Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences

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# Mammography screening in the elderly age-group

Elsebeth Lynge, Københavns Universitet elsebeth@sund.ku.dk



# Mammography screening

- Purpose: To decrease mortality from breast cancer
- Method: Detect breast cancer before it gives rise to symptoms to ensure effective treatment
- In Denmark: women aged 50-69 years, 2-view mammography, personal inviation every 2nd year
- Both benefits and harms of screening should be known



## Mammography screening in Denmark



#### Effect of mammography screening in Denmark

	Before screening	During screening	During/Before
Study area	Historical control group	Study group	Study area: During/before
Denmark without screening	Historical regional control group	Regional control group	Control area: During/before
Study area/ Control area	Historical: Study area/ Control area	During: Study area/ Control area	(Study area: During/before)/ (Control area: during/before)

# Effect of mammography screening in Denmark

	Period	Intention to treat	Per protocol			
Breast cancer m	Breast cancer mortality					
Copenhagen m.	1991-2001	0.75 (0.63-0.89)	0.63			
Fyn c.	1993-2007/09	0.78 (0.68-0.89)	0.72 (0.59-0.89)			
Breast cancer incidence						
Copenhagen m.	1991-2009	1.05 (0.88-1.24)	1.08			
Fyn c.	1993-2009	1.01 (0.92-1.10)	1.02			
Both	1991/93-2009	1.04 (0.99-1.09)				
Both, 8+ years after end of invitation	1991/93-2009	1.023 (0.97-1.08)				

Olsen et al, 2005; Njor et al, 2013; Njor et al, 2015

## Effect of mammography screening in Denmark

Olsen et al, BMJ, 2005:

"Breast cancer mortality was reduced by 25% in the screening period .... compared with what would have been expected in the absence of screening." Jørgensen et al, BMJ, 2010:

"We were unable to detect any effect of the Danish screening programmes on breast cancer mortality"

# Effect of mammography screening on breast cancer mortality in Fyn 1993-2007/09

Age group years	RR (95% CI)	Screening
50-54	0.82 (0.45-1.51)	Yes
55-59	0.90 (0.64-1.27)	
60-64	0.75 (0.55-1.02)	
65-69	0.67 (0.49-0.91)	
70-74	0.85 (0.64-1.13)	No
75-79	0.72 (0.51-1.04)	
80-84	0.83 (0.46-1.49)	
All	0.78 (0.68-0.89)	Mixed

Njor et al, 2015

#### **Breast cancer mortality in Denmark**



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## Some countries have extended age-limit

- Sweden, started screening by county 1974-1997: age-group: 40-69, 40-70, 40-74, 45-69, 46-69, 50-69, 50-74
- Netherlands, started screening nationwide 1989-1998: 50-69
  1999 - : 50-74

# IARC evaluation of breast cancer screening from 2014

"A substantial reduction in the risk of death from breast cancer was also consistently observed in women 70 to 74 years of age who were invited to or who attended mammography screening in several incidence-based cohort mortality studies.<sup>17-19</sup>"

Lauby-Secretan et al, 2015



# IARC evaluation of breast cancer screening from 2014, reference 17: Coleman et al, 2014

Reference	Study	Design	Age at entry	RR (95% CI)
Coleman, 2014	Canada prov	Part vs non-p*	40-49	0.56 (0.45-0.67)
			50-59	0.60 (0.49-0.70)
			60-69	0.58 (0.50-0.67)
			70-79	0.65 (0.56-0.74)

\* Non-participant incidence and survival rates

# IARC evaluation of breast cancer screening from 2014, reference 18: Review Van Dijck et al, 1997

Original reference	Study	Design	Age at invitation	RR (95% CI)
Chen, 1995	2-county, W+E	RCT	50-64	0.65 (0.50-0.83)
			65-74	0.68 (0.51-0.89)
Van Dijch, 1994	Nijmegen, 13 y	Case-control	65-74	0.34 (0.12-0.97
			<u>&gt;</u> 75	2.87 (0.62-13.2)
Van Dijck, 1996	Nijmegen, 18 y	Case-control	65-74	0.45 (0.20-1.02)
			<u>&gt;</u> 75	1.05 (0.27-4.14)
Van Dijck, 1997	Nijmegen 13 y	Regional Control group	68-83 y	0.89 (0.59-1.36)*

\* In original paper: 65/66-80/81 years: 0.80 (0.53-1.22)

# IARC evaluation of breast cancer screening from 2014, reference 19: Jonsson et al, 2003

	Study	Design	Age at invitation	RR (95% CI)
Jonsson, 2003	Sweden, Regional and Historical control groups	Refined excess mortality*	70-74	0.82 (0.57-1.19)
	Same	Underlying cause of death	70-74	0.97 (0.73-1.28)

 (Observed – Expected deaths from all causes in breast cancer patients) / Person-years in total group

#### 2-county W+E study Sweden breast cancer mortality women 70-74 years at entry

Reference	FU	W Kopparberg	E Östergötland	W + E
Chen et al, 1995	13y	NA	NA	0.78 (0.53-1.20)
Tabar et al, 2000	20y	0.76 (0.44-1.33)	0.73 (0.45-1.19)	NA
Nyström, 1993	11y	NA	NA	0.94 (0.60-1.46)
Nyström, 2002	17y	NA	1.18 (0.71-1.97)	NA

Cause of death:

- Chen + Tabar: local end point committee (LEPC)
- Nyström: Statistics Sweden underlying cause of death (UCD) and national end point committee (NEPD)
- For all regions and all ages Nyström, 1993 found RR 0.77 (0.67-0.88) using UCD and RR 0.78 (0.68-0.89) using NEPC

#### Disagreement between W+E cause of death (LEPC) and overview committee cause of death (NEPC)



Holmberg et al, 2009 Tabar et al, 2011: W+E, all ages: LEPC 0.69 (0.56-0.85); NEPC 0.73 (0.59-0.89); Data for women aged 70-74 years at entry NOT reported separately

#### **Screening 50-69 years**



Based on rates 1989-1993, Njor et al, 2013; Njor et al, 2015

#### Screening 50-74 years



Based on rates 1989-1993, Njor et al, 2013; Njor et al, 2015

# **Comorbidity increases with age**

Age group	Inpatient contacts for women	Self-reported long-term illness for women
	2012	2013
45-54 years	9%	39%
55-64 years	11%	44%
65-74 years	16%	43%
75+ years	25%	51%

https://www.dst.dk/pukora/epub/Nyt/2013/NR617.pdf

http://proxy.danskernessundhed.dk/ SASVisualAnalyticsViewer/VisualAnalyticsViewer\_guest.jsp? reportName=Langvarig%20sygdom&reportPath=/ Danskernes\_sundhed/

# Age for compensatory dip

#### Overlevelseskurve for mænd og kvinder. 2013/2014

Survivors in life table. 2013/2014



Danmarks Statistik: Befolkningens udvikling 2014, København, 2015

#### Screening 50-74 years



Based on rates 1989-1993, Njor et al, 2013; Njor et al, 2015

# Before decision on change of age group

- 2-county data for women aged 70-74 years at entry by all methods for assessment of cause of death
- Simulate effect of higher age-limit on both breast cancer mortality and incidence
- Investigate effect of mammography screening for women with different degrees of comorbidity

#### Thank you for your attention



#### Copenhagen Old Municipality Hospital, now part of University of Copenhagen