



Bundesministerium für Gesundheit
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Inquiry on Intrahepatic Chemotherapy for patients with metastatic cancer

Dear Colleague,

During the last years, a number of Danish patients with various types of cancers with hepatic metastases have travelled to Germany to receive intrahepatic regional chemotherapy.

Danish oncologists still consider intrahepatic regional chemotherapy (transarterial percutaneous chemotherapy, hepatic arterial infusion of chemotherapy) a therapy that for most cancers needs further investigations before its potential introduction as a standard treatment. Specifically, they find that further investigations are needed in order to identify thoroughly which cancer patients may benefit from the treatment, and which treatment regimens may be recommended.

However, this view is challenged by Danish cancer patients who return from treatment in Germany telling that intrahepatic regional chemotherapy is already an established treatment option in Germany.

In order to advise the Danish patients in the best possible way, the Danish National Board of Health therefore now contact you in order to explore this issue, and it would be highly appreciated if you could let us know what the views of the German health authorities are regarding this treatment modality. Specifically, whether it is considered a standard treatment or an experimental option? If it is considered a standard treatment please indicate under which circumstances? Any references to specific publications from German health authorities regarding the issue would be highly appreciated, too.

The information from you would be of great importance for the Danish National Board of Health, and the Danish Health System in general, in order for us to satisfactorily advise Danish cancer patients who may wish to consider receiving treatment abroad.

If our inquiry gives rise to questions, please don't hesitate to contact the National Board of Health on the following phone number: +45 72 22 76 83 (Marie Brasholt, medical officer).

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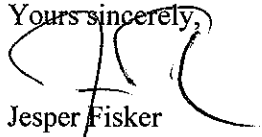
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We are looking forward to your reply - and we are thanking you in advance for your kind cooperation.

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Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jesper Fisker', written over the typed name.

Jesper Fisker
Director General

National Board of Health