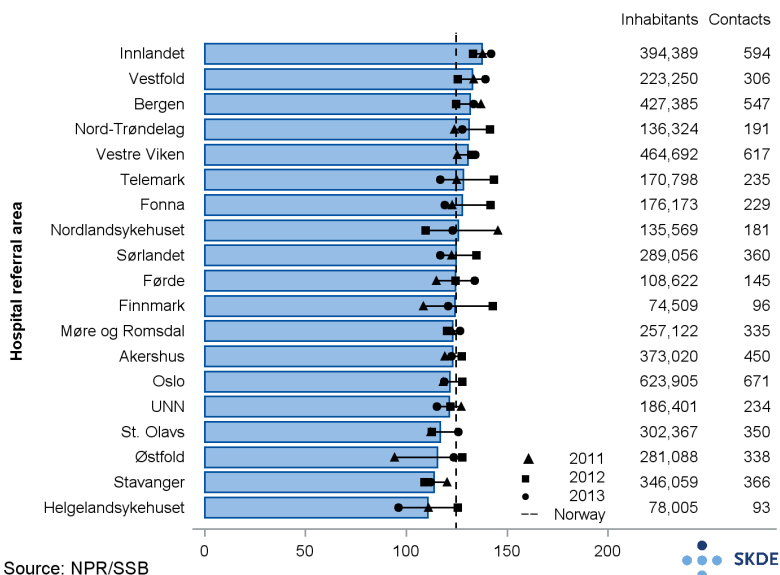
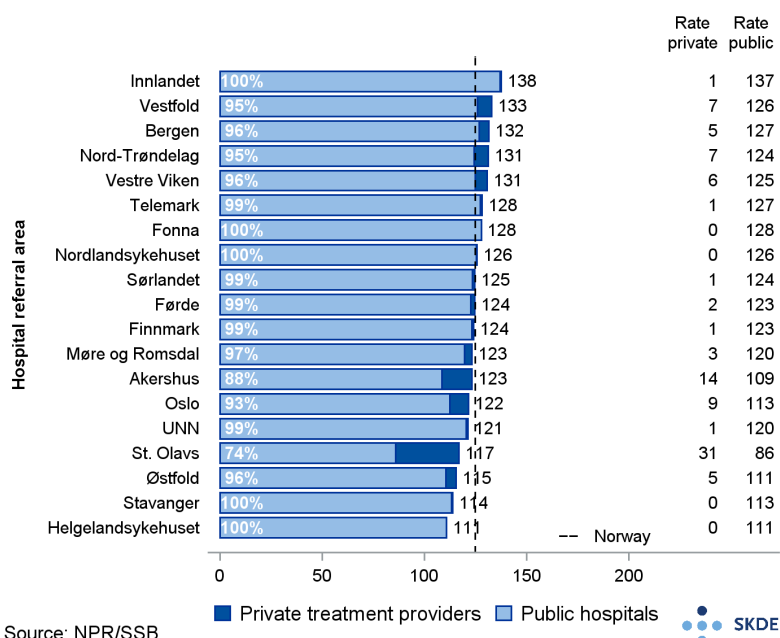


An inguinal hernia is a protrusion in the groin where internal structures bulge through a weak point in the abdominal wall. Symptoms may include burning and discomfort, and a heavy sensation is also common. Surgery is indicated in children and young adults with inguinal hernia, but only in adults if they also experience pain. Today, virtually all planned first-time inguinal hernia repairs are carried out as outpatient surgery under local anaesthesia, either as open or laparoscopic surgery.



Inguinal hernia surgery, rates adjusted for gender and age per 100,000 population per hospital referral area, per year and as an average for the period 2011–2013



Inguinal hernia surgery, rates adjusted for gender and age per 100,000 population per hospital referral area, broken down by public or private treatment providers, average for the period 2011–2013



### Definitions

The following combinations of codes define this patient group:

Primary or secondary diagnosis (ICD-10) K40 in combination with the procedure codes JAB00, JAB10, JAB11 or JAB30 for hospitals with activity-based funding, and the same diagnosis code in combination with tariff code 140e for specialists in private practice under a funding contract with the regional health authorities.

Private treatment providers include private hospitals and specialists under contracts with the public specialist health service.

	2011	2012	2013	Aver. (%)
Public	5,874	6,123	6,102	6,033 (95%)
Private	229	310	371	303 (5%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,103</b>	<b>6,433</b>	<b>6,473</b>	<b>6,336 (100%)</b>

Procedures per year and average for the period 2011–2013

### Comments

The consumption of inguinal hernia surgery is very evenly distributed in the Norwegian population, and it seems safe to conclude that the provision is equally distributed.

It is nevertheless a relatively frequently performed procedure, which reflects the fact that inguinal hernia is fairly common in the population.