

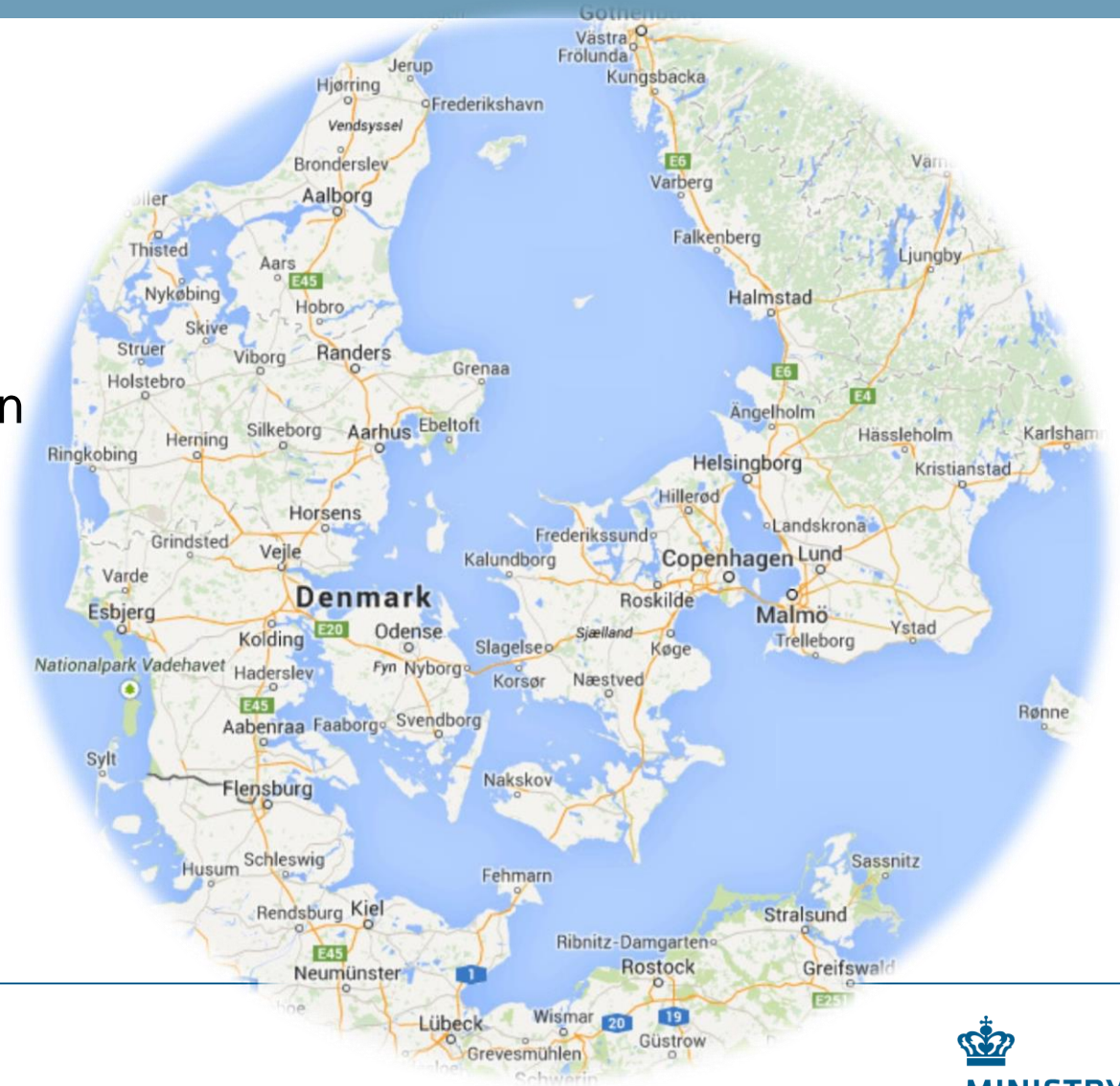
Danish Healthcare System

17 November 2016

- **Introduction to the Danish healthcare system**
/ Advisor Ms Camilla Villumsen, Ministry of Health
 - Organisation of the Danish Healthcare System
 - Facts and Financing in Danish Healthcare
 - Danish National Child Vaccination Programme (in brief)

Denmark

- **Capital:** Copenhagen
- **Population:** 5.7 million
- **Area:** 43,094 km²
- **GDP** per capita: 59,831\$
- **Language:** Danish



The Danish Healthcare System

**Universal
Coverage**

**Free & Equal
Access**

**Financed by
general taxes**

**A high degree of
decentralization**



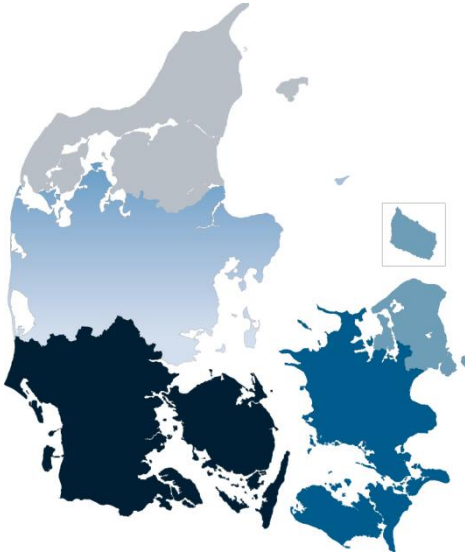
Organization of the Healthcare System

National Level



Ministry of Health

Regional Level



5 Regions

Local Level



98 Municipalities



National responsibilities

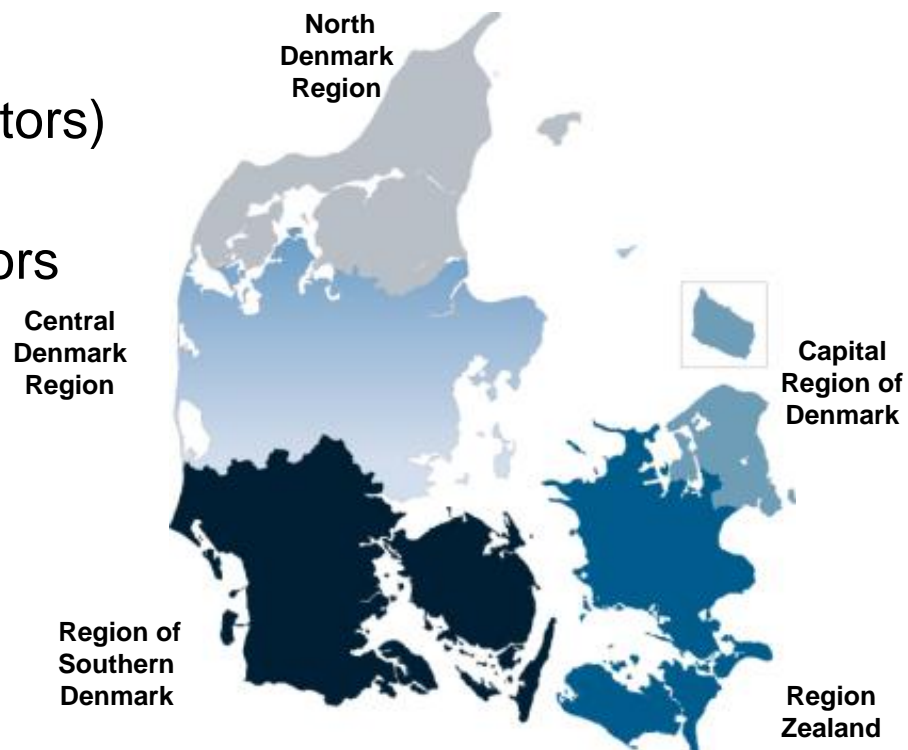
Regulating, coordinating and advisory functions:

- Determining national health policies, e.g. **national vaccination programmes**
- Preparing new legislation
- Setting overall economic framework
- General planning within the health system
- Developing guidelines
- Performing control



Regional responsibilities

- Hospital and psychiatric care
- General Practitioners (family doctors)
- Private practicing specialist doctors
- Adults dental services
- Physiotherapy

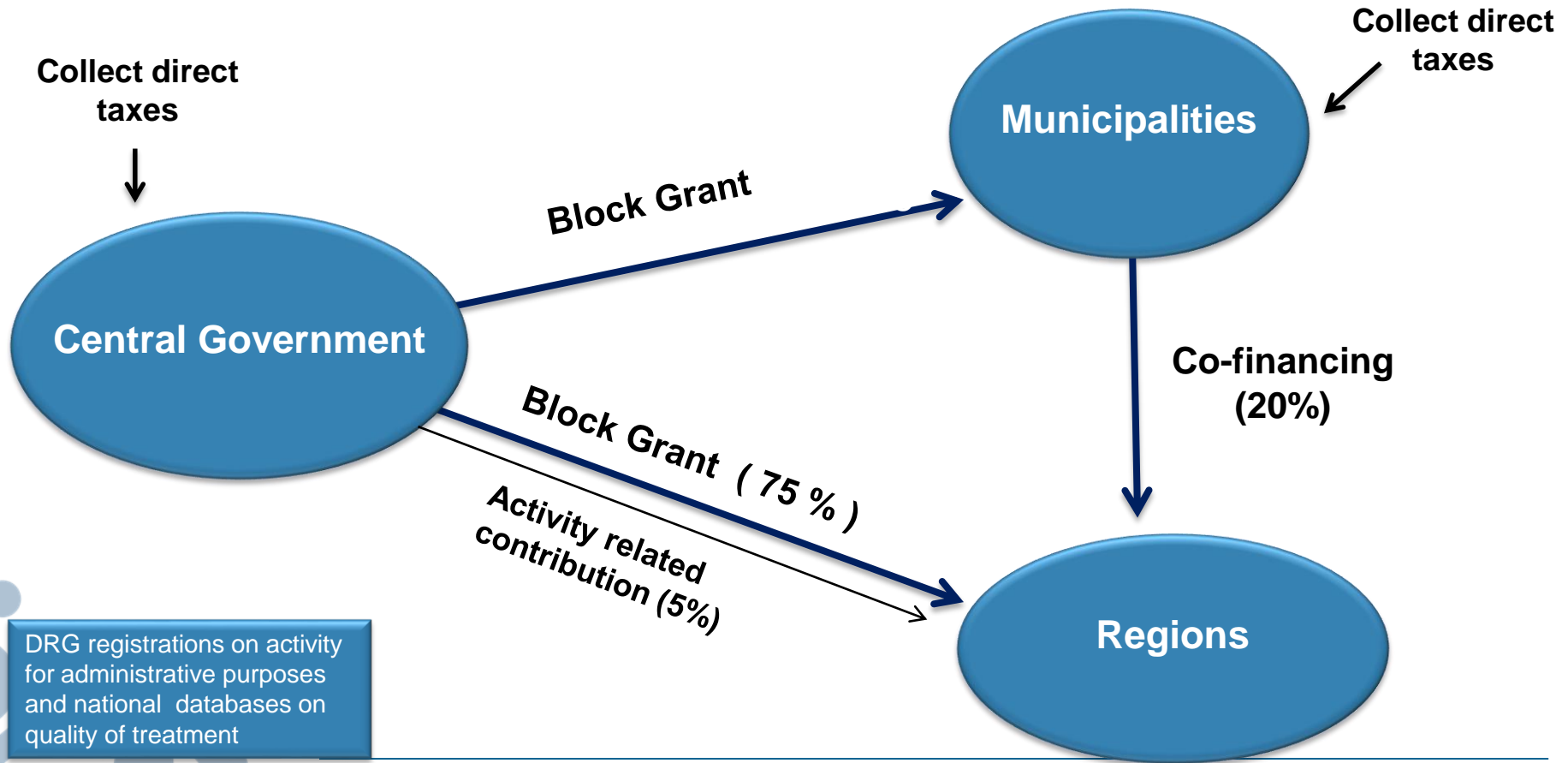


Municipal responsibilities

- Elderly care
- Preventive care and health promotio
- Rehabilitation outside hospital
- Treatment of alcohol and drug abuse
- Child nursing



Financing Healthcare



The Danish National Child Vaccination Programme

Purpose: Danish health authorities seek to:

- Protect the individual against disease
- Prevent infection from spreading in society and affect people who are not immunized (too young or too weak)
- Contribute to extinction of severe, contagious diseases worldwide

Vaccinations included are free of charge for children under 18 years and voluntary. Annual cost around 20 million Euros.



Decision Making and Framework of the Programme

Minister of Health lays down rules on which vaccines to include and where to target the effort (target groups).

National Board of Health has overall responsibility for the programme and recommends vaccines to be included.

SSI and Board of Health monitor the programme and occurrence of infectious diseases.

Danish Medicines Agency in co-operation with EMA approve new vaccines and monitor safety.



Criteria for Including Vaccines in the Programme

- The severity and frequency of the disease.
- Broad experience with the vaccine among children
- Beneficial effect when compared to side effects.
- Parents' informed consent
- Interactions and integration in the vaccination program
- Economics

Severity criterion has high priority.



Introduction of New Vaccines in the Programme

- In the assessment of new vaccines Board of Health consults with its Immunization Committee
- If Board of Health decides a new vaccine should be introduced, the Board establishes a basis for recommendation to the Minister
- SSI ensures the supply of vaccines to the programme
- Procurement of vaccines is tendered under the applicable rules
- Tenders are evaluated against the set tender criteria, which include assessment of vaccine efficacy, safety and cost



Vaccine-Preventable Diseases in the Programme

- Diphtheria
- Tetanus
- Whooping cough
- Polio (poliomyelitis)
- Meningeal infection and epiglottitis (Haemophilus influenzae type b)
- Meningitis etc. (pneumococcal bacteria)
- Measles
- Mumps
- Rubella
- Cervical cancer



Monitoring of the Vaccination Programme

- Suspected adverse reactions to vaccines are reported to Danish Medicines Agency and examined regularly
- Physicians treating a patient with diseases under the programme and laboratories demonstrating these diseases must report to SSI and National Board of Health.
- Cervical cancer cases reported like other cancers in the Danish Cancer Registry.



Building Confidence

High level of support for childhood immunization can only be achieved through public confidence in the health authorities.

Health authorities inform parents, day care centers, schools and health professionals about recommendations and benefits of vaccination:

- Information via various publications eg
- Folder 'childhood vaccination program in Denmark' (2016)
- The guidelines 'Infectious diseases in children and adolescents - Guidance on prevention in day care centers, schools, etc.' (2013)
- Information campaigns



Current Challenges and Initiatives

- Substantial decline in HPV-vaccine coverage in DK. Board of Health – in alignment with EMA – strongly recommends the vaccine.
- A number of young women are still suffering from POTS etc. In 2015 Danish Regions introduced “One Entrance” – GPs refer patients to one central hospital ward in each region.
- Danish National Board of Health has advised the regions on a uniform organization of the wards under “One Entrance”.
- Research: In 2015 Danish Government allocated 1 million Euros to research initiatives on possible link between the vaccine and adverse reactions. Other national, regional and private research is also being carried out.



Thank you for your attention

