



## WG2 Case study profile

<b>WG2. Thematic group</b>	<b>WG2.1a. Older people and people with disabilities: The restructuring of governance</b>
<b>Name(s) of proposer</b>	Signy Irene Vabo and Viola Burau
<b>Institution</b>	Oslo & Akershus University College and Aarhus University
<b>Title of case study (and priority ranking)</b>	Equal access to the local health services for elderly patients discharged from hospitals?
<b>Country/region/place investigated</b>	Norway and Denmark
<b>Social service sector(s) investigated</b> (Erase non relevant ones) • Care for older people	The health systems in Norway and Denmark are typically characterized as national health services with a strong focus on territorial equality. At the same time, municipalities are taking on more responsibility for the provision of health services - especially for diagnoses common among older people. Because municipalities in Norway and Denmark enjoy considerable local autonomy, this has potential implications for territorial equality. The project analyses the relative territorial equality across local health systems in the two countries. The question raised is how the agreements formalised between hospitals/regions and associated municipalities ensure equal access to the local health system for elderly patients discharged from hospitals. The hypothesis is that there will be severe variation in access to health services for older people within the two countries.
<b>Category of case study ('what' is investigated)</b> (Erase non relevant ones) • Interplay between meso/macro and micro. • Actor(s) • Place(s)	The analyses are based on a comparative case study of the health agreements between hospitals in two selected (hospital)regions and their associated municipalities in Norway and Denmark, respectively.  Documents/written material on regulations on, and the content of, the formalised agreements both at state/national and regional/local level will be included.
<b>Time frame considered</b>	June 2013 - June 2014
<b>Five 'perspectives'</b> (Erase non relevant ones) • Territorial cohesion	The project focus on territorial cohesion within Denmark and Norway, and challenge the idea of a Nordic welfare state model for in-kind services.
<b>Three processes in restructuring + crisis</b> (Erase non relevant ones) • Vertical reorganization among state levels in terms of devolution, including authority and financing	The project investigates effects of <i>vertical</i> reorganisation, where Norwegian and Danish municipalities have taken over responsibility for certain health services from the regionally organised hospitals.
<b>Specific questions/focus</b>	The main question of this project is to what degree territorial equality is challenged by the increase in local government responsibility for health services for older people.
<b>Local Stakeholder Network (LSN)</b>	Do you intend to set up a LSN: NO