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Danish researchers initiate global effort against endocrine disruptors

A new international centre based in Copenhagen is to form the framework for research and teaching on endocrine disruption, such as premature puberty in girls, low sperm quality and high incidences of testicular cancer.

These trends are all apparent in Denmark and abroad, and according to the WHO/UNEP and the European Research Council there is an urgent need for coordinated initiatives in this area.

The new centre is called **EDMaRC** and it has been set up at Rigshospitalet at the Department of Growth and Reproduction in close collaboration with the University of Copenhagen. **EDMaRC** stands for Endocrine Disruption of Male Reproduction and Child Health.

International environment

EDMaRC will be headed by Prof. Anders Juul from Rigshospitalet and the University of Copenhagen, and Prof. Jorma Toppari from the University of Turku in Finland. Guesting international senior researchers and Rigshospitalet's own team led by Prof. Juul will conduct research at the Centre into the endocrine disruption which could potentially cause a serious societal problem.

Researchers from the Centre will also be responsible for on-site education of PhD students from Denmark and abroad.

"EDMaRC follows a wish from the EU and the WHO to strengthen and internationalise research into endocrine disruption. At the same time, opening EDMaRC is the first step towards establishing a unique scientific community for Danish and foreign researchers and students," said



Prof. Juul.

Copenhagen as the hub

The Department of Growth and Reproduction at Rigshospitalet is a global leader in the field, and researchers from throughout the world have therefore pointed to Copenhagen as an obvious hub for this international initiative.

Combining researchers at Rigshospitalet with visiting senior researchers and associated students, will give the research community at the planned Centre enormous clout and it will spotlight Denmark's leading position in the field.

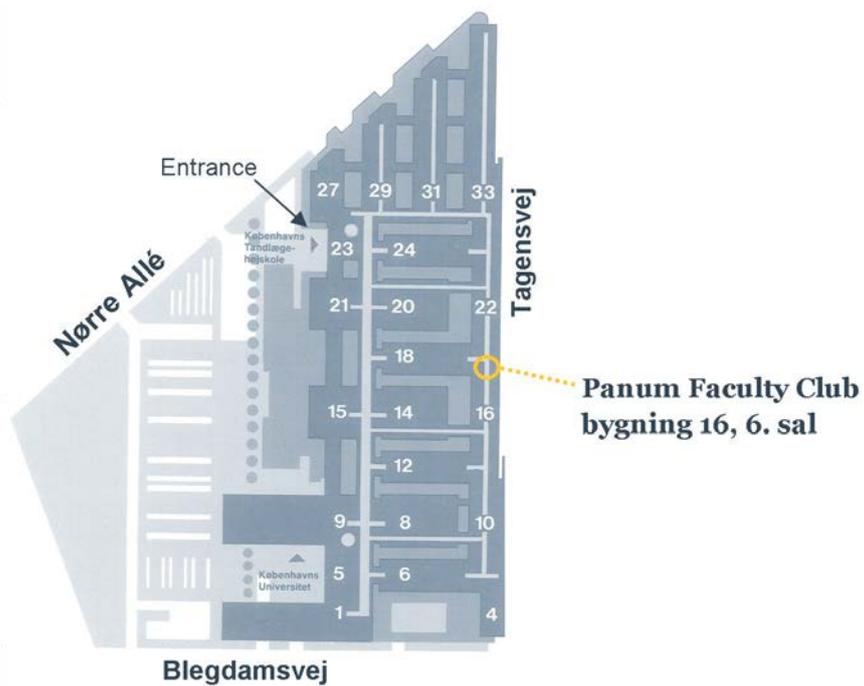
Launch of the EDMaRC Centre

A donation from the Kirsten and Freddy Johansen Foundation has made it possible to start the Centre. Full development of the Centre depends on future funding.

The opening of EDMaRC will be marked by an event at the Faculty Club at Panum Institute on Thursday **15 May at 1:30 pm**. Interested journalists can ask questions to the people behind EDMaRC between 1 and 1.30 pm.

The Centre website (www.edmarc.net) will also be opened on 15 May 2014.

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Benyt **Nørre Allé** indgangen til Panum Institutet og følg skiltene til Faculty Club. Skiltene guider dig den snirklede vej gennem bygning 20 og 22 og op med **elevator 18c** til 6. sal.