Midwife for fun?

No, funding for midwifery…

16th of November,
Manchester

Lillian Bondo, RM, MPA
President of the Danish
Association of Midwives

Midwifery in Denmark

- Short history
- Present situation
- New opportunities

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Follow the money over time!

- From in kind payment
- To one to one relation, also in payment
- To public refund, not involving the woman
- To no earmarked means for midwifery

Loss of power - means less of midwifery

- From in kind payment
  - The midwife was the specialist who covered childbirth
- To one to one relation, also when it comes to payment
  - The midwife is still the main support provider
- To public refund, no involving the woman
  - Midwives start to loose influence, the larger medical system takes presedence
- To no earmarked money for the midwifery tasks
  - Profylaxis and midwifery services are no longer seen in the system

New strategies

- Lobbying for midwifery: pointing to the money issue!
- At present in dialogue with MoH
- New independent groups lobby for direct payment
  - Ultrasound clinics
  - Privately practicing
  - In between private and public

Private practitioners

Ultrasound clinics

Successful marketing – consumers' demand

Lack of

research

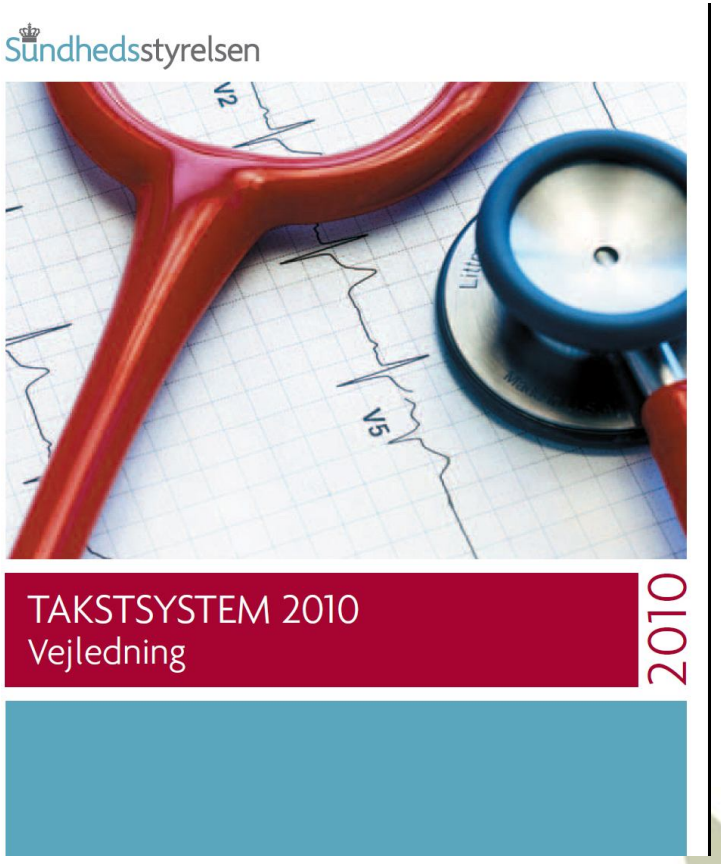
Private practitioners

Homebirth single practice

Homebirth team

Differents clinics offering antenatal, postnatal, acupuncture, breastfeeding support etc.

Speaking of homebirth…



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New strategies

- Lobby to earmark money
- Get midwives in charge of midwifery
- New models for payment
- Joint strategies with doctors
- Joint strategies with women

Thank you