



# MESU NYT

NR. 1 14. ÅRGANG 13. APRIL 2023



## PhD Defence

### Stroke in Immigrants: Incidence, Mortality and Access to Care

A register-based cohort study in Denmark

**George Frederick Mkoma**

Friday, 14 April 2023 at 14:00  
Room 2.0.63, Centre for Health and Society (CSS), Øster Farimagsgade 5, 1014 Copenhagen K

Catering to immigrants and ethnic minorities' needs is an important public health practice that is safeguarded by several legal and human rights documents because some immigrants and ethnic minorities experience a higher rate of poor health and encounter challenges than majority populations in accessing healthcare services in their receiving countries. Stroke is a serious life-threatening medical condition and ethnic variations in stroke epidemiology and access to care have previously been documented. The majority of earlier studies were conducted in the United States and focused on the racial disparities in stroke care. However, little is known about stroke incidence, mortality and access to care among immigrants and ethnic minorities living in Europe. Using nationwide registers in Denmark, George Mkoma's PhD thesis examines patient risk profiles including stroke types and access to and utilization of different phases of stroke care (pre-hospital, in-hospital and post-discharge medical care) among immigrants living in Denmark. The overall end goal of the thesis is to provide evidence that may help clinicians when managing patients with stroke and guide public health experts in designing tailored intervention for the purpose of reducing ethnic disparities in stroke epidemiology and care.

Zoom: <https://ucph-ku.zoom.us/j/61579049668?pwd=REp6aXNaR0NTZTF-BeXMycVFxMmJ0dz09>

Meeting ID: 615 7904 9668 Passcode: 871001

## CALENDER

### PhD defence:

**George Frederick Mkoma**  
*Stroke in Immigrants: Incidence, Mortality and Access to Care: A register-based cohort study in Denmark*

Friday, 14 April 2023 at 14:00  
Get more information on page 1

### Open seminar:

**(U)lige adgang for alle: Entiske minoriteters møder med den danske velfærdsstat**

Tuesday, 25 April 2023 at 14:00  
Get more information on page 2

## Åbent seminar

### (U)lige adgang for alle: Etniske minoriteters møder med den danske velfærdsstat

#### UCPH Migration Research Platform (UCPH)

Tirsdag, d. 25. April 2023, kl. 14.

Lokale 7.0.34, Center for Sundhed og Samfund (CSS), Øster Farimagsgade 5, 1353 København K

Danmark er kendt internationalt for at være en velfærdsstat, som i dets tilblivelse byggede på ideen om solidaritet og kompensation, og hvor moralsk dannelse og demokratiet var noget alle borgere var fælles om. Trods ideen om velfærd for alle viser forskning i dag, at ikke alle individer bosat i Danmark oplever at kunne tage del i den danske velfærd på lige fod. I dette seminar kaster vi et særligt blik på etniske minoriteters møder med den danske velfærdsstat, der ofte er karakteriseret af (u)lige adgang til velfærdsydelser, (u)synlige barrierer i sundhedsvæsenet og helt specifikke ideer og tiltag til, hvordan etniske minoriteter kan skabe familie og høre til i Danmark baseret på den danske stats projektering af en kernefamilie. Seminaret består af et oplæg, der rammesætter etniske minoriteters møder med den danske velfærdsstat efterfulgt af to runder med tre oplægsholdere for hver runde og efterfølgende debat. Oplægsholdere består af et mix af akademikere og praktikere. En gennemgående tematik på tværs af runderne er tilhørsforhold. Med seminaret ønsker vi at skabe dialog og dermed synliggøre sådanne erfaringer. Seminaret henvender sig til akademikere, praktikere og andre interesserede.

Seminaret er arrangeret af København Universitets UCPH Migration Research Platform (UCPH), som er et initiativ på tværs af fakultetet, der byder forskere fra UCPH fra alle discipliner velkomne. Formålet med initiativet er at promovere en bred interdisciplinær dialog om migrations forskning. Find os her: [www.migration.ku.dk](http://www.migration.ku.dk)



Illustration: Anne-Sophie Helger

## New employees at MESU

My name is Olivia Oturai and I am a PhD student at MESU. I have a background in public health and have always had a profound interest in social inequity and health. During my years as a student, I have gained international research experience in ethnic health inequities and disability health at UCLA, and in my master's thesis, I studied the everyday life and well-being of female prisoners in a Danish prison.

I have worked several years as a student assistant on MESU's RefugeesWellSchool project. After I graduated in 2020, I worked with COVID-19 at the Danish Health Authorities until I returned to MESU as a PhD student in October 2022. My PhD project explores social inequities in the cancer care continuum in disparate contexts: access to early cancer diagnosis among the socially disadvantaged population in three Latin-American countries, and psychosocial support practices and access among relatives and cancer patients with Pakistani and Turkish background in Denmark. My main supervisor is Signe Smith Jervelund and my co-supervisor is Maria Kristiansen. I am continuously identifying informants to participate in interviews for the Danish part of the study, so please keep my project in mind, if you come across persons from the target group or have a brilliant idea for recruitment.

Privately I live with my husband and our 15 months old son, Alvin, in Vesterbro – we are welcoming Alvin's little brother this summer so I have my hands and belly full 😊



My name is Viktoriia Vereshchakina, I am a Postdoc at MESU and I come from Ukraine. I have a background as a medical doctor and my last position in Ukraine was Associate Professor, PhD at Kharkiv National Medical University. My city Kharkiv is located in the East of Ukraine, just 60 km from the Russian border and it was first big Ukrainian city facing the war. Thus, sad events forced me to leave the country. On the other hand, I now have the possibility to gain great experience working at the University of Copenhagen. I applied for the SARU program (Scholars at Risk from Ukraine), and got a grant for a 1-year fellowship. I am very proud to be here, because I know that this university is the best in the Scandinavian countries and fifth in EU University rate.

At MESU my participatory project is related to Ukrainian refugees, their adaptation to Denmark and the healthcare system in particular. It is very interesting to see problems of adaptation "from the inside" and to explore how it is to be a refugee. It is really fantastic that at the University of Copenhagen and in MESU there are people, who are really interested in the problems of refugees, have a huge desire to help and support and make scientific steps forward.

I am working in the best research team ever – with Marie Nørredam and Maria Castaner. I hope their exceptional experience and my knowledge of Ukrainians' mentality, features of health and common language can bring fruitful results.



**The homepage for MESU has been updated**

Please visit <https://mesu.ku.dk/>

## MESU NYT

**Redaktion:** Olivia Mandal Møller, redaktør - heriblandt MESU's medarbejdere.

Spørgsmål om nyhedsbrevet, nærmere information, samt indsendelse af indlæg til næste nummer af MESU NYT, skal ske ved henvendelse til Olivia Mandal Møller via e-mail: [olivia.moller@sund.ku.dk](mailto:olivia.moller@sund.ku.dk)