

Healthcare, medico and pharmaceuticals

The Danish healthcare industry is world leading in pharmaceuticals, biotech and medical equipment. Behind this is a unique industry cluster and especially a strong reliance on research and development.

Medicon Valley in the Øresund Region has secured itself a leading position in innovation and research within the health industry. In recent years, there has been a strong growth in the number of new companies in the region, not least within biotechnology.

Today the pharmaceutical industry is the largest export sector in Denmark, constituting more than Baht 252 billion per year and growing. Approximately 90% of all production in the pharmaceutical industry is exported. More than 17,000 people work in the very research-intensive industry that accounts for more than 20% of all private research in Denmark. Danish companies are world-leaders in fields such as insulin, neuroscience, dermatology and vaccines.

The biotech industry has close ties to the pharmaceutical industry and many of the largest biotech companies are also large pharmaceutical companies. The industry now constitutes more than 120 companies and shows steady growth in turnover, employment and new companies. The Danish biotech industry is world leader in terms of patents and top ranked in the European Commission's Performance Index of Biotechnology Innovation.

Around 1,000 Danish companies produce medical equipment employing more than 35,000 people in Denmark and abroad. Most companies are small and medium-sized, but the largest 20% are responsible for 80% of the more than Baht 233 billion annual turnover. Danish medico companies are in the international forefront in areas such as ostomy, continence and wound care, hearing aids and rehabilitation.

According to EU productivity surveys the Danish healthcare industry has a significantly higher productivity than Denmark's trading partners. Behind this are historical ties to the strong and export-oriented food sector and the vibrant industry cluster Medicon Valley. However the most important reason is the strong reliance on research and development.

Medicon Valley: www.mediconvalley.com

Association of Danish Medico Industries: www.medicoindustrien.dk

Danish Association of the Pharmaceutical Industry: www.lifdk.dk

The Danish Association of Biotechnology Industries: www.danskbiotek.dk