



DANISH PATIENT
SAFETY AUTHORITY

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Patient safety comes before the healthcare professional - employer involvement.

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Abstract

In Denmark legislation on authorisation of healthcare professionals underwent a revision in 2016 giving the Danish Patient Safety Authority (DPSA) a wider range of possible sanctions towards healthcare professionals who are a risk to patient safety because of lack of skills or because of mental or physical illness, or abuse of drugs or alcohol. When the DPSA receives notification about a healthcare professional, who could be a possible risk, the case will receive an initial criticality rating before it is assigned to a case officer and an investigative plan is made. When the case is sufficiently disclosed a decision is made to ensure patient safety. Employer involvement more often plays an important part in the control measures set up around the healthcare professional.



- Hard-liner legislation
 - Strammerloven
- Disclosure
 - Oplysning af sag
- Precautionary control measures (safeguards)
 - Kontrolforanstaltninger
- Employer involvement
 - Arbejdsgiverinvolvering



Hard-line legislation

Authorisation legislation of healthcare professionals was revised in 2016 – also known as “***The hard-line legislation***”

Gave DPSA a wider range of possible sanctions when a healthcare professional showed shortcomings in their

Professional standard (*faglighed*)

- ...by a lack of skills

Capability (*egnethed*)

- ...by having an illness
 - Mental or physical illness
 - Drug or alcohol abuse.



Disclosure

- DPSA receives a notification about a healthcare professional
- Case receives an initial criticality rating
 - Very critical
 - Critical
 - Less critical
 - Not critical (case closed)
- Case is assigned to a case officer
- Case officer prepares an investigative plan
- When case is sufficiently disclosed a decision is made



Working in a controlled environment

Terms of retaining an authorization

- Health evaluation
 - Psychiatric, neurological and/or anesthesiologist evaluation
- Treatment
 - Urine control as part of the treatment
 - Therapy
- Disclosing personal health data
- Precautionary control measures (safeguards)
 - Urine control as a control measure
 - Involvement of the employer



Employer involvement...

...is an important part in the control measures set up around the healthcare professional.

Legal issues

- Taking into consideration the legal rights of the healthcare professional
- Taking into consideration patient safety
- Informing employer
- Employer handing over information about healthcare professional
- Exchanging information with employer - most extensive sharing of personal information about HCP



Employer involvement

Advantage

- Employer supervision
- See the symptoms and thereby prevents relapse of illness/abuse

Disadvantage

- Requires employer insight in the HCP's illness/abuse and understanding that combined with other control measures patient safety is ensured
- Lack off resources/knowledge results in the HCP being laid off with grave consequences for the HCP





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Questions



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