

NEEDS ASSESSMENT DENMARK¹

The survey in Denmark was conducted as electronic questionnaires sent to the Danish orthopaedics and rehabilitation units by email. In all, 22 units were contacted, and 9 answered (= 41%). The immediate answers were received within on week, and one answer as result of a resending of the questionnaires. The questionnaire covered 15 questions.

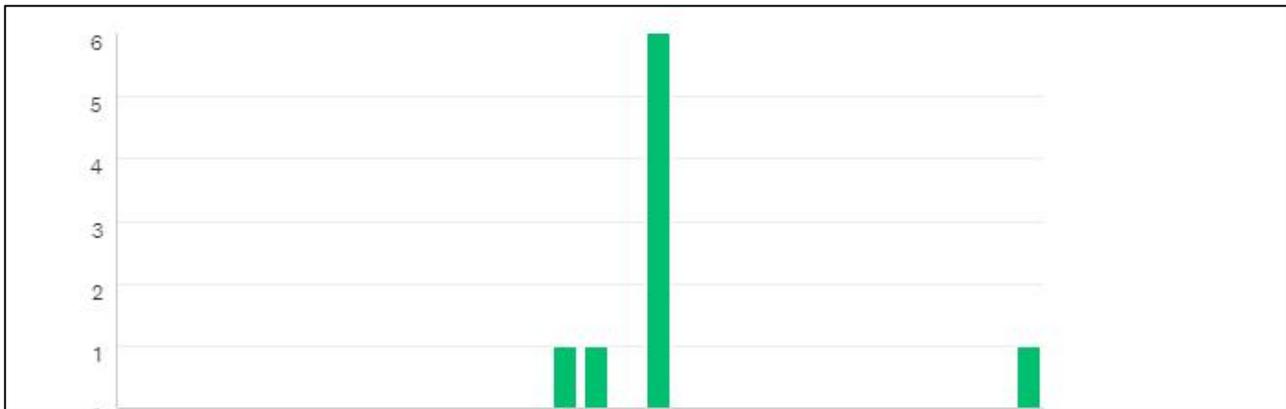


Fig.1 Responses received by days

The respondents were representing all positions in the system of orthopaedics and rehabilitation apart from the managers, and only 2 respondents offered their contact information:

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Name	100.00% 9
Resident in	11.11% 1
Medical doctor	22.22% 2
Specialization	33.33% 3
Member of professional organization - name	11.11% 1
Manager	0.00% 0
Position	22.22% 2
Department	22.22% 2
Institution	22.22% 2
Email Address	22.22% 2

Fig.2 Responses received by professions

¹ The survey was done in English, but the report is done in Danish, too.

Concerning the access rate to the internet, 89 pct. of the respondents were on the internet on a daily basis, whilst just one respondent answered 2-3 times a week:

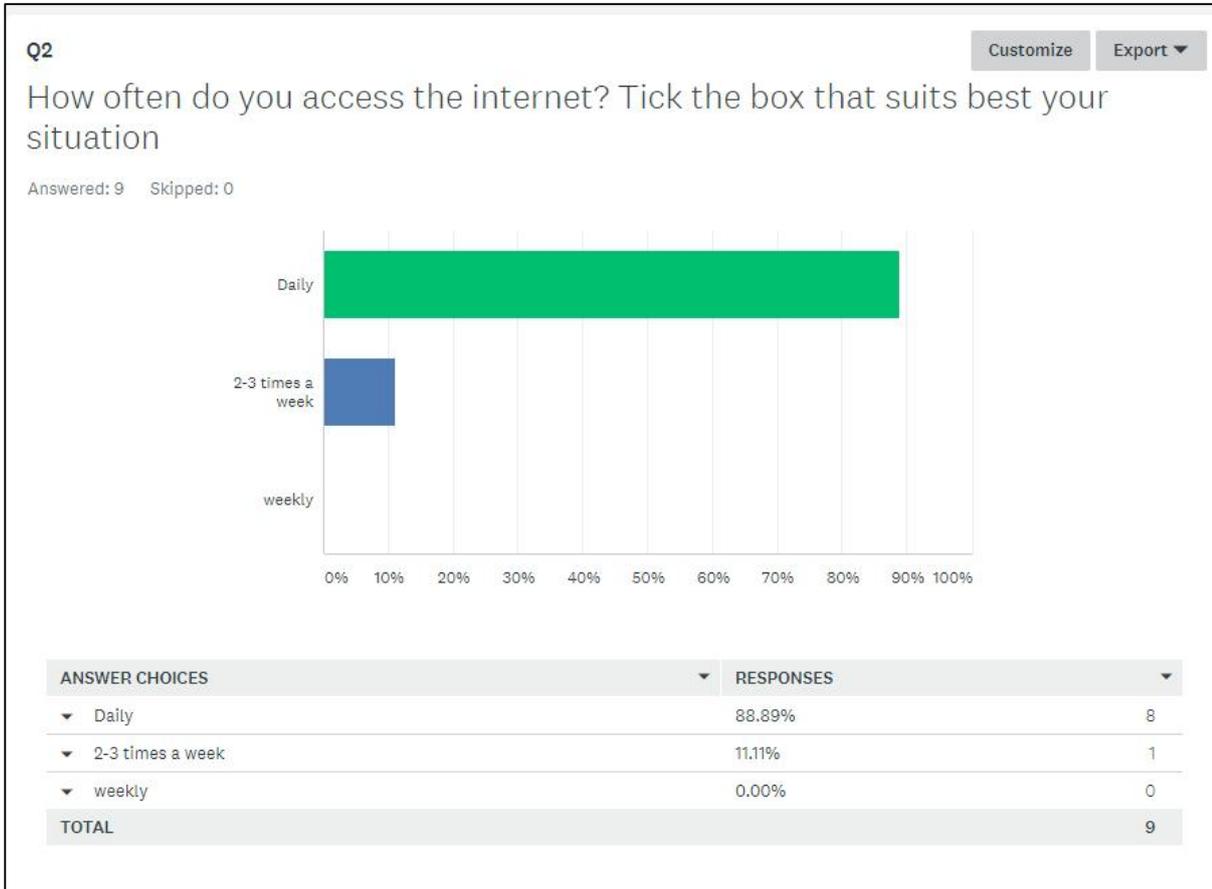


Fig.3 Access to internet

There was a larger spread when it came to be using the internet for improving professional career, but still 90 pct. were using the internet every day to weekly for this purpose:

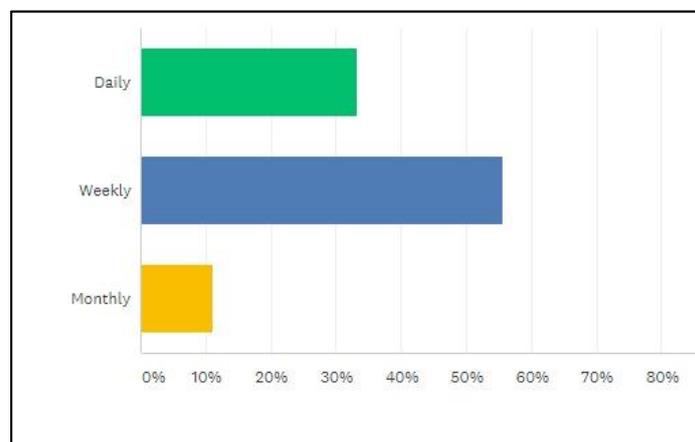


Fig.4 Using internet to improve career

The respondents were familiar with and to a certain extent have used most of the tools linked to interactive use of the internet:

	NEVER HEARD OF IT	I HAVE HEARD BUT NEVER USED IT	I CAN MANGE WITH HELP	I CAN USE IT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Chat	11.11% 1	11.11% 1	22.22% 2	55.56% 5	9	3.22
WIKI	22.22% 2	22.22% 2	22.22% 2	33.33% 3	9	2.67
Audio conferencing	0.00% 0	33.33% 3	22.22% 2	44.44% 4	9	3.11
Video conferencing	0.00% 0	11.11% 1	33.33% 3	55.56% 5	9	3.44
Forum	11.11% 1	11.11% 1	44.44% 4	33.33% 3	9	3.00
e-mail groups	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	33.33% 3	66.67% 6	9	3.67
Internet/mobile/mobile learning	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	28.57% 2	71.43% 5	7	3.71

Fig.5 Using different internet tools

When it comes to focus areas, the respondents used the internet mostly for information on clinical issues, medication, medical events, news and research:

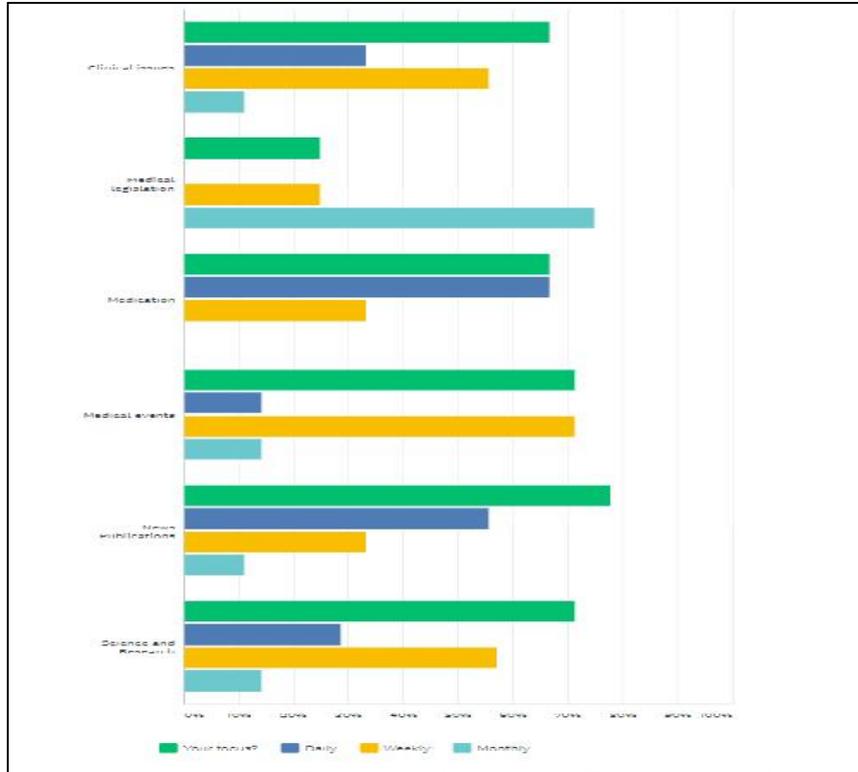


Fig.6 Categories of information required and frequency

When it comes to methods of learning, the respondents preferred classical courses and workshops over eLearning with a huge majority:

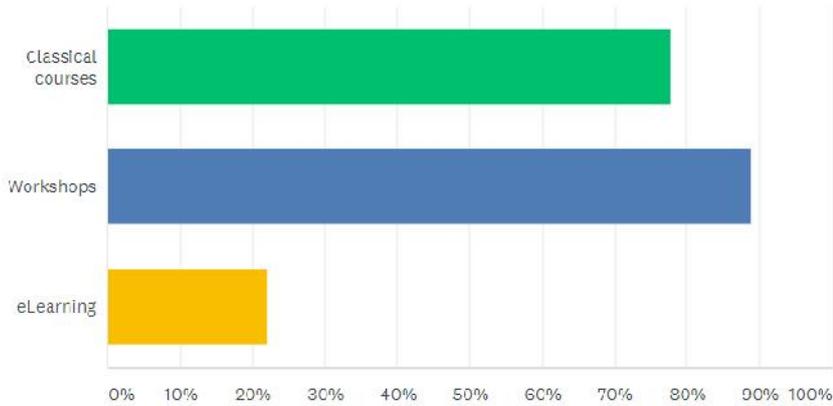


Fig.7 Preferences in learning forms

However, there is a high interest in e-learning among the respondents:

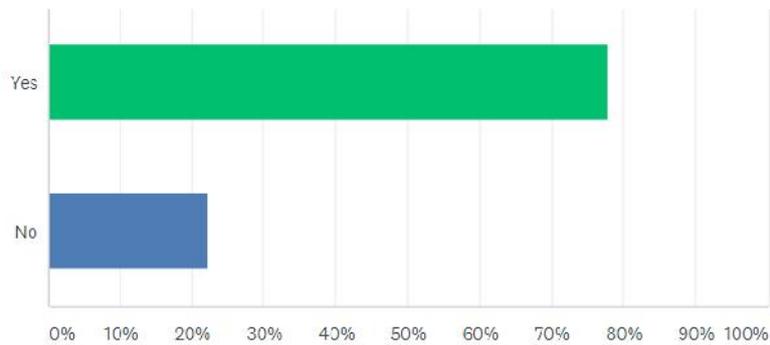


Fig.8 Interest in e-learning approaches

The same tendency is shown concerning the interest in mobile learning

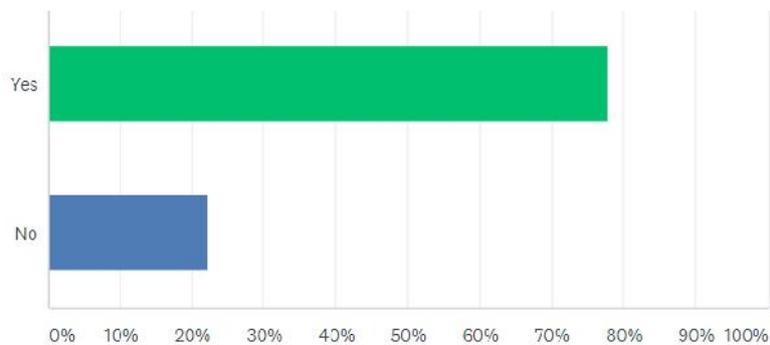


Fig.8 Interest in mobile learning approaches

And, it appears that two thirds of the respondents have looked for e-learning on the internet:

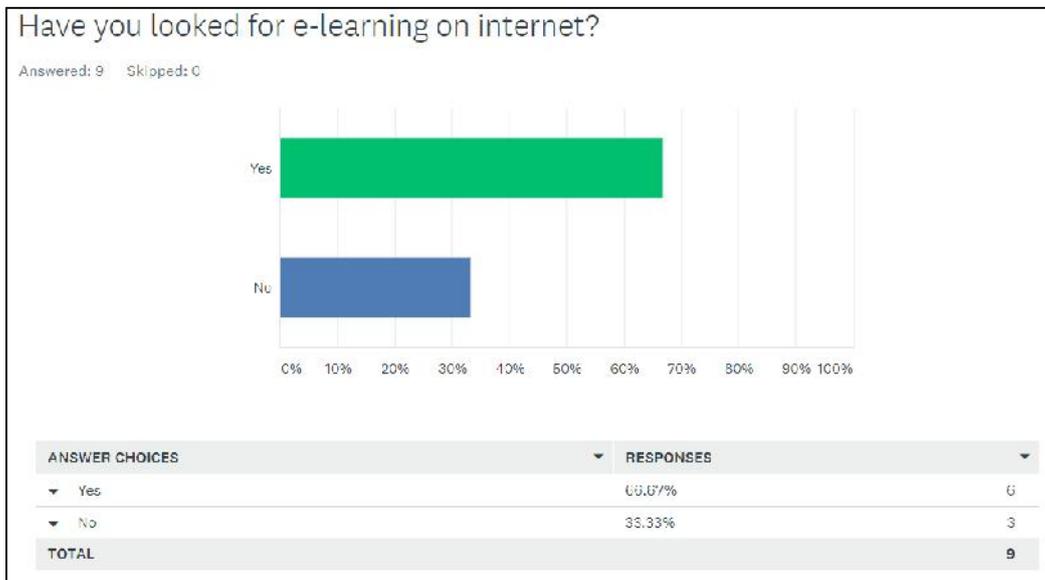


Fig.9 Active interest in eLearning approaches on the internet

There is a wide spread among the respondents when it comes to estimating how much time they think is necessary to refresh their knowledge and improve skills and competencies. The answers range from “it is impossible to estimate” to “50 hours”, but most of answers (77 pct.) point at between 5-15 hours per week with the average on 6-8 hours per week.

All respondents (100 pct.) would apply an eLearning platform for continuous education if they had it on disposal for free. But only 22 pct. would do this if it was on a payment basis:

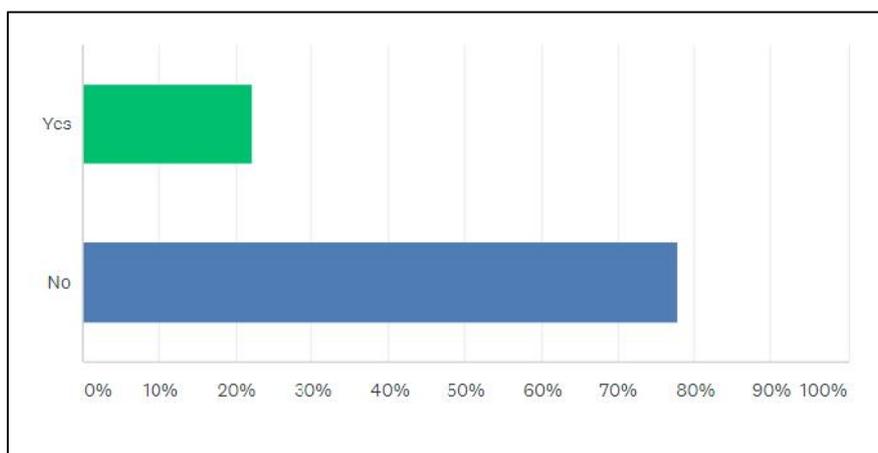


Fig.10 Interest in E-learning platform on payment basis

Only one out of the respondents preferred Danish as language for the course information while the rest pointed at the English language.

There was a broad interest in a variety of issues, but specific issues were weighted the highest, almost the double of the other subjects:

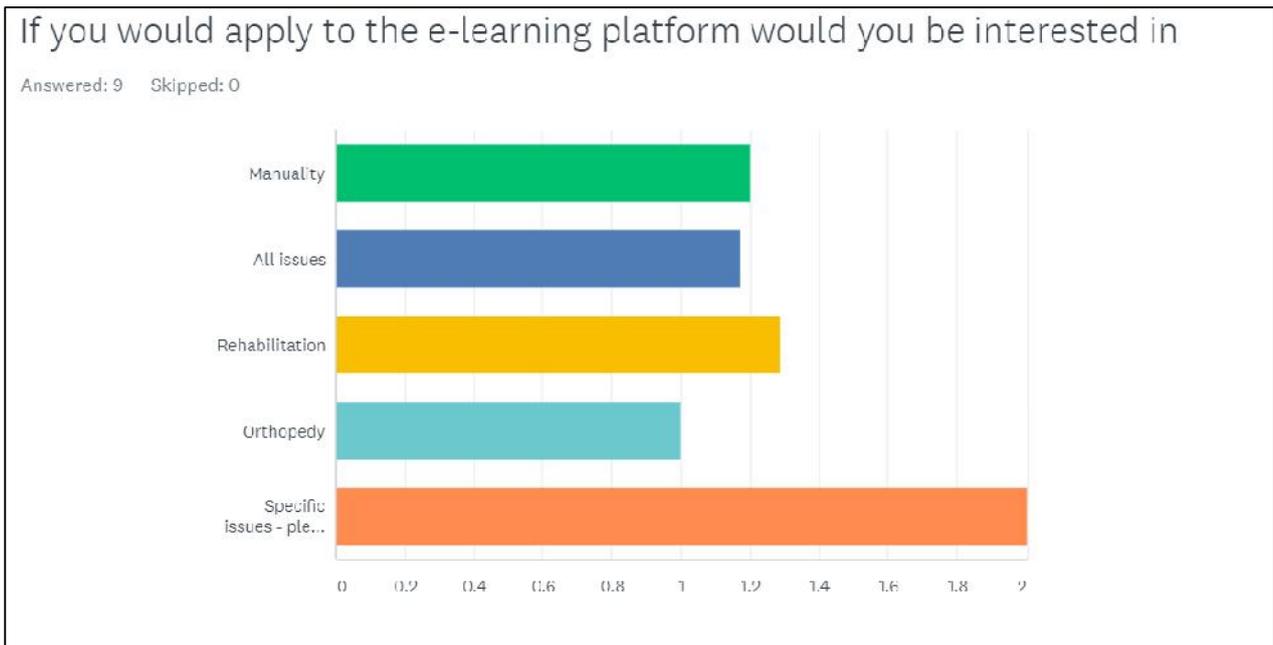


Fig.11 Areas of interest applied to an eLearning platform

The interest in the internet based information seems to be more focusing on receiving that participation: More than half of the respondents were not interested in a Forum on medical topics:

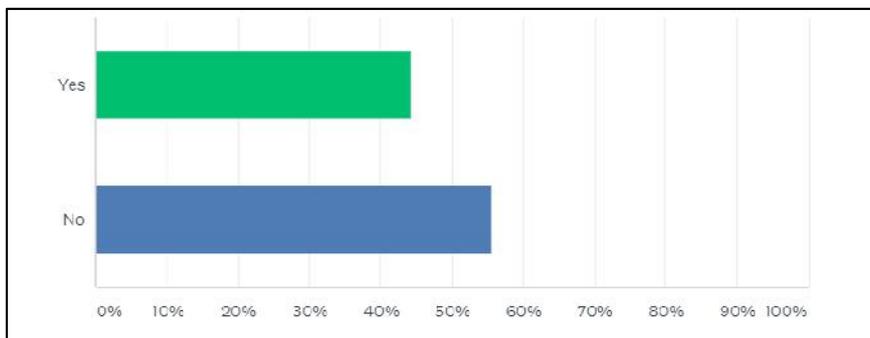


Fig.12 interested in a Forum on medical topics

The same response profile was when asked if “interested in sharing content with images from your own experience for second opinion”. More than half of the respondents replied negatively.

Conclusion

The Danish professional positions were mostly represented in the survey, even the number of respondents are little (however it shall be noticed that it seems that the single respondent represents a service and not just one professional, which means that the replies covers half of the services in Denmark.

It is evident that most Danish professionals use the internet daily, and to a large extent, use the internet for improving their professional career, too. There is a high level of knowledge and experiences of using different internet tools for communication and dialogue. Therefore, it also seems that the internet is used for getting information in almost all professional categories.

Still, the respondents prefer the classical courses and workshops over eLearning. But there is a huge interest in eLearning and mobile learning approaches, too. And, most respondents have looked for eLearning opportunities. All respondents would apply an eLearning platform for continuous education if they had it on disposal for free. But only a quarter of the respondents would do this if it was on a payment basis.

There is a wide spread among the respondents when it comes to estimating how much time they think is necessary to refresh their knowledge and improve skills and competencies. The answers range from “it is impossible to estimate” to “50 hours”, but most answers point at between 5-15 hours per week with the average on 6-8 hours per week.

The majority prefer English as the language for eLearning courses.

There was a broad interest in a variety of issues, but specific issues were weighted the highest, almost the double of the other subjects. The interest in the internet based information seems to be more focusing on receiving that participation: More than half of the respondents were not interested in a Forum on medical topics nor where they interested in sharing content with images for second opinion (which may be linked to the legislation on data protection).