


# DOMUS


**A Study of Palliative Activities in DOMUS: A Randomized Clinical Trial of Accelerated Transition from Oncological Treatment to Specialized Palliative Care at Home**

Mie Nordly, MSc, PhD Fellow  
 Pre-congress seminar  
 8th World Research Congress of the European Association for Palliative Care  
 Lleida, Spain, 2 June 2014

**TrygFonden** Clinicaltrials.gov Identifier: NCT01885637



**Danish Cancer Society**



## DOMUS

- This study is a part of the DOMUS study: A Randomized Clinical Trial of Accelerated Transition from Oncological Treatment to Specialized Palliative Care (SPC) at Home
- Ongoing
- Sample size: 340 in- and outpatients
- Balanced parallel-group randomization (1:1)
- Patients are randomly assigned to:
  - a. Standard care plus accelerated attachment of a Specialized Palliative Team (SPT) enriched with a standardized psychological intervention for patients and caregivers at home
  - b. Standard care alone

2



DOMUS

### INCLUSION CRITERIA

- Adult (at least 18 year old) cancer patients treated at the Department of Oncology, Rigshospitalet, Copenhagen University Hospital
- Patients who want to spend as much time as possible in their own homes supported by a Specialized Palliative Team (SPT)
- Patients with incurable cancer
- Patients with no or limited antineoplastic treatment options or patients who resign antineoplastic treatment
- ECOG Performance Status 2-4
- Patients living in the Capital Region, Denmark
- Written informed consent

### EXCLUSION CRITERIA

- Patients who have already been referred to an SPT
- Hospitalized patients who are not judged capable of being discharged home
- Patients who are admitted to other hospitals
- Patients who do not speak Danish well enough to answer the questionnaires
- Patients who are considered incapable of cooperating in the trial

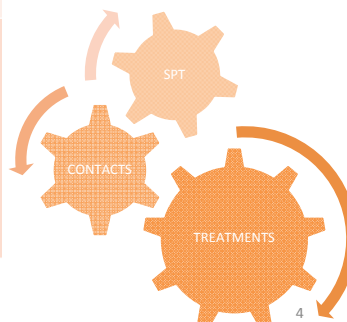
3



DOMUS

### “PALLIATIVE ACTIVITIES” STUDY - METHOD

Study Design	RCT – Comparison of two groups
Who/where/ when	Cancer patients treated at the Department of Oncology, Rigshospitalet, Copenhagen University Hospital from June 2013 -> ultimo 2015
Objective	The objective is to investigate whether there is a difference in treatment patterns regarding chemo-/radiotherapy and analgesic treatment as well as differences in number of health care contacts between the intervention group and the control group



4

DOMUS	
“PALLIATIVE ACTIVITIES” STUDY - METHOD	
Variables	Data sources
Contacts with SPT	Danish Palliative Database
Psychology sessions	SPT's journals
Physiotherapy sessions	Hospital electronic journals
Occupational therapy sessions	National Patient Registry
Hospital admissions	Health Insurance Register
Contacts with general practitioner	
Chemotherapy	Hospital electronic journals The hospital's medicine records
Radiotherapy	Hospital electronic journals
Prescription of opioids, antidepressants, anticonvulsants, corticosteroids and benzodiazepines	The hospital's medicine records The Danish National Database of Reimbursed Prescriptions

5

DOMUS						
“PALLIATIVE ACTIVITIES” STUDY - PROCEDURE						
	Number of patients in contact (%)			AVG contacts/sessions/admissions (SD)		
	Intervention N =	Control N =	p	Intervention N =	Control N =	p
<b>Health professionals</b>						
SPT						
Psychology						
Physiotherapy						
Occupational therapy						
Hospital admissions						
General practitioner						
<b>Treatment</b>	Number of patients in treatment (%)			AVG series/DD (SD)		
Chemotherapy						
Radiotherapy						
Oral morphine eq.						
Antidepressants						
Tricyclic						
SSRI/SNRI						
Anticonvulsants						
Gabapentin						
Levetiracetam						
Benzodiazepines						
Corticosteroids						

AVG: Average DD: Daily dose

6



DOMUS

## CHALLENGES

- Referral to SPT in control group (cross over effect)
- The content of the contacts/sessions is unknown
- The effect of the sessions/contacts/medicine on the patients symptoms/QoL, survival and place of death is unknown

7




DOMUS

## Question

What time to measure?



8

 DOMUS

## RESEARCH TEAM

DOMUS is a collaboration between Rigshospitalet, Copenhagen University Hospital (RH), University of Copenhagen (KU), the Danish Cancer Society (KB), Knowledge Centre for Rehabilitation and Palliative Care (PAVI) and The Danish Institute for Local and Regional Research (KORA).



**Research consortium:**  
 Per Sjøgren, MD, DMSc (Study leader, RH, KU)  
 Hans Von Der Maase, MD, DMSc (RH)  
 Christoffer Johansen, MD, DMSc (RH, KB)  
 Jakob Kjellberg, MSc (KORA)  
 Helle Timm, MSc, PhD (PAVI)

**PhD Fellows:**  
 Mie Nordly, Cand.scient.  
 Kirstine Skov Benthien, Cand.scient.san.  
 Annika Berglind v. Heymann-Horan, Cand.psych.  
 Louise Berg Puggaard, Cand.psych.  
 Kathrine Nissen, Cand.psych.


**Projectnurses:**  
 Louise Christoffersen  
 Lisbeth Grave Bendixen  
 Mette Wested

As well as GPs, district nursing and SPTs throughout the Capital Region of Denmark

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**  
 The Danish Cancer Society and The TrygFonden for financial support of DOMUS

Danish Cancer Society 9

 DOMUS

## Thank you for attention...

[mie.nordly@regionh.dk](mailto:mie.nordly@regionh.dk)

10