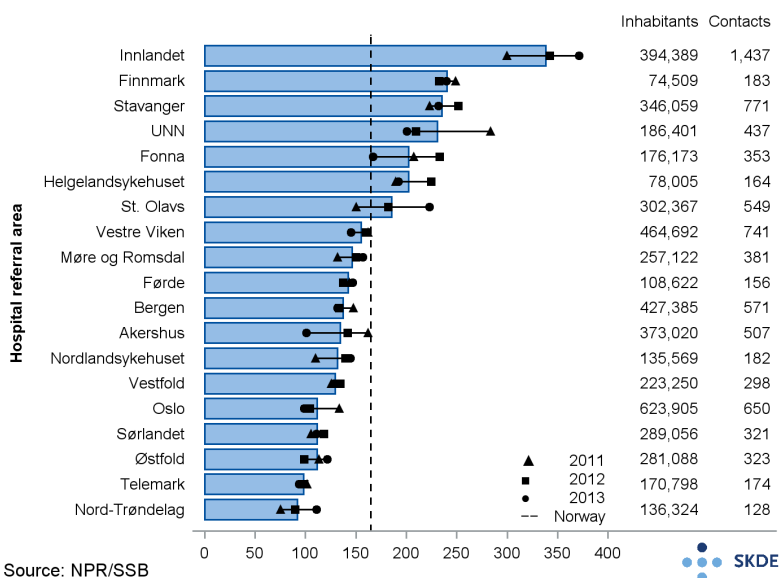
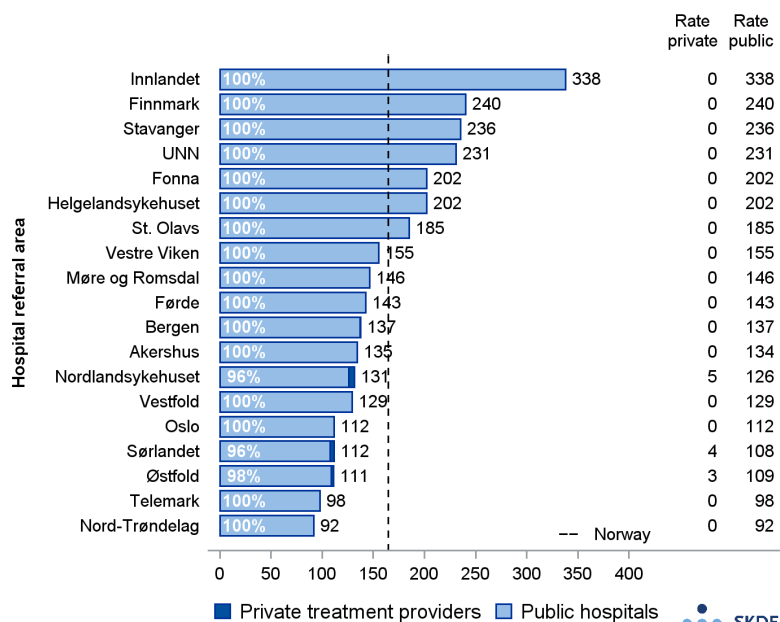


Haemorrhoids are protrusions in the anal canal consisting of swollen veins and surrounding connecting tissue. Constipation, standing up for long periods of time and hard physical work predispose people to this condition. In addition to suppositories and ointments, haemorrhoids can also be treated by banding or by constricting the blood supply. Tying off and removing the vessels is another technique used.



Source: NPR/SSB

Surgical treatment of haemorrhoids, rates adjusted for gender and age per 100,000 population per hospital referral area, per year and as an average for the period 2011–2013



Source: NPR/SSB

Surgical treatment of haemorrhoids, rates adjusted for gender and age per 100,000 population per hospital referral area, broken down by public or private treatment providers, average for the period 2011–2013



Definitions

The following combinations of codes define this patient group: Primary or secondary diagnosis (ICD-10) I84 or K64 in combination with the procedure codes (NCSP) JHA00, JHA20, JHA30, JHB00, JHB10, JHB30 or JHB96 for hospitals with activity-based funding, and the same diagnosis code in combination with the tariff code 1401 for specialists in private practice under a funding contract with the regional health authorities.

Private treatment providers include private hospitals and specialists under contracts with the public specialist health service.

	2011	2012	2013	Aver. (%)
Public	8,206	8,379	8,302	8,296 (100%)
Private	6	34	48	29 (0%)
Total	8,212	8,413	8,350	8,325 (100%)

Procedures per year and average for the period 2011–2013

Comments

Surgical treatment of haemorrhoids is almost exclusively performed at public hospitals. The number of procedures has remained relatively constant over the past years. The rate is increasing steadily in the areas from Nord-Trøndelag to Finnmark, while the population of the Innlandet area has a markedly higher consumption rate than in the other hospital referral areas. Rubber band ligation is a much more frequently used method in Innlandet than in the other hospital referral areas. There are no national guidelines, and the condition does not entitle patients to prioritised health care. The severity of the condition and the patient's own perception of how troublesome it is are probably perceived differently, and this can be a contributory cause of the variation.