

## **PS1.080**

### **Implementation of a cooperative movement in general practice**

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Danish general practice consists of small independent units with a limited tradition of benchmarking and organizational cooperation. This has led to high pricing of products demanded by general practice, with large profits. At the same time the task burden on general practitioners has increased and more tasks must be solved within the same economic framework. This puts general practice under pressure. We describe an initiative rooted in the Danish cooperative movement which on several levels saves resources for Danish general practice. We have established a cooperative where the joining practices will be cooperative members and co-owners of the association. The association endeavors to support the resources available in general practice in several ways:

- By focusing on the best economic agreements on procurement, and lower the costs of general practice
- By saving and streamlining human resources for each clinic through an IT platform that can be the axis of rotation for the performance, planning and development of the daily business operation
- Through education and information, to contribute to a greater focus on the management and organization
- in the long term to try to contribute to a situation where general practice can retain its independence in smaller units, by strengthening the sector through increased focus on networking, where smaller units can benefit from large-scale operational advantages where appropriate.

The cooperative association has been welcomed by Danish practitioners, and 1. January 2016 24% were members of the cooperative. The cooperative has already been a game changer in the procurement-related part of general practice, with the effect that the other players in the market have followed and have reduced their prices considerably.

We will in this session describe both the mind and visions for the cooperative association, and also describe the process with a focus on the experience we have gained so far.