



## Psoriasis Health care investigated by the National Board of Health and Welfare in Sweden

The National Board of Health and Welfare in Sweden has selected psoriasis as a priority to examine the need for knowledge support. The work is done within the framework of a government mandate relating to better Health care for chronic diseases. In a preliminary study, the National Board of Health and Welfare will examine the needs and actions required to improve the Health care for people with psoriasis. Depending on the problems identified it will be determined whether it is appropriate to develop national guidelines or other forms of knowledge support to the Health care providers.

-This is a step in the right direction and a proof that the unequal Swedish psoriasis Health care at last is seriously addressed. It is something that The Swedish Psoriasis Organization has been fighting for a long time. When the World Health Organization last year adopted a resolution on psoriasis it was a great recognition for the severity of the disease, says Camilla Sjölund Lundevall, permanent secretary at the Swedish Psoriasis Organization.

Today, there are national guidelines within 15 diagnosed areas, which includes diabetes, stroke, cardiac care and several common cancers. The purpose of national guidelines is to provide decision makers in Health care as a basis for control of operations that is based on clinical evidence. The guidelines are recommendations on which treatments that are the most effective and should be a priority for the local counties providing Health care.

Besides psoriasis The National Board of Health and Welfare will investigate the Health care concerning endometriosis and epilepsy as well. The Swedish Psoriasis Organization welcomes the initiative and is pleased to see that several meetings with the board during the last decade has given good returns. Last years WHO-resolution on psoriasis together with two major lectures made by The Swedish Psoriasis Organization and Swedens largest medical magazines has given a lot of attention among people within the Health care sector working with skin diseases. The world conference about psoriasis in Stockholm in July, arranged by IFPA, will surely be another step forward raising the topic.

-Personal meetings with the minister of health that later has been tweeted and facebooked may not have been the base of The Board of Health and Welfare's decision to investigate the psoriasis care but it probably didn't do worse either, says Per Hånell, Head of Communications at The Swedish Psoriasis Organization.

The results of the feasibility studies will be presented in mid-December. The purpose of the national guidelines are, according to the National Board: "... recommendations based on the state of knowledge at the time the guidelines have been developed. They provide guidance for health care providers and are not binding statements about the appropriate therapy or counseling to patients in individual cases. It is always the doctor who is responsible for in the individual case - based on science and proven experience - to make an assessment based on the individual patient's needs so that he receives adequate treatment."

---

Psoriasisförbundet är en intresseorganisation för människor med, och anhöriga till människor med, psoriasis och psoriasisartrit. 16.000 medlemmar firade 50 år 2013 och den WHO-resolution som erkänner psoriasis som NCD våren 2014. Förbundet arbetar för ökad satsning på forskning, bättre vård och behandling och för att skapa kännedom om sjukdomen samt förståelse för hur det kan vara att leva med psoriasis och psoriasisartrit.

Interested? Read more about our work at: [www.psoriasisforbundet.se](http://www.psoriasisforbundet.se)