Undergraduate general practice training in Norway – status and challenges

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Norway

- Population <5 Mill
- 4 100 list holding GPs
- Vocational training program – 60%
WHO report 2008

• A strong primary health care:
  – Better health outcomes
  – Greater equity in health
  – Lower cost

• Norway: National health care reform
  - increases responsibility of primary health care
Do the current curricula prepare the students for their duty?

• = to take care of / strengthen general practice in the future
Medical school in four universities

- University of Tromsø
- NTNU in Trondheim
- University of Bergen
- University of Oslo
General practice in the curriculum

- General practice **one out of three main clinical subjects** (1996)
- Textbook
- Throughout the six years
- Integrated lectures
- Clinical communication
- Early patient exposure
General practice in the curriculum

• GP semester (5th year)

• Clinical training in GPs’ offices
  4-8 weeks:
  Master -apprentice
  Organization
  Cooperation
  Public health care
General practice in the curriculum

• **Exams!**
  • 5\textsuperscript{th} year: written exam
  • 6\textsuperscript{th} year: OSCE
  • 6\textsuperscript{th} year: clinical exam with patient

• **Residency:**
  • 6 months internal medicine
  • 6 months surgery
  • 6 months GP
Do the current curricula prepare the students for GP?

• One of three main clinical subjects
• Integrated lectures
• Separate semester
• Clinical training
• Textbook
• Exams
• Residency

• Yes – probably!
• 4 challenges
Dilemma: Who should teach what?

- Research based teaching versus clinically based teaching

- Academic GPs should ideally also run a practice
  (only 2 out of 5 GP professors and 3 associate professors do...)
Challenges

1. ”The hidden curriculum”
Challenges

2. Budgets....
Challenges

3. Lack of quality assurance
Challenges

4. Closing down of internship/residency
Thank you!