



# INVITATION – PHD DEFENCE

SANDRA SIF GYLFADOTTIR, MD

*“Painful and non-painful diabetic polyneuropathy”*

**Friday 6 March 2020 at 13.00**

In Auditorium J116-113, Entrance J, Aarhus University Hospital, Palle Juul-Jensens Boulevard 99, 8200 Aarhus N

The defence is public, in English and expected to last 2 hours.  
After the defence Danish Pain Research Center will host a reception.



## Assessment committee

- Professor Per Løgstrup Poulsen (chairman and moderator of the defence)  
Steno Diabetes Center Aarhus, Department of Endocrinology and Internal Medicine, Aarhus University Hospital
- Professor Catharina G Faber  
Department of Neurology, School of Mental Health and Neuroscience, Maastricht University
- Professor Solomon Tesfaye  
Diabetes Research Unit, Royal Hallamshire Hospital, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

## Supervisors

- Consultant, associate professor Hatice Tankisi  
Department of Clinical Neurophysiology, Aarhus University Hospital, Aarhus, Denmark
- Associate professor Páll Karlsson  
Danish Pain Research Center, Department of Clinical Medicine, Aarhus University, Aarhus, Denmark
- Professor Nanna Brix Finnerup (main supervisor)  
Danish Pain Research Center, Department of Clinical Medicine, Aarhus University, Aarhus, Denmark



AARHUS  
UNIVERSITY

HEALTH – DEPARTMENT OF CLINICAL MEDICINE  
Danish Pain Research Center



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# PRESS RELEASE

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*Sandra Sif Gylfadottir, MD, from The Danish Pain Research Center, Department of Clinical Medicine, will defend her PhD thesis titled "Painful and non-painful diabetic polyneuropathy" at 13.00 on 6 March 2020. The defence is in English and will last approximately 2 hours.*

The exact prevalence, risk factors and impact of painful and non-painful diabetic polyneuropathy (DPN) in Danish patients with recently diagnosed type 2 diabetes are unknown. More precise knowledge of these factors would be valuable in both treatment and prevention of DPN. These issues are treated in a new PhD project from Aarhus University, Health. The project was carried out by Sandra Sif Gylfadottir, who is defending her dissertation on 06/03 – 2020

DPN is one of the most common complications of long term diabetes, but the prevalence measures vary and the prevalence in early diabetes is unknown. Furthermore, a large proportion of patients with DPN suffer from painful DPN, which is a neuropathic pain that impacts the patient's quality of life and can be difficult to treat. The main purpose of this PhD project was to explore the prevalence, risk factors, and mental health in DPN with and without pain in patients with early type 2 diabetes. Additionally, we validated screening instruments, and provided insight into pain specific mechanisms by comparing patients with painful and non-painful DPN.

The defence is public and takes place on 6 March 2020 at 13.00 in Auditorium J116-113, Entrance J, Aarhus University Hospital, Palle Juul-Jensens Boulevard 99, 8200 Aarhus N. The title of the project is "Painful and non-painful diabetic polyneuropathy".

For more information, please contact PhD student Sandra Sif Gylfadottir

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# PRESSE MEDDELELSE

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*Sandra Sif Gylfadottir, læge, fra Dansk Smerteforskningscenter, Institut for Klinisk Medicin, vil forsvare hendes ph.d.-afhandling med titlen " Painful and non-painful diabetic polyneuropathy" den 6. marts 2020 kl. 13.00. Forsvaret er på engelsk og vil cirka vare 2 timer.*

Forekomst, risikofaktorer samt betydning af diabetisk polyneuropati (DPN) med og uden smerter hos nyligt diagnosticerede type 2 diabetes patienter i Danmark er ukendt. Større kendskab til disse faktorer er af stor betydning for behandling og forebyggelse af DPN. Disse spørgsmål undersøges i et nyt ph.d.-projekt fra Aarhus Universitet, Institut for klinisk medicin. Projektet er gennemført af Sandra Sif Gylfadottir, der forsvare det den 6. marts 2020.

Diabetisk polyneuropati er en af de hyppigste følgesygdomme til diabetes, men prævalensen er ukendt. En stor del af patienterne risikerer desuden at få neuropatiske smerter, som kan have indflydelse på deres livskvalitet og er svære at behandle. Formålet med dette ph.d. studie var at undersøge forekomsten af DPN med og uden smerter hos danske diabetes patienter med nyligt diagnosticeret type 2 diabetes, samt undersøge risikofaktorer og sammenhængen mellem DPN med og uden smerter og mental sundhed. Vi undersøgte også validiteten af spørgeskemaer og kliniske instrumenter, som bruges til at diagnosticere DPN. Endvidere sammenlignede vi patienter med og uden smerter og ubehag, for at undersøge årsagen til og betydningen af smerter.

Forsvaret af ph.d.-projektet er offentligt og finder sted den 6. marts kl. 13.00 i Auditorium J116-113, Indgang J, Aarhus Universitetshospital, Palle Juul-Jensens Boulevard 99, 8200 Aarhus N. Titlen på projektet er "Diabetisk polyneuropati med og uden smerter".

For yderligere oplysninger kontakt venligst ph.d.-studerende Sandra Sif Gylfadottir

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