

HEALTH SECTOR COOPERATION BETWEEN BRAZIL AND DENMARK

PARTNERING WITH DENMARK – Danish Authorities in International Cooperation



Matching Brazilian Challenges and Demand with Danish Competences

Despite impressive results in the reform of the Brazilian healthcare sector challenges remain, not least in relation to the coordination of care, gaps in coverage of primary care and barriers to accessing specialist and high-complexity care at secondary and tertiary level. The fragmented health sector is not structured to counter progressive aging and increasing prevalence of non-communicable diseases in Brazil.

Experiences from the Danish health system in bridging health services across governance levels and health professionals could support the Brazilian efforts in addressing these challenges in a more efficient and coherent way.

The Danish health authorities have strong expertise in multilevel coordination, and IT and digital workflows are fully integrated across the Danish health system. Accordingly, Denmark is among the front-runners in the deployment of e-health including sharing and using health data for clinical and administrative purposes across the state, regions and municipalities.

Denmark has a long tradition for public-private cooperation within health-IT solutions and good manufacturing and distributional processes.

Two main areas of cooperation have been identified, 1) IT management systems and infrastructure, and 2) pharmaceuticals and/or medical devices.

The Danish Health Data Authority (DHDA) and Statens Serum Institute has in-depth knowledge and expertise in collecting, sharing and using health data, leading to more effective, flexible and coordinated ways of organising treatment. The Danish Medicines Agency (DMA) has expertise in pharmaceutical law and

efficient administration processes providing fast access for the patients to pharmaceuticals and medical devices of high quality.

Key Activities

A health counsellor has been recruited and posted to the embassy in June 2015. The preparatory SSC (Strategic Sector Cooperation) was approved in October 2015, and the first fact-finding mission was successfully completed in December 2015. The Danish Ministry of Health (DMoH), DMA and DHDA visited health authorities at federal, state and municipal levels, hospitals, international and national NGO's etc. in order to gain knowledge about the Brazilian Unified Health System (SUS) and explore possibilities of partnerships.

In February 2016 Brazilian health authorities at federal and municipal level and the National Council of Health Secretariats visited Denmark. During this study tour, Danish best practices, innovative and cost-efficient solutions and know-how were shared, and visits to hospitals, general practices, non-profit organisations conducted. DMoH and authorities gave insights in challenges and solutions in both countries. In June 2016, two technical Danish health delegations visited the Brazilian Ministry of Health (MS) and the National Health Surveillance Agency (ANVISA) respectively aiming at preparing the content of the SSC.

Milestones and Early Results by Mid-2016

Potential partners and relevant themes for the SSC have been identified, and the design of the project is in the making. Close relationship has been established with various other health authorities and actors beneficial for successful bilateral cooperation. DMoH is continuing the dialogue with the Brazilian Ministry of Health on the SSC within health-IT and data, while a dialogue has been initiated with ANVISA on possible cooperation on the exchange of technical experiences and know-how on efficient administrative processes in relation to pharmaceuticals and medical devices. Signing the SSC is planned to take place in early autumn after the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro.

HEALTH SECTOR COOPERATION IN BRAZIL by Growth Counsellor Britt Borum Madsen (brimad@um.dk), the Danish Embassy in Brazil and Marie Elsner Søndergaard (maes@sum.dk), the Danish Ministry of Health, Denmark

SSC Status: SSC Preparation Project is under implementation. The full SSC Project is expected to be approved early autumn 2016. The expected project period is until December 2018.

SSC Partners:

Brazil: Ministry of Health; National Health Surveillance Agency

Denmark: Ministry of Health

See [website](#) & [guidelines](#) for more information on the Partnering with Denmark Initiative and the 2015-16 Annual Report.