

2026 report on Optical Radiation Activities in Denmark

Research activities related to optical radiation

Research on UV and skin cancer is primarily carried out by the Danish professional societies. The Danish Health Authority (SST) normally does not conduct or research on optical radiation or non-ionizing radiation in general. However, a collaboration with the Danish Cancer Society and the Danish Research Center for Skin Cancer has been formed to update a Danish skin cancer cost analysis from 2013. The project is planned to be carried out during 2026, with the Danish Cancer Society as the major driver and SST in a supporting role.

Policies and legislation

The responsibility for regulating medical and cosmetic use of optical radiation lies with the Danish Patient Safety Authority. Product safety and conformance to limit values for sunbeds is regulated by the Danish Safety Technology Authority, which is now a part of the Danish Business Authority. Work Environment in Denmark is the responsible authority for regulating exposure of workers.

The responsibility for health risk assessment of optical radiation exposures lies with SST. SST follows recommendations from WHO and EU. SST also works closely with the radiation protection authorities in the other Nordic countries, and the cooperation is formalized in the so-called Nordic-NIR group which meets once every second year. The group has published several Nordic consensus statements, for instance the [Advice against using sunbeds](#) from 2019.

A revision of the sunbed Act No. 718, including a proposal for an 18-year age limit on sunbed use, was drafted in 2025 and prepared for presentation for adoption in parliament. However, due to the recent general election in Denmark, the revised act has been put on hold pending the convening of a new parliament. Denmark is still one of the only countries in Europe allowing sunbed use for persons under 18 years of age.

Communication

SST provides information related to exposures and health issues related to sun and UV exposure on its website, www.sst.dk.

SST facilitated a debate about sun protection for young adults and adolescents during the annual "[Peoples Meeting](#)" on Bornholm in June 2025.

SST has currently updated their guidance to the Danish municipalities regarding actions to be taken for sun protection of workers as well as the public. The updated guidance will be published in June 2026.

SST participates in the so-called [Sun Group](#), together with a selection of other Danish authorities and professional societies. The purpose of the Sun Group is to ensure aligned and coordinated professional announcements from the participating institutions regarding the public's exposure to UV from sunbeds and the sun. Updated fact sheets regarding skin cancer, sun protection of children, vitamin D and sunbeds can be found [here](#).

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