

Press release

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Basic information

Name: Amanda Paust Email: amasa@ph.au.dk Phone: +45 4277 0628

Department of: Public Health

Main supervisor: Flemming Bro

Title of dissertation: Social Inequality in Medical Treatment

Date for defence: 2 May 2024 at (time of day): 1:00 p.m. Place: Lakeside Lecture Theatres, Eduard Biermann Auditorium (room 204), building 1252, Bartholins Allé 3, Aarhus University, Denmark

Press release (Danish)

Social ulighed i medicinsk behandling

Flere lever længere med kroniske sygdomme, og det øger risikoen for at få potentielt uhensigtsmæssig medicin. Risikoen varierer mellem sociale grupper, hvilket kan skabe social ulighed i medicinsk behandling. Sundhedsvæsenet kan være med til at fastholde eller reducere denne ulighed. Almen praksis er afgørende for at fremme lige behandling, da de praktiserende læger er tæt på patienterne, har et samlet overblik over behandlingen og har mulighed for at inddrage patienterne i beslutninger.

Et nyt ph.d.-projekt fra Aarhus Universitet, Health har undersøgt sammenhænge mellem social position og potentielt uhensigtsmæssig medicin i fire studier. Resultaterne indikerer markant social ulighed i den medicinske behandling, relateret til både økonomiske, kulturelle og sociale ressourcer. Variationen i behandlingskvaliteten kan påvirkes af bl.a. klinikkens geografiske lokation, organiseringen af klinikken og klinikkens patientsammensætning. Ulighed i behandling kan bl.a. forklares med at almen praksis og patienterne er ude af takt, hvilket indebærer et mismatch mellem sundhedsvæsnets rytmer og patienters evner og muligheder for at forstå, navigere, forhandle og håndtere de tidlige takter i behandling. PREPAIR-spørgeskemaet, som er udviklet i ph.d.-projektet, ser ud til at understøtte patientforberedelse og -inddragelse i medicinsamtalen hos lægen, hvilket er kendt for at bidrage til en bedre behandling.

Projektet er gennemført af Amanda Paust, der forsvare sin ph.d.-afhandling "Social ulighed i medicinsk behandling" torsdag den 2. maj 2024 kl. 13.00 på Aarhus Universitet.

Forsvaret er offentligt og finder sted i Søauditorierne, Eduard Biermann Auditoriet (1252-204), Aarhus Universitet, Bartholins Allé 3, Aarhus.

Yderligere oplysninger: Ph.d.-studerende Amanda Paust: amasa@ph.au.dk, +45 4277 0628.

Bedømmelsesudvalg:

Professor Viola Burau, ph.d., MA Social Sciences, Institut for Folkesundhed, Aarhus Universitet (formand)

Professor Maria Kristiansen, ph.d., cand.scient.san.publ., Institut for Folkesundhedsvidenskab, Københavns Universitet

Senior Lecturer Barbara Clyne, PhD, MSocSc Sociology, Department of Public Health and Epidemiology, School of Population Health, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland

Press release (English)

Social Inequality in Medical Treatment

More people are living longer with chronic diseases, which increases the risk of receiving potentially inappropriate medication (PIM). The risk varies between social groups, suggesting social inequality in medical care. The healthcare system may help maintain or reduce this inequality. General practice is crucial in promoting equity, as general practitioners (GPs) are close to patients, have a comprehensive overview of their treatments and have the opportunity to involve the patients in decision-making.

A new PhD project from Aarhus University, Health has investigated associations between social position and PIM in four different studies. The results indicate significant social inequality in medical treatment. The inequality is associated with differences in economic, cultural and social capital. Among other factors, variations in health care are influenced by the geographical location of the GP clinic, the organisation of the clinic and the composition of the population listed at the clinic. Inequality in treatment can be explained by discordance between general practice and patients, which implies a mismatch between the rhythms of the healthcare system and patients' abilities and opportunities to understand, navigate, negotiate, and manage the temporal rhythms of treatment. The PREPAIR questionnaire developed in the PhD project appears to support patient preparation and involvement in the medication conversation with the GP, which is known to contribute to better care.

The project was carried out by Amanda Paust, who will defend her PhD dissertation entitled "Social Inequality in Medical Treatment" on Thursday 2 May 2024 at 1.00 p.m. at Aarhus University.

The defence is public and takes place in the Eduard Biermann Auditorium (room 204), building 1252, Lakeside Lecture Theatres, Aarhus University, Bartholins Allé 3, Denmark.

For more information, please contact PhD student Amanda Paust: amasa@ph.au.dk, +45 4277 0628.

Assessment committee:

Professor Viola Burau, PhD, MA Social Sciences, Department of Public Health, Aarhus University (chairman)

Professor Maria Kristiansen, PhD, MSc Public Health, Department of Public Health, University of Copenhagen

Senior Lecturer Barbara Clyne, PhD, MSocSc Sociology, Department of Public Health and Epidemiology, School of Population Health, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

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