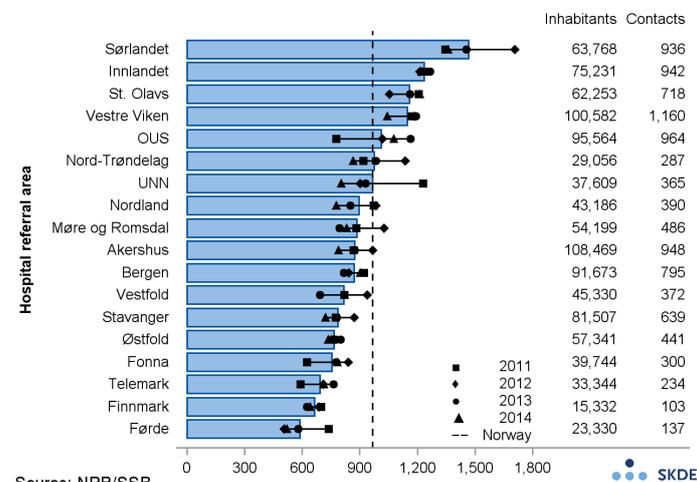


Epilepsy

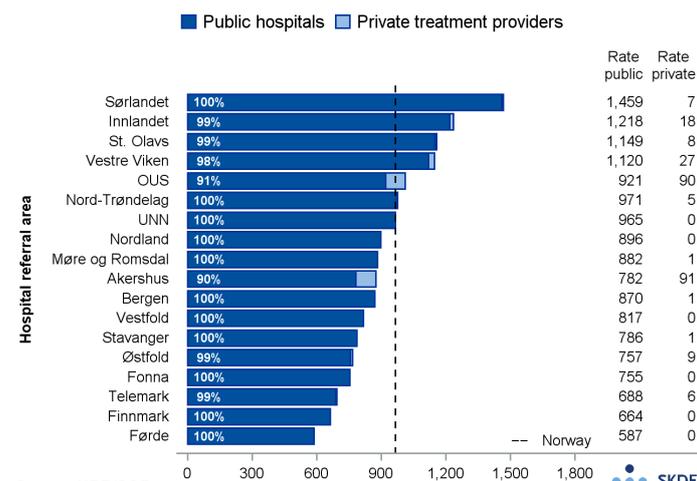
Epilepsy is a condition that can manifest itself in a broad range of different ways. Some patients have few symptoms or light seizures, while other patients may have complex and difficult-to-control seizures that cause considerable functional impairment and need for assistance. Most children with epilepsy are diagnosed and have check-ups with a paediatrician with special expertise in neurology and epilepsy.

Sample

The sample consists of consultations (outpatient/day patient services) for epilepsy for children in the somatic specialist health service, including specialists in private practice under public funding contracts. Epilepsy is defined by a primary or secondary diagnosis (ICD-10) in code blocks G40-41. The sample also includes children being followed up by the habilitation service and Oslo University Hospital's Department of Complex Epilepsy, National Centre for Epilepsy (SSE).



Source: NPR/SSB
Epilepsy, outpatient services, age-adjusted usage rates per 100,000 children 0-16 year, per hospital referral area, per year and as an average for the period 2011-2014.

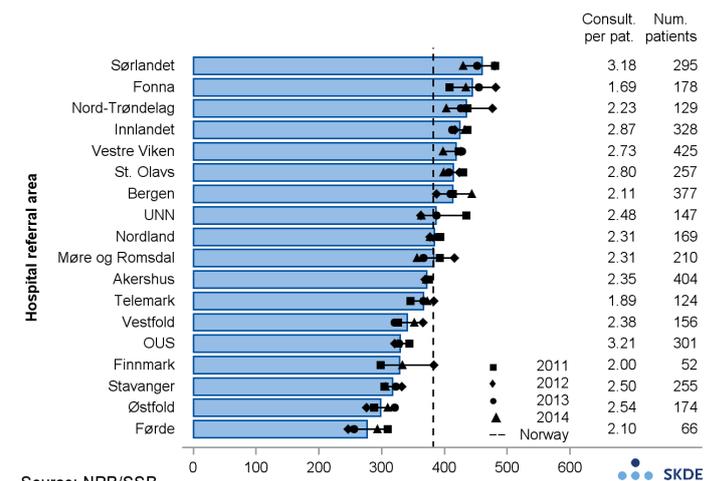


Source: NPR/SSB
Epilepsy, outpatient services, broken down by public or private treatment providers, age-adjusted usage rates per 100,000 children 0-16 year, per hospital referral area and as an average for the period 2011-2014.

Comments

Each year, approx. 4,000 patients have a total of approx. 10,000 consultations for epilepsy. This makes up 1.9% of all medical outpatient consultations for children, and 1.8% of all children seen in medical outpatient clinics have this diagnosis. A small proportion of consultations are with specialists in private practice.

Sørlandet hospital referral area has a 2.5 times higher usage rate and a 1.7 times higher patient rate than Førde. The contact frequency varies from 1.69 (Fonna hospital referral area) to 3.18 (Sørlandet hospital referral area). This difference in contact frequency corresponds to 1,490 more consultations per 1,000 patients treated. The number of consultations as well as usage and patient rates have remained relatively stable in each hospital referral area during the period.



Source: NPR/SSB
Epilepsy, outpatient services, age-adjusted patient rates per 100,000 children 0-16 year, per hospital referral area, per year and as an average for the period 2011-2014. Average number of contacts per patient (contact frequency) and number of patients.

There does not seem to be any clear connection between usage rates for outpatient care and admissions. The two hospital admission areas with the highest usage rates for outpatient care (Sørlandet and Innlandet) also have high usage rates for admission, while the hospital referral areas of St. Olavs and OUS, which also have relatively high numbers of outpatient consultations, have the lowest usage rate for admissions (see the Epilepsy - admissions factsheet).

There are no indications that these different rates can be explained by differences in morbidity or framework conditions. There is reason to ask whether there is unwarranted variation between hospital referral areas in usage rates for outpatient consultations for epilepsy.