

APPENDIX

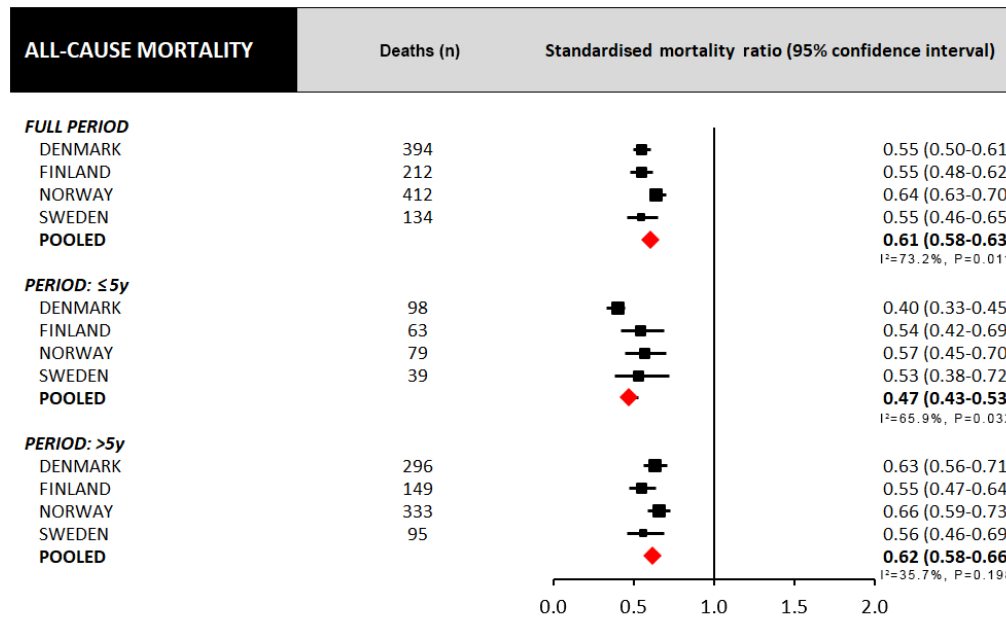


Figure A1 Forest plot of all-cause mortality in military veterans from Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden compared to the general population (fixed-effect model)

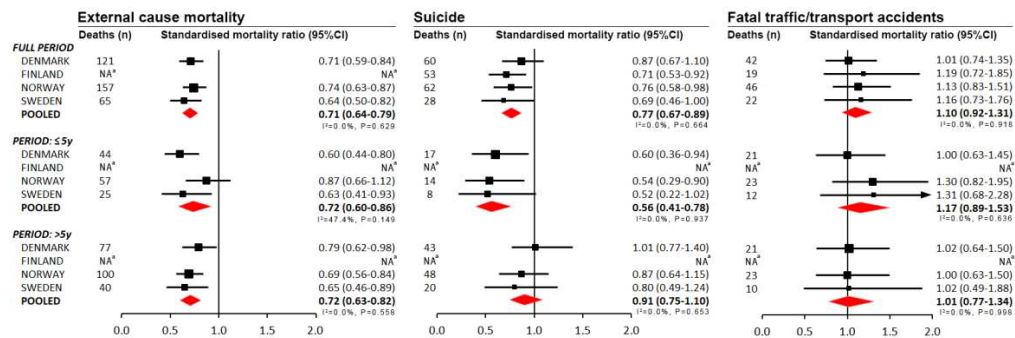


Figure A2 Forest plot of external cause mortality overall (left), suicide (middle) and fatal traffic/transport accidents (right) in military veterans from Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden compared to the general population (fixed-effect model)

^a NA = Not available

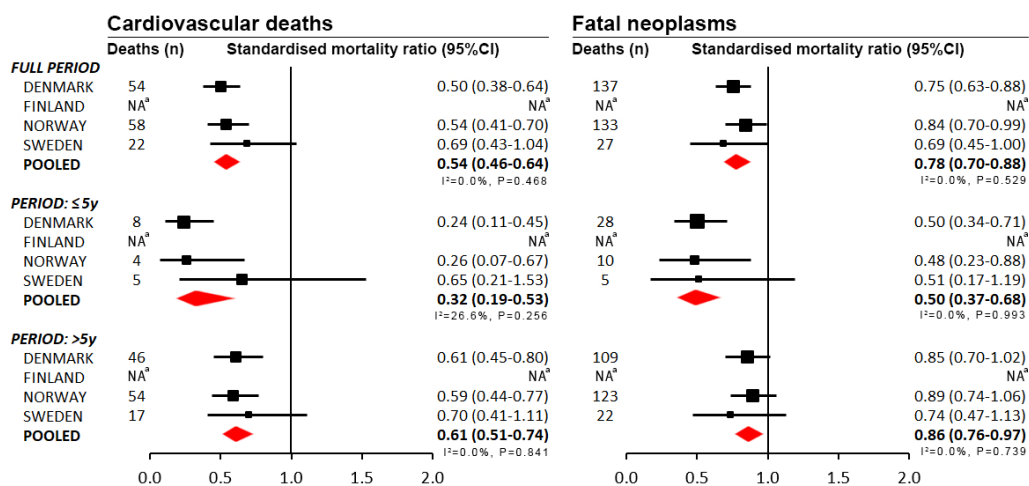


Figure A3 Forest plot of cardiovascular deaths (left) and fatal neoplasms (right) in military veterans from Denmark, Norway and Sweden compared to the general population (fixed-effect model)

^a NA = Not available

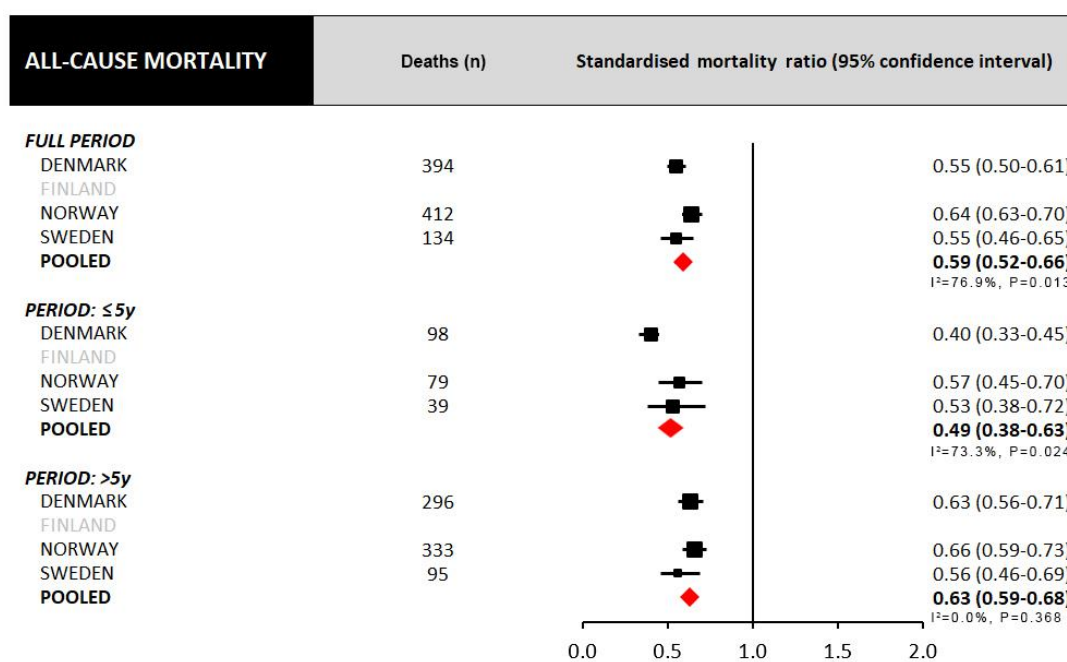


Figure A4 Forest plot of all-cause mortality in military veterans from Denmark, Norway and Sweden compared to the general population (Finland excluded)

Veterans' health promotion programs (by country)

Denmark

In Denmark the Danish Veterans Centre was founded in 2011 one year after the first Veteran policy was made by the government. As the period of the current study was from 1992 to 2010, there was no specific Government initiated veterans' health promotion programs during this period. In Denmark all citizens have access to free public health systems including psychiatric treatment. Likewise it is the municipalities that manage and is responsible for everything concerning social benefits and activities.

Thus, the Danish Veterans Centre is a supplement to the above general public services. The Danish Veterans Centre is a coordinating body organized under the Danish Ministry of Defense, working to support and treat Danish veterans and their families as well as furthering the acknowledgement of their efforts and sacrifices. The Centre operates within the Danish welfare model and the Centre's various support and treatment options for veterans complement services and treatments offered by the Danish universal healthcare system. The Danish Veteran Centre cooperates closely with government authorities, providers in the health care system, municipalities as well as a large number of voluntary organizations to support veterans and their relatives. The Centre functions as a 24/7 one-point of entry to cohesive and comprehensive support and treatment from Center's psychologists and social workers. The Centre offers treatment for deployment related psychopathology, conducts research projects within e.g. pre-deployment resilience and mental health training, post-deployment-screening and reintegration into civilian society, and furthermore the Centre offers support and advice to soldiers and veterans regarding employment and education, as well as offering e.g. PREP-courses (Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program).

Norway

The Norwegian Government's plan of action to care for veteran personnel before, during and after serving abroad was published in 2011, with a follow-up plan in 2014. The action plan covers personnel who serve in international operations, and the objective of the action plan is to improve society's recognition of, and provision of care for, the personnel. The Norwegian Armed Forces provide psychiatric services to the veterans, and cooperate closely with the civilian health services, which is accessible for all residents.

Sweden

There were no veteran-specific health promotion programs in Sweden during the study period. The health care system in Sweden is universally accessible to all residents and veterans are generally encouraged to seek care within the existing health care structure. There is, however, a specific clinic for veterans in Uppsala, but this clinic is part of the county-driven health care system.