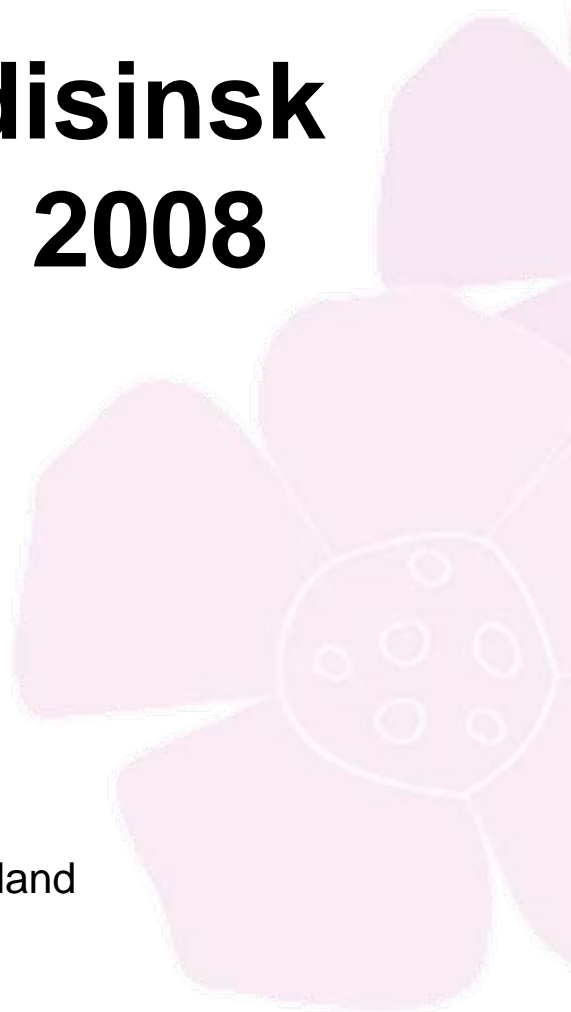




Fylkesmannen i
Nordland

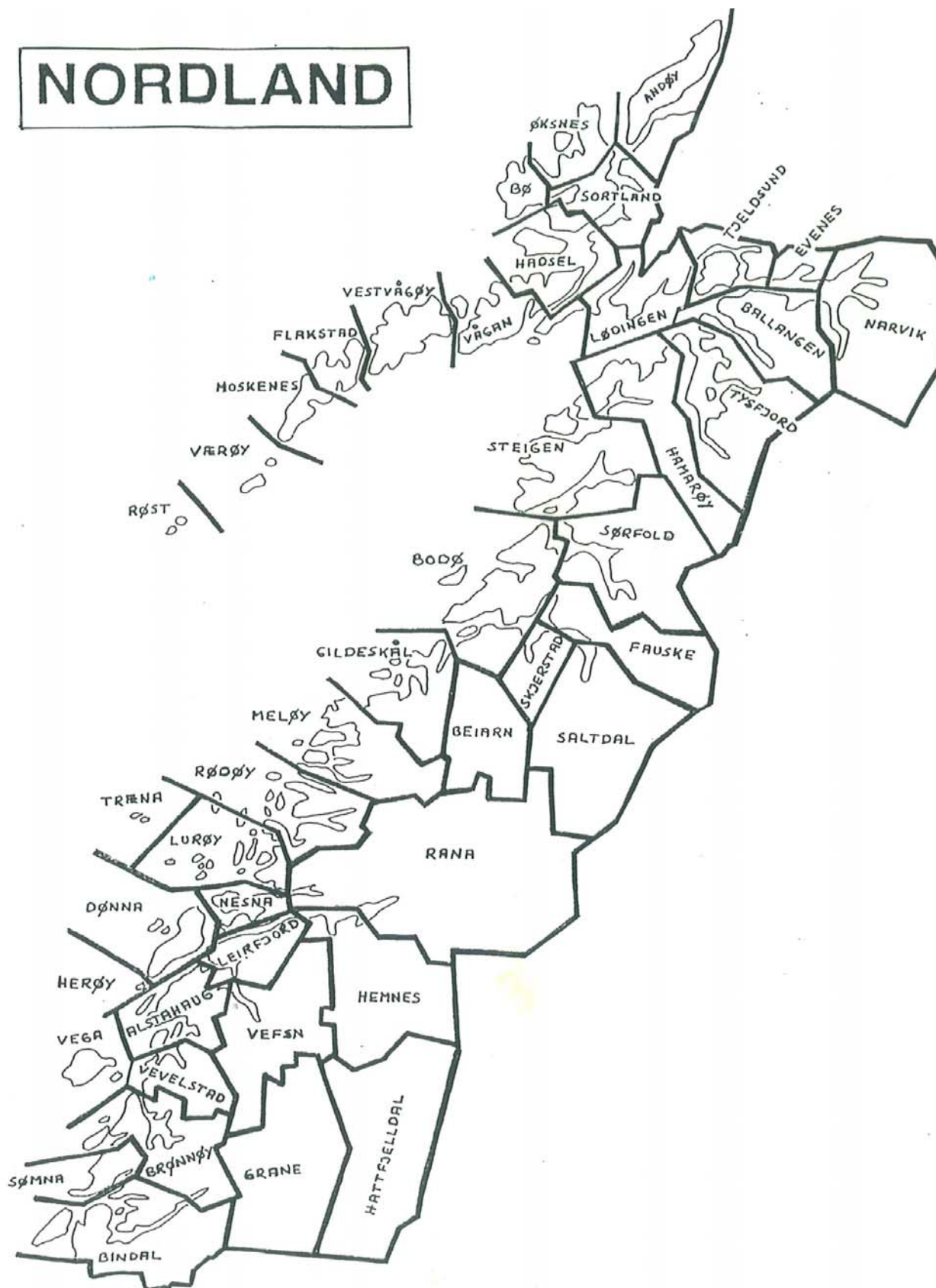
Distriktsmedisinsk konferanse 2008

Bodø, 12. mars 2008
Henning Aanes, fylkeslege i Nordland





NORDLAND





Nordland County

- 5 % of the Norwegian people live in Nordland, ie 235.000 out of 4.7 millions
- Coast line 14.000 km, $\frac{1}{4}$ of the total Norwegian coast line
- 28 ferries



Municipalities in Nordland County

- 44 municipalities
- 28 less than 3.000 inhab.
- 5 more than 10.000 inhab.
- Very autonomous
- Refuse any thought of fusion



Some paradoxes

- Free hospital choice vs fixed patient-doctor relationship
- Hospitals now owned by state, earlier by the counties, while the doctors are more and more privatized – ie centralization vs decentralization



- Hospitals are organized in hierarchic, huge trusts while primary care doctors remain stuck to the small municipalities
- Regional Health Trusts (hospitals) are obliged to promote public health while primary care doctors are getting more introvert and uninterested



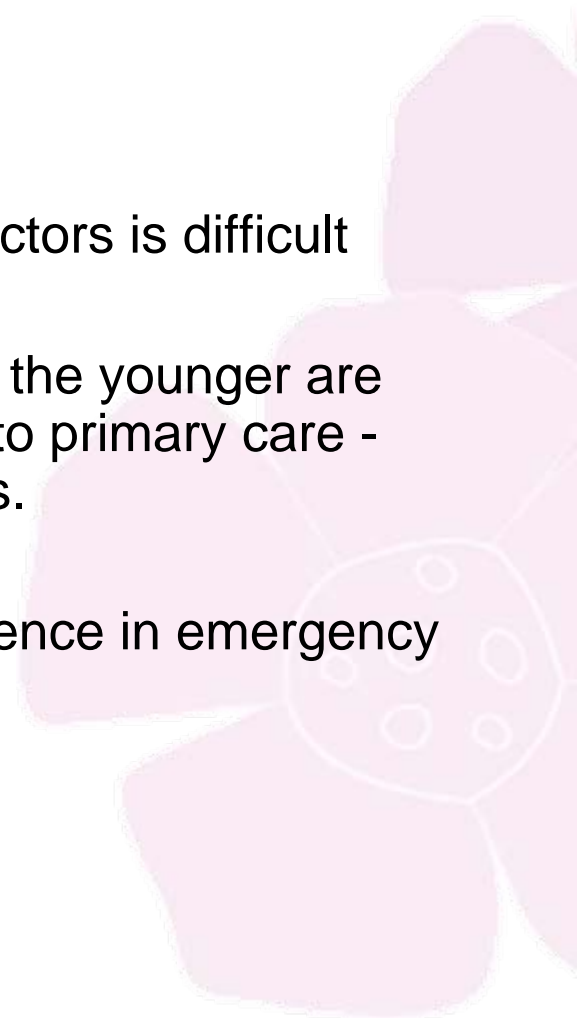
Some problems

19 out of 84 vacant lists in NORWAY in
Nordland,
ie 23 %

Recruiting and stabilizing doctors is difficult

The oldest are getting older, the younger are
not getting there at all, ie to primary care -
they seek hospital careers.

Concern about their competence in emergency
medicine





Probable explanations

- Coastal areas – islands – ferries – long distances
- Small municipalities – short of services and facilities
- Few doctors, difficult to maintain a strong professional environment
- etc. etc.



One important factor

The health care systems in the municipalities have no single, strong voice conc.

- Organization
- Financing
- Cooperation and coordination
- Professional matters





Who/what could be the one, strong voice?

– KS?

- National Association of the Municipalities
- Could and should, but won't?

– NMA (Dnlf)?

- Norwegian Medical Association
- Of course not

– County Governor/Chief County Medical Officer?

- Represents the government in the county and hence an other political level than the municipalities



- The universities?
 - Oh no, not their business

- Media?
 - Media debates are solely concentrated on the "crisis" in and "ruination" of the hospital services.

- Hdir
 - Directorate of Health
 - Too far from the reality





Well, who takes care of this?

Thank You!

