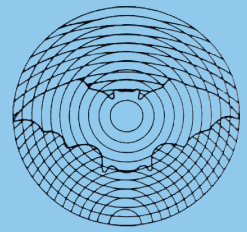


# Dansk Ultralyddiagnostisk Selskab



## Point-of-Care Ultrasound. A general practice perspective



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The use of point-of-care ultrasound (POCUS) in general practice is increasing. This development may be driven by access to suitable and affordable machines together with a need for additional tools to diagnose and treat increasingly complex patients in primary care. The implementation of POCUS in general practice varies in different European countries [1, 2]. This reflects both the diversity in health care organization, specialist training, and culture among the different countries. Hence, establishing uniform guidelines and recommendations for the use of POCUS in general practice across Europe may not be feasible. Focusing on educational aspects could indeed be more relevant.

The European Federation of Societies for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (EFSUMB)



Point-of-Care Ultrasound in general practice can roll-out questions like: "Is there an abdominal aneurism: yes/no?"

has developed and published well known minimum training recommendations for the use of ultrasound in a range of medical fields. An adaptation of these training recommendations to suit the needs of general practice could help facilitate a timely and coordinated implementation process.

In Denmark, POCUS is generally used to answer selected simple clinical questions such as *Does this patient have a gallstone?* [3] It seems to be within reach of general practitioners to perform such focused scans with acceptable quality [4, 5].

Today, the use in general practice is limited to a smaller group of dedicated POCUS users. However, within a few years we expect a transition to a broad dissemination of POCUS use in the general practice community. This poses various challenges especially regarding educational capacity and quality assurance. The Danish Society for

Ultrasonography in General Practice (DAUS) have, in collaboration with researchers, set up a plan for a large-scale implementation of POCUS in Danish general practice. This includes developing training programs for general practitioners, guidelines, quality assurance programs, addressing organizational aspects, and initiation of further research. Thus, we expect the coming years to be challenging and very exciting regarding the use of POCUS in Danish general practice.

### References

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