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Produktivitet og Effektivitet i den Offentlige Sygehussektor

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# Abstract

In Denmark, as in many other countries, there is a focus on the rising expenses in the hospital sector, and there are attempts to maintain the expense level by setting demands for the productivity in hospitals. The Demands must assume that the foundation of productivity statements is sound. The productivity statements are done by a DRG-system, where DRG- and DAGS-rates are calculated. Calculation of the rates is an output based method, but since the rates that are used in productivity statements are not quality adjusted hence the data is not A-level. When productivity statements are not quality-adjusted comparisons of productivity between hospitals will only show which is most cost effective. This will shift the focus from hospitals effectiveness. In addition hospitals where quality is prioritised can remove focus from cost effectiveness, and the hospital will have a lower productivity level than other hospitals where quality is not prioritised.

If some want to create a quality-adjusted productivity statement, data for quality is required. Such a statement will require that data are available. Creation of a productivity statement with quality-adjustment is difficult because measuring quality is challenging. The challenges consist of measuring only the variation in outcome due to quality, and not due to for example patient differences. Data for quality exist in Denmark, among others have the national indicator project NIP made some quality indicators for different diseases. Furthermore a database for quality indicators exists where the purpose is for patients to compare the quality among hospitals. In spite of the existence of databases with quality indicators, there is a lack of quality functions made by the indicators. The lack of quality functions is one reason for the absence of quality-adjusted productivity statements. However Statistics Denmark has made a formula for quality-adjustment of price indexes. The use of the formula is only illustrative. The purpose is to show the difference between price indexes which are quality-adjusted and indexes without adjustment. In this formula prices and quality are not separated, and therefore changes in quality cannot solely be observed independently of changes in prices. This induces an incentive to make a productivity statement and a quality statement independently of each other. Afterwards the statements should be held together in an attempt to make a quality-adjusted productivity statement.