

The National Board of Health and Welfare is working to ensure you have access to good health and social care

Regardless of who you are and where in Sweden you live, you should have access to good health and social care on equal terms. This is an important premise of our work.

Our job is to produce and develop statistics, regulations and knowledge for the Government and for those working in health and medical care and social services. We approach representatives and officials in municipalities and county councils, as well as care providers and their personnel.

Our work ensures that everyone has access to a shared national knowledge base. This is an important foundation for good health and social care throughout Sweden.



We produce and develop statistics, regulations and knowledge in a number of different areas, such as oncology, patient safety and eHealth.

The Board also develops health and social care support for different groups in society, such as children, elderly people and people with mental illnesses or disabilities. Based on the governing laws, we produce regulations (binding rules) and general advice (recommendations) on how to comply with the requirements of the regulations.

Another important task is to provide statistics on medicine, causes of death and financial support. In our evaluations, we monitor how health and social care functions where matters such as access to personnel, waiting times and accessibility are concerned.

The National Board of Health and Welfare directs several advisory and decision-making bodies, such as the Legal Advisory Board, the Ethics Council and the Board for National Specialised Medical Care.

We also have a contingency for serious crisis, meaning we can coordinate health and medical care operations as and when needed.

Several authorities collaborate to optimise knowledge development

When you need help from health and medical care or social services, you will naturally expect the response to be based on the highest possible expertise. The Board's task is to generate knowledge which is based on the best available research and experience.

One of our duties is to direct the Committee for knowledge-based guidance – a collaboration with eight other authorities – which is intended to drive the development in the area of health and social care.

The Board also stands as chair in a group of organisers with representatives from municipalities and county councils. The group is tasked with keeping the Committee for knowledge-based guidance informed of the needs in the field of health and social care, so that the authorities provide the right knowledge.



We decide on licences for 21 occupational groups

In order for you to have good and safe health and social care the personnel working with health and medical care must have the right knowledge. The National Board of Health and Welfare evaluates and issues licences for personnel in 21 occupational groups, including pharmacists, doctors, naprapaths, psychologists and dentists.

The Board is also responsible for cases brought before the Medical Responsibility Board (HSAN), which examines authorisation issues regarding licenced health and medical care staff. HSAN can revoke licences and limit the right to prescribe medicine.



The National Board of Health and Welfare in Brief

The National Board of Health and Welfare produces and develops statistics, regulations and knowledge for health and medical care and social services.

We are approximately 700 employees working to ensure everyone has access to good health and social care on equal terms.

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