



Canadian Digital Delegation to Denmark (October 20, 2020) Outcomes Report

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Digital Health Delegation provided an opportunity for Canadian and Danish government and health care sector stakeholders to exchange ideas and best practices on acceleration of health system innovation. Denmark is one of the world's most digitized countries. Its world leading digital health solutions were built through strong public-private partnerships and a supportive policy and business environment that enabled innovation and integration of many of these digital tools into the health system. The ultimate aim of the digital delegation was to help build bridges and catalyze collaboration between our two countries.

The event featured a number of presentations from Danish officials, private sector representatives, and other healthcare leaders on key aspects of the Danish healthcare system, followed by a moderated Q&A session. A number of themes emerged throughout the discussions (covered in greater detail below), including: (1) Trust (2) Everything Digital (3) Public-Private Partnership (4) A Constant Journey

WELCOME REMARKS

Mrs. Hanne Fugl Eskjær, the Danish Ambassador to Canada

GENERAL INTRODUCTION TO THE DANISH HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

Mr. Hans Erik Henriksen, CEO, Healthcare DENMARK

PATIENT JOURNEY THROUGH A DIGITALIZED HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

Mrs. Nanna Skovgaard, Head of Division, the Danish Ministry of Health

SHARED MEDICATION RECORD

Mr. Kenneth Bøgelund Ahrensberg, Danish Health Data Agency, Ministry of Health

THE DANISH NATIONAL BIOBANK

Mr. Lasse Boding, Section leader, the Danish National Biobank

DEVELOPING NON-INVASIVE TECHNOLOGIES TO BUILD DISEASE UNDERSTANDING

Mr. Kasper Juul, Director – External Innovation, LEO Science & Tech Hub

DIGITAL APPLICATIONS IN MENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH

Mr. Christian Brasen, Senior Project Manager, Lundbeck

COVID-19 RAPID RESPONSE: DOUBLING DENMARK'S COVID-19 TESTING CAPACITY THROUGH INNOVATIVE PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Ms. Katrine DiBona, Corporate Vice-President - Global Public Affairs and Sustainability, Novo Nordisk A/S

MODERATED DISCUSSION, Q&A

Moderator: Ms. Shirlee Sharkey, President and CEO of SE Health & Healthcare DENMARK Ambassador



KEY THEMES FROM DISCUSSION

THEME 1: PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

- One of the recurring themes throughout the discussions was the importance of public-private sector cooperation and the need to develop partnerships based on trust as key ingredients to Denmark's digital transformation.
- In Denmark, the government relies on private sector expertise to find innovative solutions to problems. The private sector is viewed as a trusted and valued partner to government and are viewed as integral members of the health ecosystem.
- The private sector also plays an important role in filling in budget gaps for government when implementing new strategies and methods, as accelerating innovation into the system requires considerable upfront investment.
- It was noted that in Canada it is not as easy as it should be for government to turn to the private sector for assistance, however, COVID-19 has driven the need for more collaboration out of necessity.
- The Digital Delegation showcased a number of effective public-private partnerships in Denmark, including:

LEO Science & Tech Hub is developing non-invasive technologies that will enable precision medicine by building unique disease understanding and improving patient's quality of life.



Lundbeck Digital solutions are an integrated part of clinical studies. Real World Data allows us to understand what characterizes patient groups and patient trajectories on a group level. Digital Health Technologies like apps and wearables can also be used during the studies to get more patient centric and high-resolution information.

Novo Nordisk Testing is a critical aspect of global efforts to slow the spread of COVID-19. In Denmark, Novo Nordisk A/S has worked in partnership with the Danish health service by dedicating laboratories, staff and equipment to increase testing capacity.





THEME 2: TRUST

- An important factor in the success of data and connectivity in Denmark is social cohesion and trust. Patients trust the government and are willing to communicate and interact with the public sector and ultimately share their health data.
- Privacy is implemented according to the 'privacy by design' method, as well as by the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).
- At the aggregated level, data is all anonymized, requiring no need for consent.
- As part of the Danish government's efforts to move healthcare closer to citizens, patients now have a login function in the patient portal www.sundhed.dk to see who is accessing their data.
- Obstacles to further health system digitization in Canada include laws and regulations to protect data out of concern for how it could be used (e.g. by insurance companies or others with a profit motive). Denmark has also struggled with this, but it has taken important steps (e.g. through the implementation of a "digital law") to overcome these challenges.
- Public-private partnerships, as showcased during the event by LEO Pharma, Novo Nordisk and Lundbeck, all required trust between government and industry partners in order to execute successfully.

THEME 3: EVERYTHING DIGITAL

- No paper is used in the Danish health system. All referrals, lab results, medication records, etc., are now digital. This has made the health system both cost effective and more efficient.
- Danish health data is unique because it includes high quality health data collected over long periods of time, with comprehensive health data registries and a unique personal identification number that makes it possible to link data across these different registries.
- The government views better data as a potential cost reduction to the system and is willing to invest in the infrastructure and strategy in order to implement digital solutions.
- One major challenge identified by Denmark is that its health data is stored in silos. However, they have taken a proactive approach and created national strategies to overcome this challenge.
- The Shared Medication Record is an example of one of the most significant projects in the digitalisation of Danish healthcare. The record is fully implemented across all levels of healthcare: municipal, regional and national. It provides citizens as well as healthcare professionals access to an updated overview of the present medication of every citizen. Every access is logged in order to ensure that it is only seen by people with a legitimate reason. Today the record forms an important part of the backbone of the Danish health-IT infrastructure.
- With the establishment of a very large national biobank and the possibility of linkage between biological specimens and the information contained in the extensive Danish health registers (Denmark is known as a Health Data Goldmine), Danish research is given new and unique possibilities.



HEALTHCARE DENMARK FACTS:



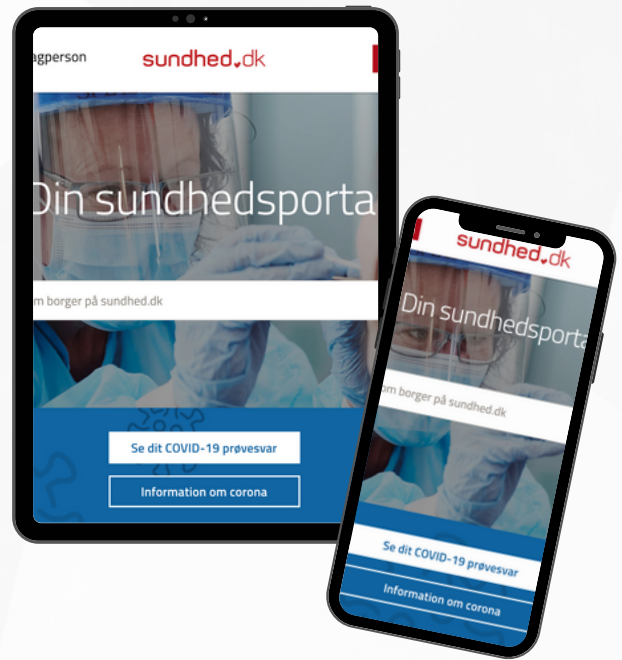
NATIONAL EHEALTH STRATEGY DATES BACK TO 1999



DENMARK IS ONE OF THE LEADING TELEHEALTH NATIONS AND ALL DANES HAVE ACCESS TO OWN ELECTRONIC PATIENT RECORD



1/3 OF POPULATION VISIT SUNDHED.DK APP EVERY MONTH



THEME 4: A CONSTANT JOURNEY

- Denmark's digital transformation has been driven by citizens and their expectations to have everything digital.
- While Denmark enjoys one of the most digitalized health systems, it isn't perfect and its developers and users are always seeking improvement. For instance, according to survey data 66% percent of citizens do not believe that there is sufficient coherence between hospitals, GPs and municipalities in the health system.
- Coherence vs integration: Denmark's view of health care delivery has slowly evolved from one focused on integration (provider view) to one focused on coherence (citizen/patient view). This was one area identified as in need of improvement in Canada.
- The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance of more virtual care options, including with respect to mental health.

PLEASE REACH OUT TO THE DANISH TRADE COUNCIL IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN GETTING IN TOUCH WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF DENMARK'S HEALTHCARE SYSTEM:

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