



ACERH

AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH ON HEALTH

SEMINAR

Monday, 15 March 2010, 11:00am-12:00noon

ES Meyers Lecture Theatre
1st floor, Mayne Medical School Building
University of Queensland
Herston Road, Herston

Socio-demographic patient profiles and hospital efficiency: Does patient mix affect hospitals' ability to perform?

Professor Dorte Gyrd-Hansen

**The Institute of Public Health, University of Southern Denmark, and
ACERH (UQ)**

The Speaker

Professor Dorte Gyrd-Hansen is a Professor at The Institute of Public Health at the University of Southern Denmark and Director of Research at the Danish Institute of Health Services Research. She is a member of the Danish Research Council as well as the Danish Council of Strategic Research, and vice chairman of The Danish Graduate School in Public Health Science. She is a member of the board of directors of the International Health Economics Association (iHEA) and is a member of the Arrow Awards Committee. She is currently a visiting scholar at ACERH (UQ).

Abstract

Considerable variation in the socio-demographic characteristics of patients across Danish hospitals is observed. It is confirmed that longer length of stay is a predictor of decreased levels of productivity at the hospital level. Since socio-demographic patient characteristics are likely to drive the need for longer hospital stays beyond what is captured in DRG scores, we explore the association between length of stay and socio-demographic patient profiles using patient level data, and find a number of statistically significant associations. This suggests that the Danish system of remunerating hospitals, which is partly based on DRG scores, discriminates hospitals operating in more deprived areas. However, controlling for socio-demography to adjust for variations in efficiency that are incurred by these factors, only has a moderate impact on the relative ranking of hospitals.

Enquiries

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