

# How telemedicine is handled in the Danish grouping logic

Katarina Bjerg-Holm & Karen Anne Aaskilde



## Agenda

- > The DRG-System in Denmark
- > New grouping logic in 2023 why?
- > The process of creating a new grouping logic
- > Telemedicine in the grouping logic from 2022 to 2023
- Status



### The DRG-System in Denmark ...

... is developed and maintained by the Danish Health Data Authority

• With input from the clinical societies, regions and hospitals

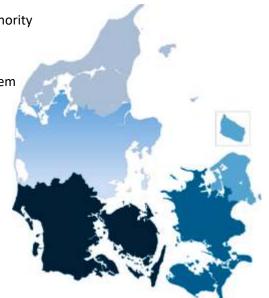
> ... describes inpatient- and outpatient activity in the same system

> ... covers somatic activity at public hospitals

... does not include psychiatric activity

... is used in different ways at hospital level

... is primarily used for interregional reimbursement





### Agenda

- > The DRG-System in Denmark
- New grouping logic in 2023 why?
- > The process of creating a new grouping logic
- > Telemedicine in the grouping logic from 2022 to 2023
- Status

### New grouping logic in 2023 – why?

- > The DRG-System must keep up with time
- > Focus on what and how the patient is treated instead of where and by whom
  - · Physical and virtual contact with the hospital should be handled the same
- > Be able to measure telemedicine activity



### "Telemedicine" in the Danish DRG-System

#### Idea

The groups must cover activity where the patient has not been physically present at the hospital, but there is a usage of resources at the hospital associated with the activity

#### Now

- > The specific telemedicine groups (in DRG2022) only cover selected areas
- > Not all areas has been looked at

#### **Challenges**

- > No clear definition of "telemedicine"
- No specific description in relation to how hospitals should report the activity to the LPR
- Difficult to calculate the tariffs

### Agenda

- > The DRG-System in Denmark
- > New grouping logic in 2023 why?
- The process of creating a new grouping logic
- > Telemedicine in the grouping logic from 2022 to 2023
- Status



### The process of creating the new grouping logic — 2021-2022

- > The Danish Health Data Authority made 2 ("extreme") models
  - Model 1 Close all telemedicine groups and let "telemedicine activity" group to "normal" DRG-groups
  - Model 2
     Only 1 telemedicine group
- Workshop about the two models with a workgroup
- > Model 1 were selected as a starting point
- Virtual grey zones
  - Physical presence at a hospital cannot always be substituted with virtual presence, e.g. operations
  - 82 DRG groups are virtual grey zones in DRG2023 (out of 949 DRG groups)



### Agenda

- > The DRG-System in Denmark
- New grouping logic in 2023 why?
- > The process of creating a new grouping logic
- > Telemedicine in the grouping logic from 2022 to 2023
- Status

DANISH HEALTH

### Telemedicine in DRG2022 - hierarchy

#### Telemedicine

MDC procedure groups Home visit groups

Procedure 1-day groups
Home visit groups

Acute groups

Telemedicine

Groups with no DRG rate / residual groups

MDC diagnosis groups
MDC 1-Day diagnosis groups

Residual groups

953 DRG groups in DRG2022

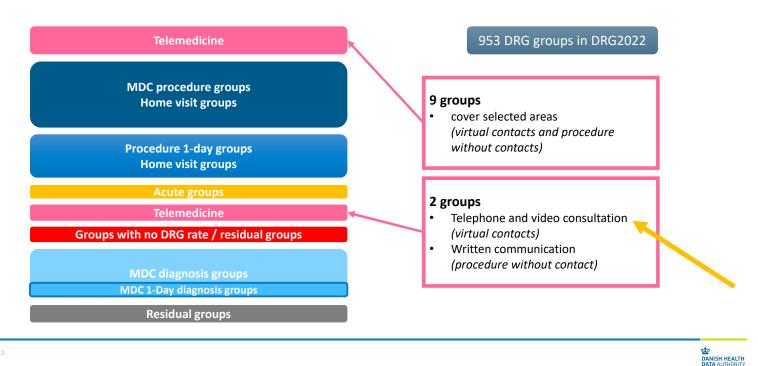
### "Telemedicine" activity

- Procedure without patient contact (ex: INR measurement at home, performed by the patient)
- Virtual contacts
   (telephone and video consultations)

#### Activity in 2021

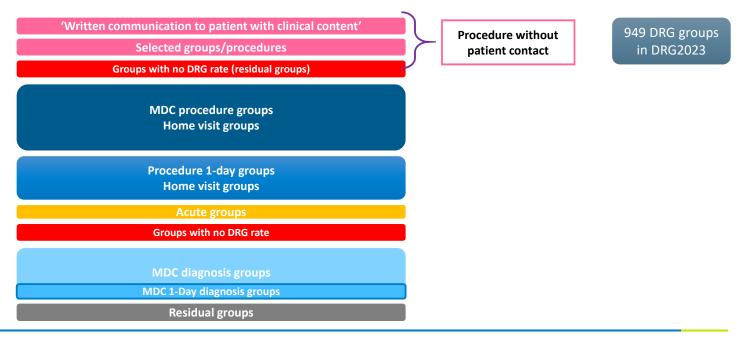
- ~15.3 mio. contacts in total
- ~2.6 mio. virtual contacts
- ~1.3 mio. procedure without contact

### Telemedicine in DRG2022 - hierarchy



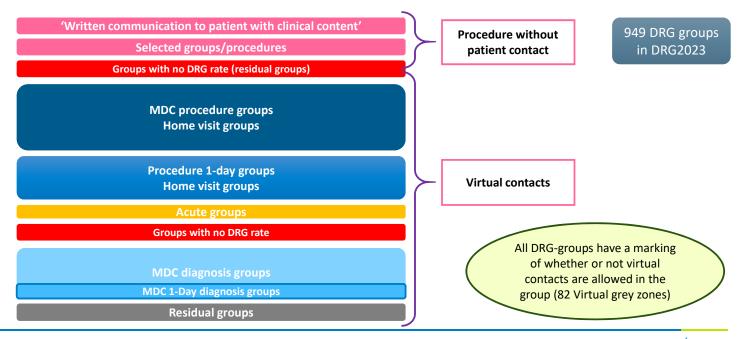


### Telemedicine in DRG2023 – hierarchy

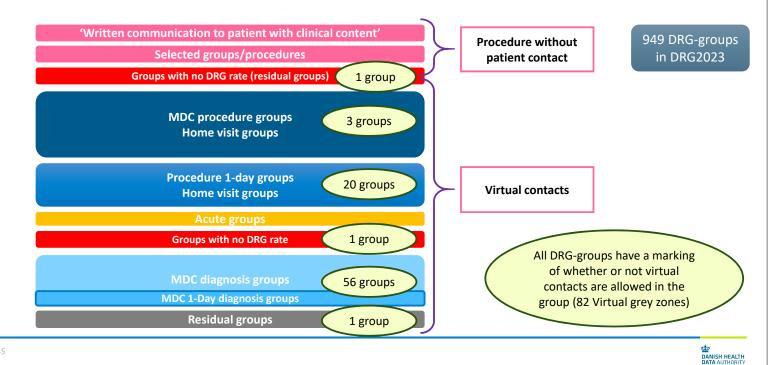


DANISH HEALTH DATA AUTHORITY

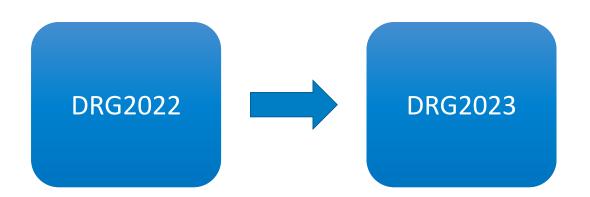
### Telemedicine in DRG2023 – hierarchy



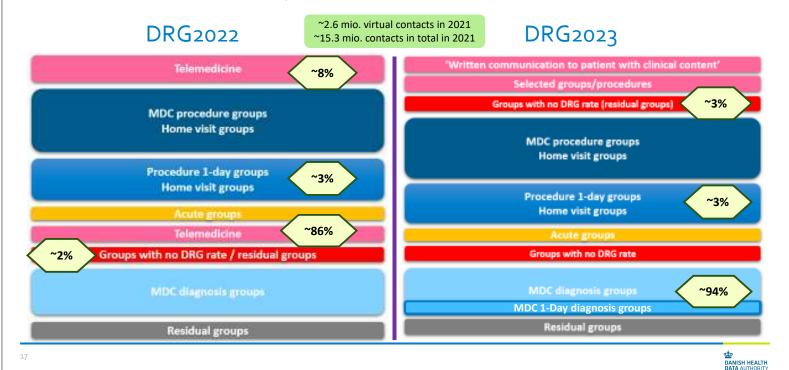
### Telemedicine in DRG2023 – hierarchy



### Telemedicine activity (virtual contacts)



### Virtual contacts – activity in 2021



### Agenda

- > The DRG-System in Denmark
- > New grouping logic in 2023 why?
- > The process of creating a new grouping logic
- > Telemedicine in the grouping logic from 2022 to 2023
- Status

### **Status**

- > The grouping logic for DRG2023 is final
- Used to calculate tariffs for 2023
  - Tariffs are final in November 2022
- > In use from January 2023
- > We will continue to improve the model
- > Focus on the virtual grey zone groups in the development of the grouping logic

DANISH HEALTH DATA AUTHORITY

### Questions?





The Danish Health Data Authority Ørestads Boulevard 5 DK-2300 Copenhagen S

T: +45 7221 6800 E: kontakt@sundshedsdata.dk W: sundhedsdata.dk

www.drg.dk