A Rural Health Research Perspective

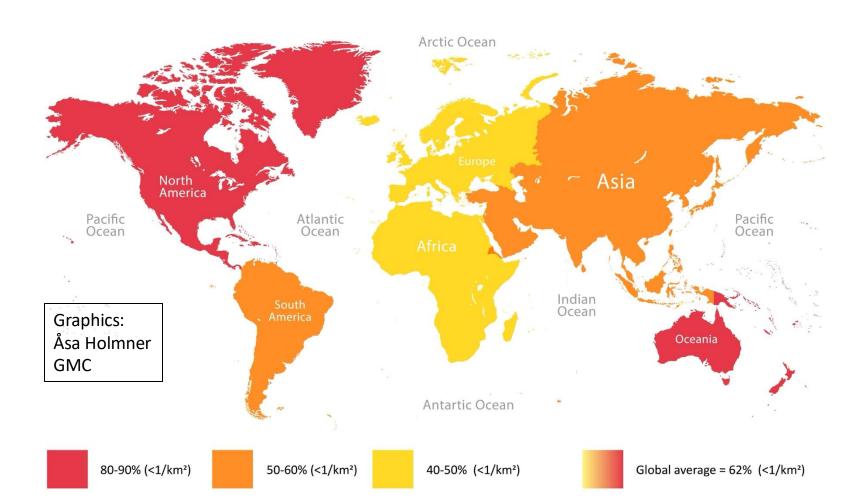
Anette Edin-Liljegren The Centre for Rural Medicine, Region Västerbotten Dep. of Epidemiology and Global Health, Umeå University







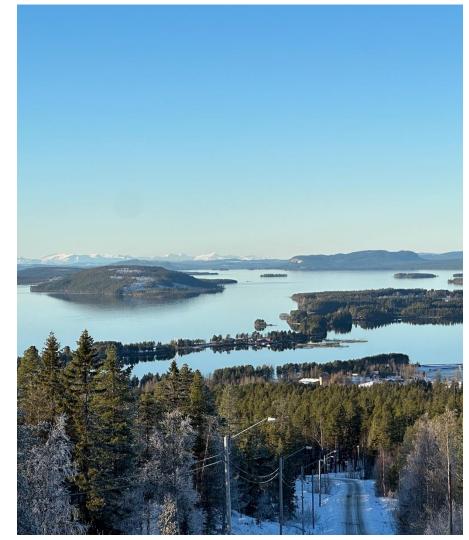
DEMOGRAPHIC DENSITY - continental average of land area with population density < 1 person/km²



Sparsely Populated Regions (SPR)

- 1. Few people
- 2. Long distances
- 3. Remotely controlled
- 4. Specific life-style

Le Tourneau, Sparsely populated regions as a specific geographical environment, *Journal of Rural Studies* 75 (2020) 70–79.



What?



Research questions

- 1. How to assure a competent workforce for good quality care?
- 2. How can digital technology and e-Health contribute to good and close care?
- 3. How can new models for integrated care be implemented?
- 4. What are the specific needs in the rural population?



How?



Methods

Randomized Control Trial (RCT)? Gold standard – but NOT allways suitable for SPR

- 1. They may not give relevant answers to our questions
- 2. The evidence may NOT target people in rural areas
- 3. Difficult with small samples

Instead

- 1. Qualitative studies
- 2. Culturally sensitive surveys of the specific health care needs
- 3. Research collaborations



Rural Health Ethics

- 1. Overlapping, dual and multiple relationships
- 2. Patient confidentiality and privacy
- 3. The allocation of limited resources
- 4. Different understanding of health and priorities for self and community

Christy Simpson Fiona McDonald

Rethinking Rural Health Ethics



Conclusion



1. Few people

People in rural area living with a stoma, experienced that they didn't get the right help in their daily life. UMEÅ UNIVERSITY

Stomas from a rural perspective

- An evaluation of characteristics, differences and improvement opportunities

Simon Näverlo

Department of Surgical and Perioperative Sciences Umeå 2020

2. Long distances

Person-Centered Care (PCC) can be provided by means of video meetings but needs a digital extension: ePCC.



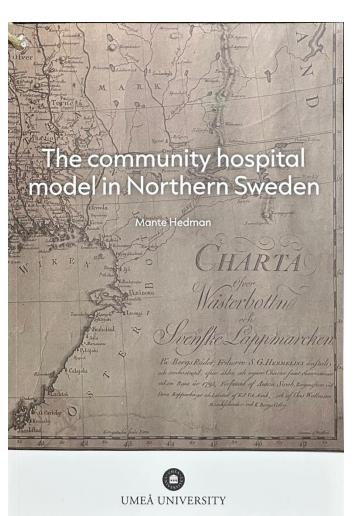
Ek, Liljegren, Edin-Liljegren Patients With Cardiovascular Disease Revisiting Specialist Physicians via Remote Treatment: Interview Study of Experiences *JMIR Human Factors* 2023;10:e43125



3. Remotely controlled

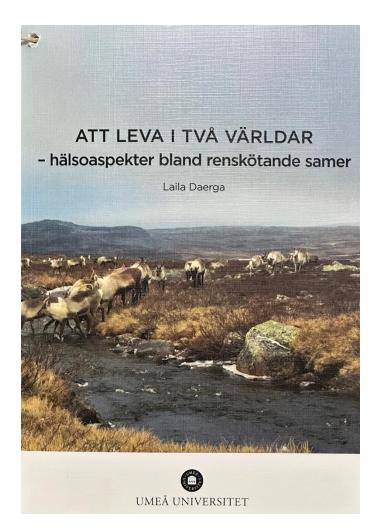
We need effective *locally adapted* models, e.g.

"the community hospital is a good way of delivering care in rural area. The importance of relational continuity was stressed by rural GPs".



4. Specific life-style

- The confidence in primary health care and psychiatry was lower among the reindeer-herding Sami.
- 2. Knowledge of the culturespecific lifestyle facilitate the meeting between care providers and Sami patients.





Primary Health Center, Kaiwara Chintamani Chikkaballapura

ಕೈವಾರ ಪ್ರಾಥಮಿಕ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಚಿಂತಾಮಣಿ ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಮರ

Rural Satellite

Center



RAMAIAH Medical College

Ramaiah Tele Medicine Unit Indo - Sweden Tele Geriatrics Project An ICMR Funded Project ರಾಮಯ್ಯ ಟೆಲಿಮೆಡಿಸಿನ್ ವಿಭಾಗ ಭಾರತ - ಸ್ವೀಡನ್ ಟೆಲಿ ಜೀರಿಯಾಟ್ರಕ್ಸ್ ಯೋಜನೆ ಐ.ಸಿ.ಎಂ.ಆರ್ ಅನುದಾನಿತ ಯೋಜನೆ

ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಉಪಕೇಂದ್ರ

Chintamani Chikkaballapura ಕೈವಾರ ಪ್ರಾಥಮಿಕ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಚಿಂತಾಮಣಿ ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ

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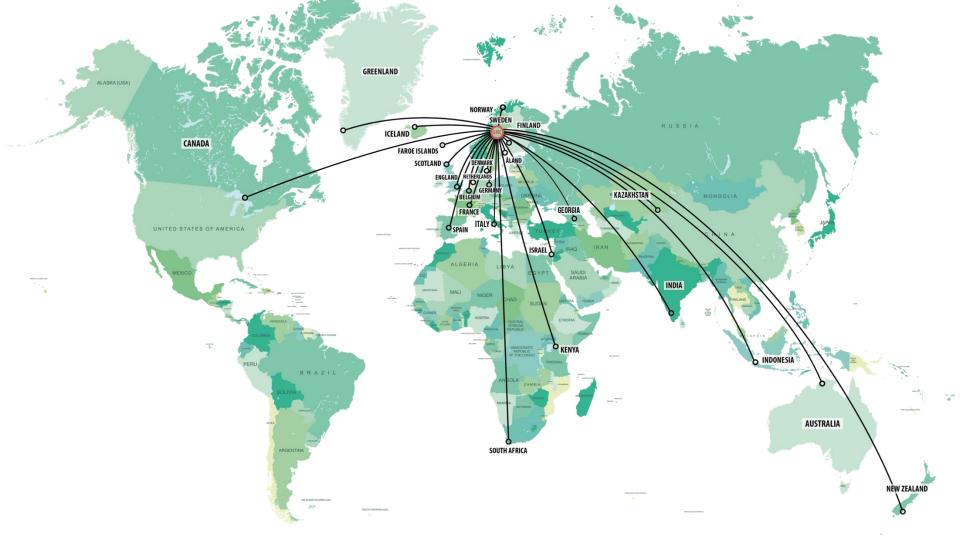
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Thank You!

- info.gmc@regionvasterbotten.se
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