

Job description

Position as Clinical Professor in Prevention and
Early intervention in Colorectal Cancer

Department of Clinical Research, Faculty of Health
Sciences, University of Southern Denmark and
Department of Surgery, Odense University Hospital

September 2020

1. The vacant position

The vacant position is a combined post as professor in Prevention and early intervention in colorectal cancer and as consultant in Department of Internal Medicine and Emergency Department, Svendborg

The first year the time is allocated with 100 % research, thereafter with 50 % to university (professor) and 50 % to clinical (consultant) duties.

The employment is limited for a period of 5 years with the possibility of prolongation.

1.2. Qualifications and expertise

The applicant must be qualified as a consultant and as a medical gastroenterologist with special interest and documented experience in lower endoscopy. Furthermore, the applicant is expected to have experience with advanced therapeutic colonoscopy and collaboration with authorities as well as an understanding of, and experience with the clinical environment in a hospital department.

The applicant must be well qualified with a strong research profile in the areas mentioned above. Commitment to teaching and the ability to lead a research group, including experience with attaining funding, supervision of master's students, PhD students and postdocs are required.

Emphasis will be on the applicant's ability to document original scientific production at an international level within the area of colon camera capsule investigations and technology and with the construction and application of artificial intelligence, with special emphasis on medical picture analysis.

The applicant must submit the following documents in order to be considered for the position:

- An application
- A detailed CV
- Degree certificates (including PhD-diploma) (combined as one single PDF-file)
- **As to the post as consultant: Information on the applicant's own skills as concerns "The seven roles of physicians" inclusive of supporting evidence>/ <Other material>** (combined as one single PDF-file)
- A teaching portfolio which details the candidate's prior teaching experience, teaching skills, and teaching philosophy
- A research plan which details the candidate's ideas and plans for her/his future research work
- (References)
- A complete and numbered list of publications
- 10 scientific peer-reviewed publications which the candidate considers as most important for the position. Please notice that one PDF- or docx. - file must be attached for each publication

Furthermore, the candidate must have a successful record in obtaining research funding, experience in practice with international research collaboration, experience as a research leader and effective oral, written and verbal communication and interpersonal skills.

Documented experience as Head of Research, head of large research projects, head of teaching and other administrative jobs will be an advantage. The applicant is expected to be qualified in academic teaching as associate professor or equivalent.

1.2.1. Obligations

The professor's obligations will primarily be:

- To consolidate and develop the functions of **Section of Gastroenterology at the Department of Internal Medicine and Emergency Department** in collaboration with the section head and other consultants in the department. Research related to new endoscopic procedures such as camera capsules and therapeutic endoscopies, including the application of new technology such as artificial intelligence. A very close collaboration with non-medical professions such as IT engineers, medical hardware developers, biologists and epidemiologists is part of the research field.
- Research related to colorectal neoplastic disease
- Research in clinical research

The clinical professor handles qualified supervision, teaching and/or research tasks. The position also includes exam for medical students and students in clinical biomechanics at hospitals handling training in clinical subject areas and supervision at postgraduate education.

1.2.1.1. Research

The professor is expected to contribute to further developing the research strategy and profile of the department with special emphasis on clinical implementation of camera capsule technology. The professor is also expected to increase the research activity and to establish collaboration with other researchers at OUH and SDU. The professor should participate in further scientific development of the fields both nationally and internationally. Also, profiling the field in the public eye will be an important task. Finally, the professor is expected to supervise post-docs, PhD-students and pre-graduate students.

1.2.1.2. Teaching

The professor is expected to engage in teaching (including an obligation in terms of examination) at the Faculty of Health Sciences.

1.2.1.2.1. Planning

The Head of Research is responsible for planning the teaching within the department; the professor is expected to plan his/her own teaching.

1.2.2. Other obligations

The applicant is expected to front prevention and early intervention in colorectal cancer disease also in the public debate. Moreover, the applicant is expected to perform public duties, *i.e.* to chair commissions and boards etc.

1.2.3. Management and administration

The professor is expected to:

- Perform evaluations of other researchers at the Faculty of Health Sciences
- Participate in and chair committees etc. at the Faculty of Health Sciences and other universities.

1.3. University position

The position as professor is affiliated to The Research Unit for Neoplastic Colorectal Disease, Svendborg in the Department of Clinical Research. www.SATCCenter.com, https://www.sdu.dk/en/om_sdu/institutter_centre/klinisk_institut/forskning/forskningsenheder/kirurgi

1.3.1. Reference

The professor refers to the departmental management. Regarding research and teaching, i.e. university aspects, the professor refers to the Head of Department of Clinical Research through the Head of Research of the research unit for neoplastic colorectal disease. Organisational matters in relation to lower endoscopic activity at Odense University Hospital have to be coordinated with the The Research Unit for Neoplastic Colorectal Disease. The professor will be a member of this group.

Employment as professor requires successful evaluation by an expert panel consisting of a professor from Department of Clinical Research, taking on the role as chairman, and two external professors.

2. Odense University Hospital (OUH)

OUH is one of Denmark's largest hospitals and the only one having all medical specialties collected under one roof.

The hospital comprises the units in Odense, Svendborg and Nyborg sharing the same board of directors. In total, the staff comprises about 11,000 persons. (See [Key Figures](#).)

A new university hospital is currently in the planning stage to be finished in 2022. The new hospital will be located adjacent to the current main campus of University of Southern Denmark. This co-location of the two institutions is unique in Europe and will facilitate the cooperation between the clinical departments and faculties of University of Southern Denmark.

Further information:

- [OUH's website](#)
- [OUH's organisation](#)
- [Research Strategy 2016 - 2020](#)

3. The Hospital Department

Please refer to <http://www.ouh.dk/wm118937> for more information.

3.2. Clinical Specialties and Expertise

The outpatient Clinic of Gastroenterology is localised at the hospital unit in Nyborg whereas the ward is placed at Svendborg Hospital. The medical staff is headed by one consultant and comprises in addition 4 consultants and 1 staff specialist and currently 7 registrars of which 5 are senior registrars and in addition a number of junior doctors.

The Outpatient Clinic is organised with an endoscopy unit integrated in the Endoscopy Center of Nyborg which also houses the surgical endoscopy unit where close bilateral support exist

ensuring straight patients courses. At the endoscopy unit upper and lower endoscopy are performed with up to 8 endoscopy programs per week.

In addition capsule endoscopy primarily of the small bowel has been implemented for more than 10 years, thereby serving Svendborg hospital including the Dept. of Surgery with diagnostics of diseases of the small bowel such as obscure Gastrointestinal bleeding, and suspected Crohn's disease.

In addition a large Outpatient clinic with up to 8 consultations driven by consultants and supervised junior doctors at the most busy days. In addition specialised nurse consultations are taking place with biologic treatment, intravenous iron infusions and blood transfusion. Specialised liver nurses are running a liver rehabilitation clinic with ascites drainage, testing for minimal hepatic encephalopathy and telemedicine consultations taking care of the most vulnerable patient with liver insufficiency recently dismissed from the ward after having hepatic encephalopathy.

The endoscopy unit and the Outpatient Clinic are served by the same medical staff, nurses and physicians.

An area of special interest is chromoendoscopy in IBD patients at increased risk of developing dysplasia and colorectal cancer. National guideline of dysplasia and colorectal cancer of patients with IBD has been elaborated from our Clinic in collaboration with other Clinics in Denmark in the Danish Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology (DSGH) . (Aalykke C, Jensen MD, Fallingborg J, et al. Colonoscopy surveillance for dysplasia and colorectal cancer in patients with inflammatory bowel disease. *Dan Med J* 2015;62:B4995.) An updated guideline is available at the homepage of DSGH (<https://www.dsg.dk/index.php/ibd/koloskopi-ibd>).

Two consultants have achieved specialised skill performing IBD ultrasonography. The modality hasn't been fully implemented in the diagnostic work up of patients with IBD.

The main research interest comprises patient with inflammatory bowel disease. The outpatient Clinic is participating currently in two multicenter randomized controlled trials with biological treatment of IBD.

In collaboration with Dept. of Gastroenterology, Odense University hospital a PhD. study is planned to launch in the spring 2021 exploring the fungal Microbiome i.e. Mycobiome in patients with suspected IBD patients. This PhD. study is a part of a large Nordic Study Nord-Treat focusing on personalized medicine with top down biological treatment in patients with a certain protein structure that suggests these patients will suffer from a more severe clinical course and therefore may benefit from initial aggressive top down treatment.

In collaboration with Dept. of Gastroenterology and the Dept. of gastroenterology at the Hospital of South West Jutland, the IBD Clinic will also participate in a research study focusing on the efficacy of rescue-treatment with Infliximab by monitoring serum though levels of Infliximab and infliximab antibodies in patient acute severe ulcerative colitis.

In collaboration with the specialised IBD nurses and a pharmaceutical industry a patient empowerment project is ongoing creating an animation for educating patients to enter the national patient health platform and read and understand the results of bloodtest such as CRP and fecal calprotectin levels .

3.3. Research Unit for Neoplastic Colorectal Disease

The research unit has 3 main research areas:

1. Endoscopy and trans anal procedures including large bowel camera capsules, transanal surgery and advanced endoscopic procedures. The activity is focused on a close collaboration with IT engineers and hardware developers as well as new technology in the area of remote area services such as safe cloud based transmissions and processing of data including videos and pictures. The area holds a Center of Excellence and a Center of Reference.
2. Cancer prevention, especially chemo-prevention focusing on naturally occurring polyacetylenes and other COX inhibitors. Collaborating with experts in biochemistry, pharmacology, genetics, AI and epidemiology.
3. Minimal Invasive Procedures in Colorectal Surgery. Diagnostics and therapeutic development with emphasis on staging of cancer disease and organ preserving rectal cancer treatment. Combination of AI and clinical picture analysis is included.

The unit also hold a Center for Teaching, training, development and research donated by the health care region to provide equal access to state of the art treatment in the region concerning advanced ademonas and early cancers of the colon and rectum (www.SATCCenter.com)

The research unit is one of 3 research units in the Department of Surgery. The 3 units covers the entire area of research in specialized gastrointestinal surgery and are connected through the surgical research council.

3.4. The Research Unit for Neoplastic Colorectal Disease is an integrated part of department of Surgery at OUH with a smaller secretarial/technical staff and close collaboration with the staff collecting data in Open Patient Data Explorative Network.

The unit has existed for 8 years and has already been awarded with 3 regional/national centre functions. The staff consists of 1 professor, 2 assistant professors, 2 postdocs, 4 PhD students, 1 project manager, 2 secretaries and 2 project nurses. Three part time surgeons are employed at the SATC Center and many students are attached on and off.

3.5. Management and organisation of the department

The medical staff of the department comprises 1 professor, 26 consultants, 6 staff specialists and 42 junior doctors.

The department is managed by Head of Department Mette Worsøe, MD, MHM and Head Nurse Ann-Britt Juul. Each sub-speciality is headed by a consultant and each clinic by a department nurse.

The Research Unit for Neoplastic Colorectal Disease is a staff function to the surgical departmental management The secretarial staff refers to and is a part of the general administrative staff of the surgical department.

3.6. Catchment area and regional functions

In accordance with the plans issued by the Danish National Board of Health, the department provides all services on local level (population approximately 220,000) and all services at regional level (population approximately 1,2 million).

3.7. Teaching

The staff of the research unit provides teaching at the university at all levels. Staff members are teaching medical students, epidemiology students, pharmacology students and are faculty members of European schools for specialist training. Students from many branches visit as thesis students and we host PhD. students and postdocs.

3.8. Research

The scientific functions of the medical research in the Department of Medicine /FAM collaborate closely with the several other units and departments at OUH, several departments at SDU, regional hospitals, and has national as well as international contacts.

The head of research is professor Kenneth Egstrup and comprises PhD students, nurses, secretary.

The Research Unit for Neoplastic Colorectal Disease collaborates with several other units and departments at OUH, several departments at SDU, regional hospitals, and has national as well as international contacts.

4. Faculty of Health Science

[Faculty of Health Science](#) is one of five faculties at the University of Southern Denmark.

The faculty offers a grand variety of bachelor- and master's programs. (For further details, please see [Programmes](#).)

5. Department of Clinical Research

[Department of Clinical Research](#) comprises [46 research units](#) based on departments at Odense University Hospital and Mental Health Services in Region of Southern Denmark. (For more information about the department's research, please see [SDU's Research Portal](#).)

The department staffs teach at all the programmes offered by the Faculty of Health Sciences, however, primarily in medicine. (Read more about the department and its key figures [here](#).)

Professor Kirsten Ohm Kyvik, MD, PhD, MPM, heads the department.

6. Living and working in Denmark

The [International Staff Office](#)(ISO)at SDU provides a grand variety of services for new employees, guests and people who consider applying for a job at the University of Southern Denmark. Among other things, the staff answers questions concerning [salary](#), [taxation](#), [housing](#) and [accompanying family](#). For further information on what it is like working at SDU, please read "[10 good reasons why you should choose SDU](#)". Additional information about working in Denmark can be found at [Work in Denmark](#).