FUTURE DISTRIBUTION MODELS FOR PAID PHARMACEUTICALS: THE PATIENT'S PERSPECTIVE

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AIM

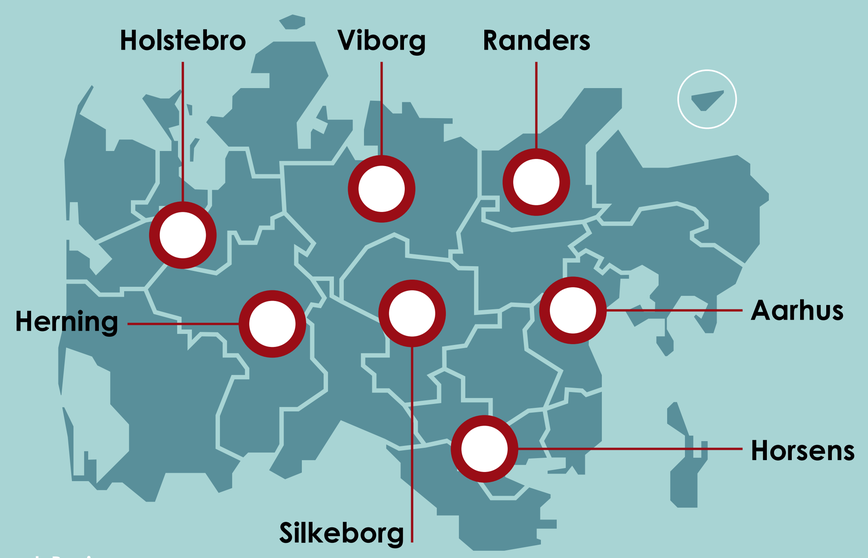
- To identify patient needs and preferred delivery model for the distribution of paid pharmaceuticals

BACKGROUND

- Expensive pharmaceuticals are given to patients for free by the hospital (paid pharmaceuticals, PPs)
- 35,000 patients receive PPs in the Central Denmark Region, either by picking them up at the hospital ward, or by shipment from the Hospital Pharmacy
- To ensure high quality and that patient needs are met, the distribution model is reworked

MATERIALS AND METHODS

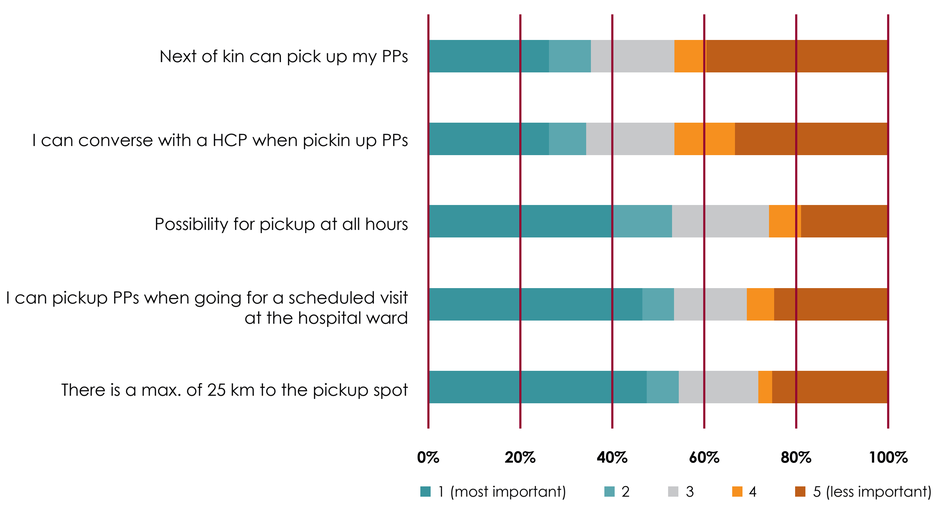
- An electronic questionnaire was distributed to patients from different hospitals around the Central Denmark Region (Figure 1)
- Patients (n=190) were asked to prioritize five predefined factors for the distribution of PPs
- Patients in the habit of picking up PPs at the hospital wards (n=145) were asked to evaluate the importance of being able to converse with a healthcare professional (HCP)



RESULTS

Responders	n=190
Men	52%
50+ years old	75%
Having a connective tissue disease	40%
Have got PPs for more than 6 months	93%
Not employed	56%

HOW PATIENTS PRIORITIZE FIVE PREDEFINED FACTORS FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF PPS



Other factors, identified by the patients
- Possibility to park my car
- Home delivery
- Discretion
- Larger quantity in each delivery

Importance of being able to converse with a HCP when picking up the PPs	n=145
Not important	40%
Sometimes important	30%
Important	25%
Don´t know	5%
The conversation could be by the telephone instead	**n=78**
Yes	47%
No	35%
Don´t know	18%

CONCLUSION

- Distance to the pickup spot and flexibility in the hours available for pickup were identified as important factors for the patients receiving PPs
- These important findings will be taken into account when decisions on future distribution models for PPs are made

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