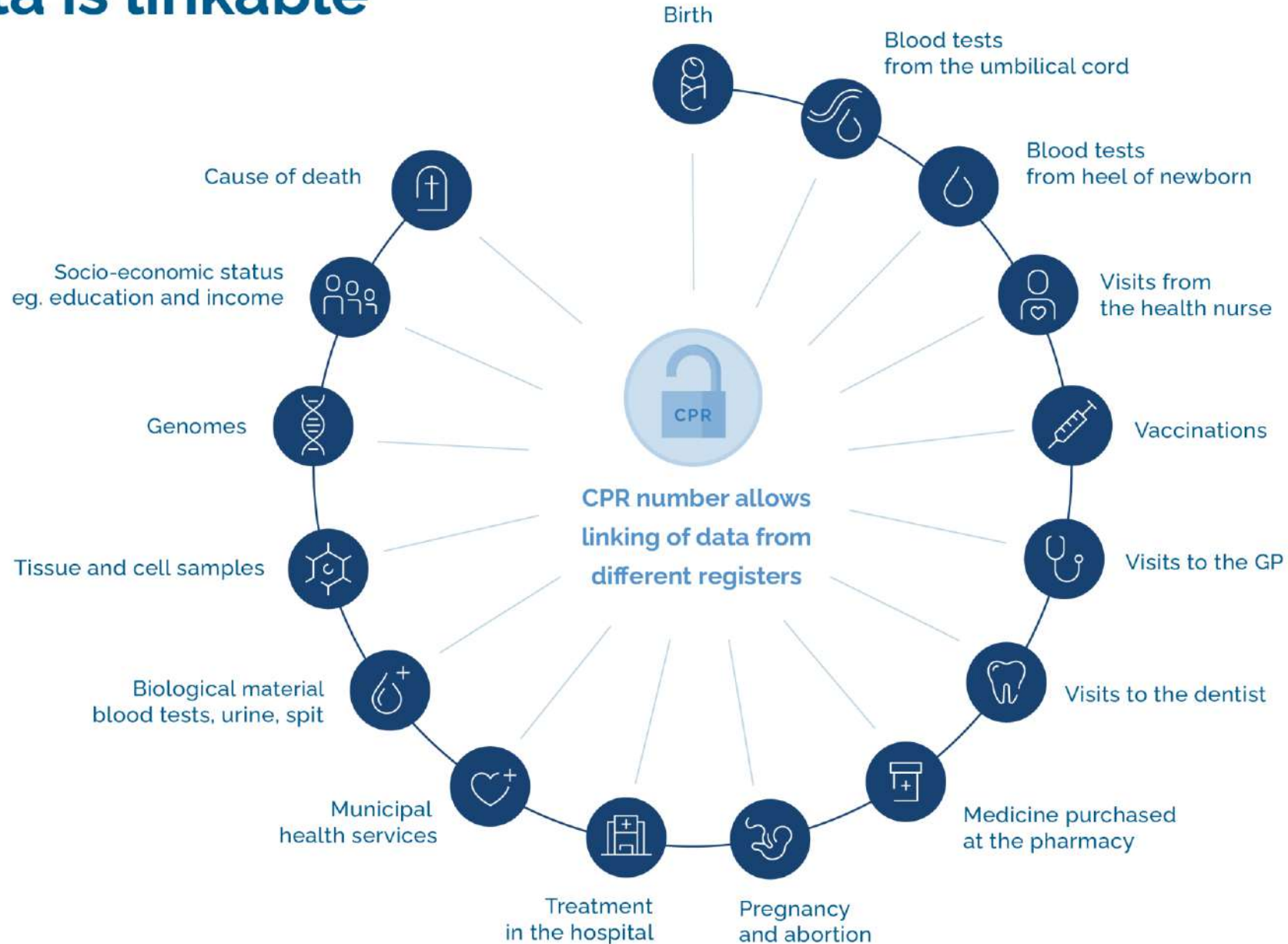
Health services
in the municipalities



2019

Genomes

All data is linkable



National eHealth platforms

- **Sundhed.dk:** A national health portal offering:
 - Access to personal health records
 - Laboratory results
 - Medication overview
 - Communication with GPs and hospitals
- **Fælles Medicinkort (FMK):** A **shared medication record** used across the system to avoid prescription errors.
- **EPJ (Electronic Patient Journals):** Integrated across regions and settings.

Telemedicine and remote monitoring

- Denmark has invested in **telehealth services**, particularly for:
 - COPD
 - Heart failure
 - Diabetes
- Supported by programs like **TeleCare North** and national strategies for **virtual consultations**.

Strong security framework

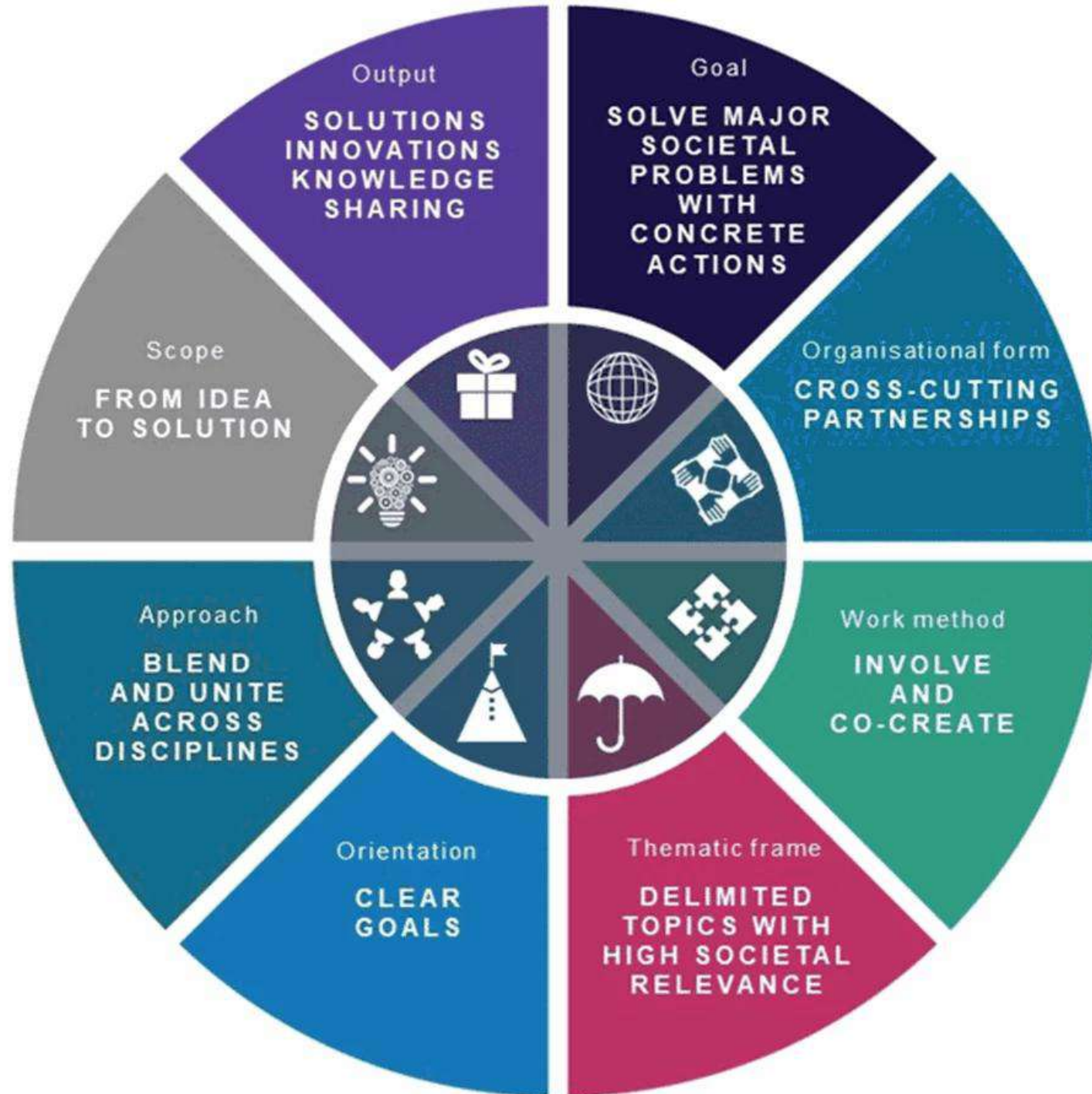
- Strong **data protection laws** and governance under GDPR.
- National agencies like **MedCom** and **The Danish Health Data Authority** coordinate standards, architecture, and ethical use of data.

Support for AI, innovation, and research

- Denmark is advancing AI-driven health solutions supported by:
 - Digital Health Denmark
 - Innovation hubs and public-private partnerships
- Real-world data and digital infrastructure are key enablers for **precision medicine** and **population health research**.

Challenges

- Is the complexity and sum of changes too high?
- Is the coordination capacity sufficient?
- Can the speed of implementation of political and management decisions be increased?



Best for Us

A comprehensive new stepped care model for delivering care to children and young people with treatment-requiring mental health problems and mental disorders



Best for Us is a partnership between

novo nordisk
foundation



THE OBEL
FAMILY
FOUNDATION



PSYCHIATRY

Central partners



AALBORG
UNIVERSITY



Aalborg
Kommune

Thisted Kommune



Hjørring Kommune



Mariagerfjord
Kommune

The current model is under pressure

Long waiting times and difficult to access

Too little and too late

Limited intervention- and treatment offers

Too few evidence-based offers

Lack of coherence and geographical variations

Strains and contribute to inequality



What does Best for Us strive to achieve

Vision

Better access, higher quality of care and improved outcomes for children and young people with mental health problems and mental disorders.

Success criteria by mid-2029

To develop and implement a regional anchored stepped care model to ensure more and better treatment in time for more children and young people with mental health problems and mental disorders. This will be done in close collaboration with other key players, not least the other regions, to ensure potential for scalability.

Conclusion



- Denmark will implement a major health care reform in the period 2025-2030.
- The reform is intended to substantially strengthen primary care and non-specialized services.
- Denmark already has a strong digital health care infrastructure, but further investments are considered key for the success of the reform
- Central elements in the digital strategy is national coordination, innovation and effective implementation
- An increased focus on using a mission-driven approach to address complex challenges is warranted: Involvement of all stake holders, clear goals, well-defined mandates, and prioritized resources.