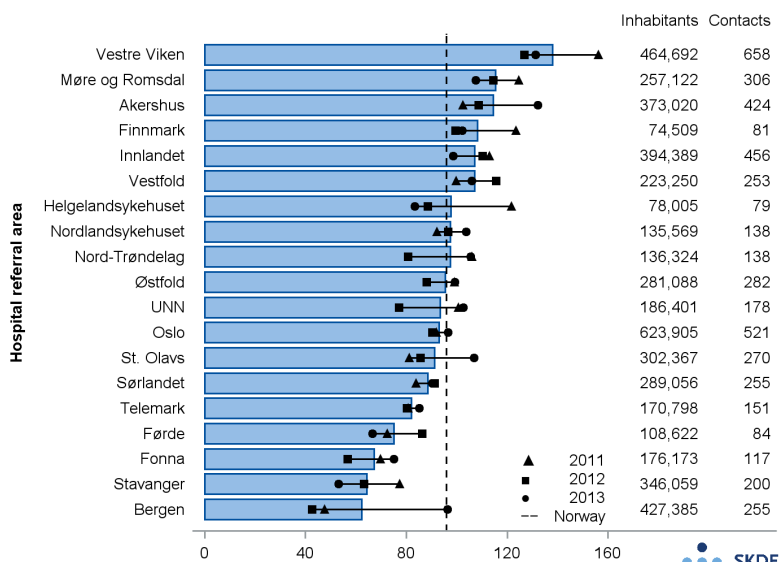
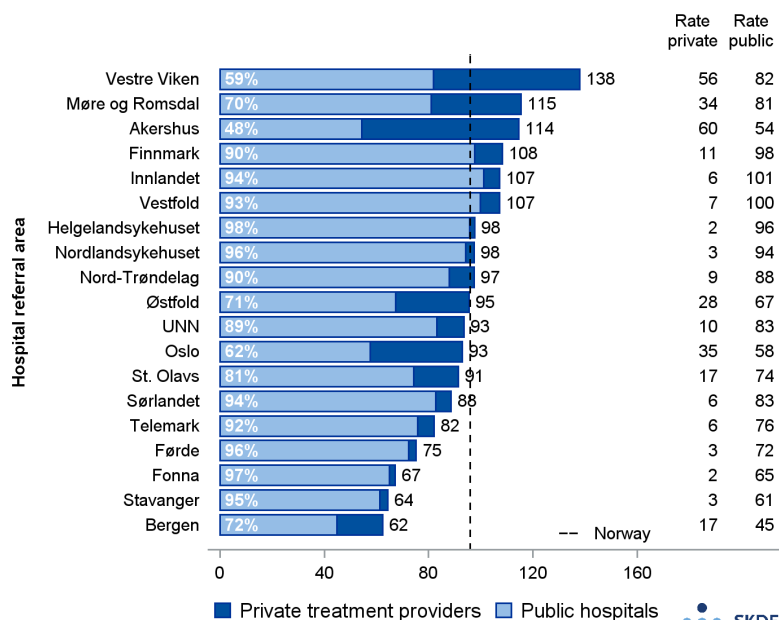


Hallux valgus is a deformation of the big toe, which is angled towards the little toe. Hammer toe is when the innermost joint is bent upwards and the outermost downwards. It may be painful to wear shoes. The treatment consists of sawing off and removing part of the bone near the joint. Screws are placed in the big toe and metal pins in the smaller toes to ensure a correct angle.



Source: NPR/SSB

Hallux valgus and hammer toe 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



Source: NPR/SSB

Hallux valgus and hammer toe 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



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### Definitions

The following combinations of codes define this patient group:

Primary or secondary diagnosis (ICD-10) M20.1, M20.2, M20.3, M20.4, M320.5 or M20.6 in combination with the procedure codes NHG09, NHG44, NHG46, NHG49, NHK17, NHK18, NHK57 or NHK58 for hospitals with activity-based funding, and the same diagnosis codes in combination with the tariff codes 134a, 134b or 140d 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	3,870	3,728	3,585	3,728 (77%)
Private	985	858	1,516	1,120 (23%)
Total	4,855	4,586	5,101	4,847 (100%)

Procedures per year and average for the period 2011–2013

### Comments

The conditions hallux valgus and hammer toe are probably evenly distributed in the population. Surgery rates for these conditions have remained relatively stable within each hospital referral area, except for the Bergen area, where the consumption has more than doubled from 2011 to 2013.

A fairly high degree of variation is observed between hospital referral areas. This variation is probably not random, and it seems safe to conclude that the provision of this procedure is not equally distributed in the population.