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Aalborg University Hospital, Denmark  
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# What a waste – FoodServInSPIRe project at Aalborg University Hospital







929 beds

74500 admissions/year

560000 ambulatory visits

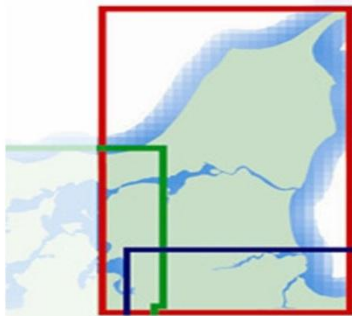
6500 employees



Aalborg University Hospital  
**Centre for Nutrition and  
Bowel Diseases - CET**



**AAU-MENU**

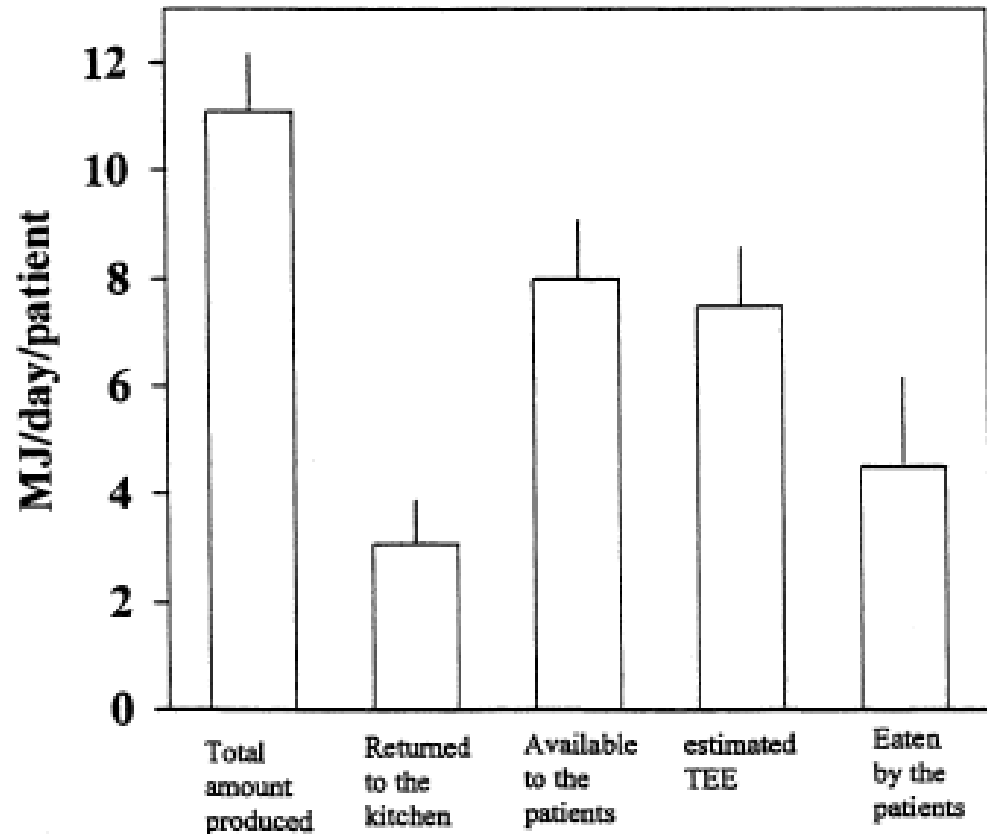


**FOOD+DESIGN**  
Center for Food Science, Design and Experience

Nor

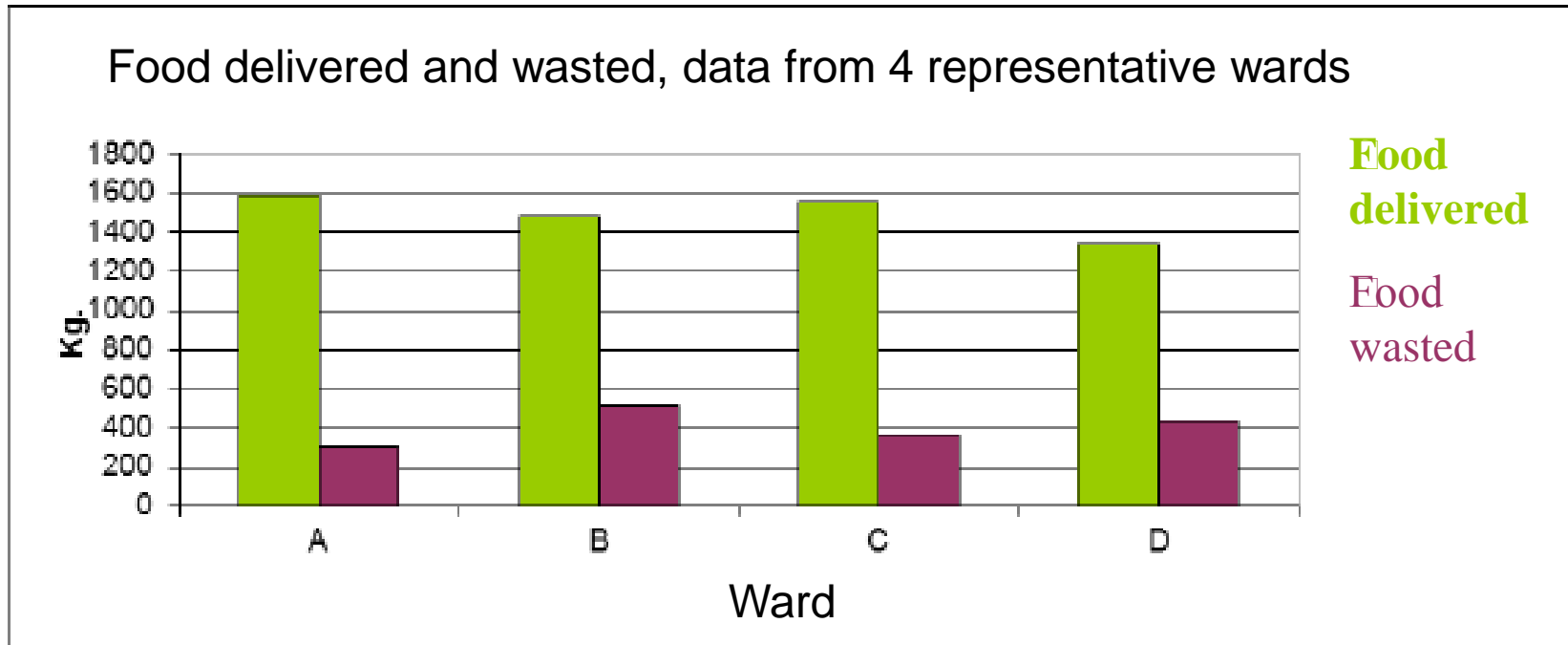


## Food waste from a Danish hospital kitchen



**Fig. 1** Energy content, given as MJ/day/patient in the total amount of food produced, the amount of food returned to the kitchen uneaten, and the amount available to the patients on the ward (from study I); also the estimated TEE and the amount of energy actually eaten by the patients (from study II).

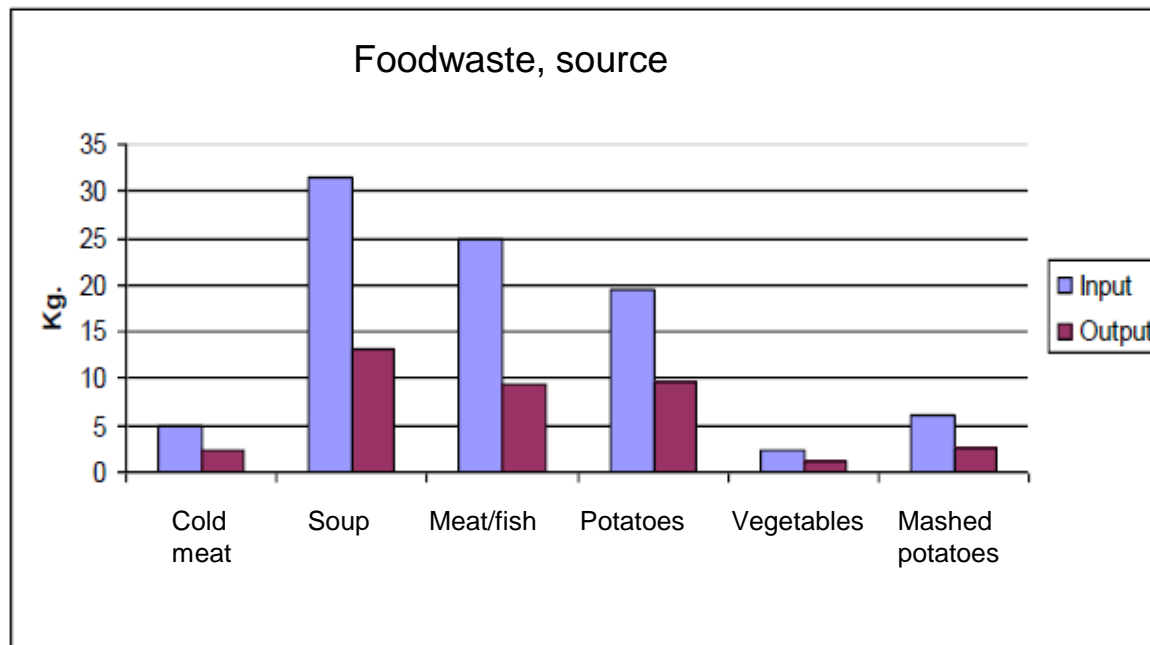
## Trolley waste – experiences from a pilotproject in North Denmark Region



Total: 27,2 % waste

*Kollerup SS & Larsen SB, 2012*

## Trolley waste – experiences from a pilotproject in North Denmark Region



*Kollerup SS & Larsen SB, 2012*

## Experiences from Aalborg University Hospital

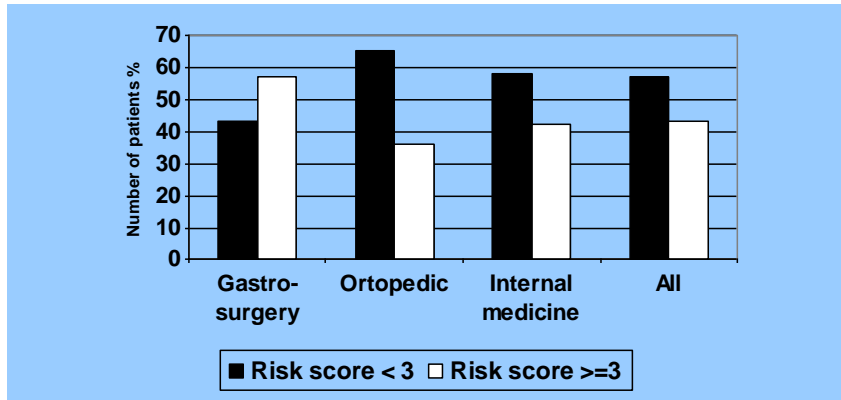
### Waste from:

- Plates: patients not able to eat the whole portion or do not like the food
- Trolley: Service staff is ordering 20 % more than actual patients
- Production: estimated portion size and actual portion size do not match
- Dairy products at the wards: too many pieces taken out for patients, and then wasted because of hygienic rules
- Food in store is getting too old – both in central kitchen and at the wards

*Observational studies from Pernille Nørbak,  
Catering leader at the Central Kitchen*

## The other side of waste – patients in hospitals are at nutritional risk...

### Incidence in Danish hospitals:



*Rasmussen HH, 2004*

### Patients<sup>1</sup> nutritional intake at Aalborg University Hospital:

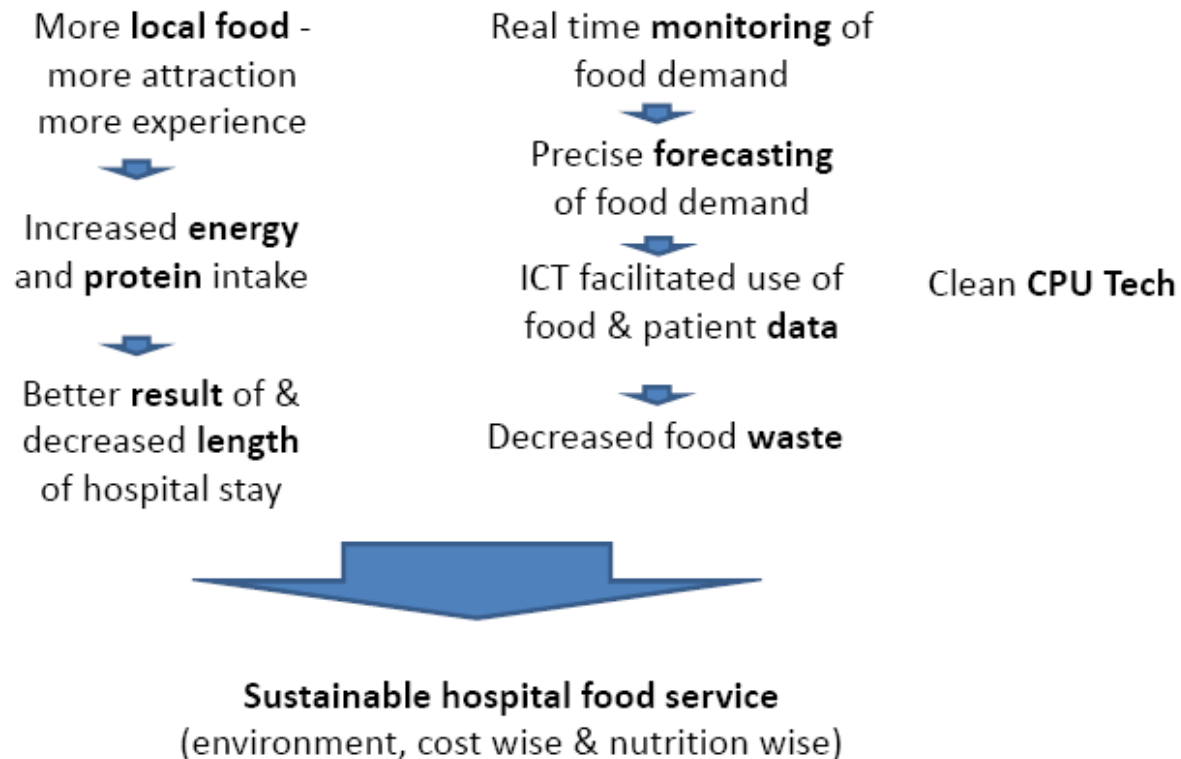
	2009	2010	p >
Energy > 75 %	52	68	0.007
Protein > 75 %	33	52	0.001

<sup>1</sup>Patients at nutritional risk (NRS-2002)

*Unpublished data from the MORE project*



# FoodServInSPIRe project conceptual framework



FoodServinSPIRe



Better food  
at hospital

## Implementing local and organic foods

**Optimizing  
patients  
nutritional intake**

ICT to:

- Forecast demands
- Register intake/  
plate waste

**Reducing food  
waste**

**3 ph.d. students:**

Dorte Ruge

Dwi Budungisari

Kwabena Ofei

# FoodServInSPIRe project

## workplan 1/2

- Identification of sources of food waste in selected hospital foodservice environments
- Investigation on legal aspects of local food supply concepts
- Investigation on cooking routines in hospital catering production unit (HCPU)
- Development of local food supply concept in cooperation with FoodServInSPIRe
- Mapping of IKT routines in selected hospital foodservice environments
- Development project: Alternative use of by products
- Study: waste dependency of "convenienceness"

# FoodServInSPIRe project workplan 2/2

- Development of model for realtime monitoring of food demand based on
  - Food status: Remote food outlets at ward
  - Patient status: Preferences & nutritional status on admission
- Development of intervention
- Baseline study (pre – intervention)
- Follow-up study (pre – intervention)

# The food service production chain

## Hospital wards

Daily food ordering:



- number of pt.s
- staff experience
- unexpected needs

## Central kitchen



Calculation of portions, recepies, staff experience

## Food production



Bulk portions in trolley



Food served from trolley



Trolley returns to kitchen with bulk waste



Plate waste for garbage can



## FoodServinSPIRe: Integrated Modelling of Hospital Food Service Production Chains

### *We have data/knowledge about:*

- Pt. nutritional status and nutritional needs (NRS-2002)
- Nutritional components of foods and meals
- Production system

### *We need more (precise) information about:*

- Nutritional intake
- Individual preferences
- What kinds of food/meal generate most waste
- Waste and relation to nutritional status, preferences, production system, serving system, ordering system, staff knowledge, pt. knowledge...



# Research Questions

Can patient's portion size preference be predicted and applied in the forecasting system to order bulk meal and minimize food waste?

*Kwabena Ofei, Ph.D. Student*

# ICT application in patient's meal ordering

Patient's profile

Hospital menu cycle

Patient's availability

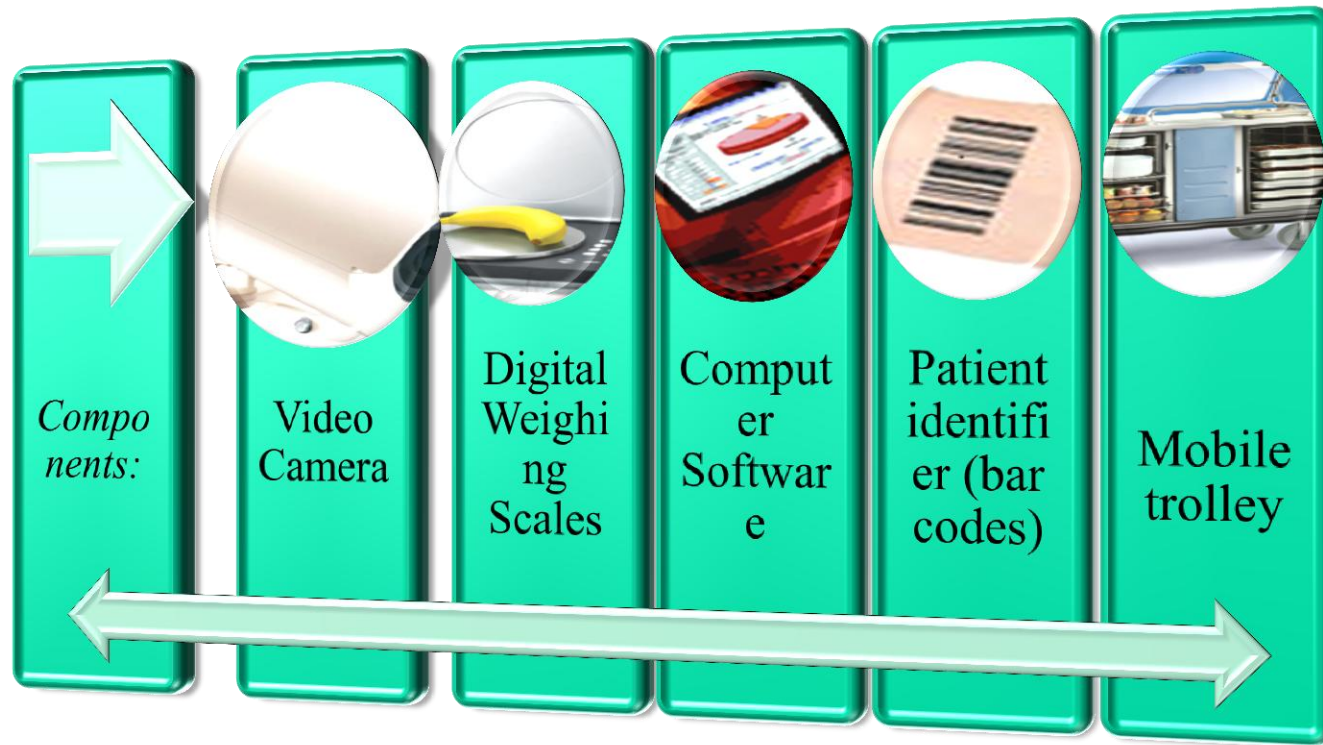
Source of food products

Patient's portion size preference





# ICT in application of intelligent monitoring tool



*Kwabena Ofei, ph.d. student*

# Criteria for selecting best model to forecast patients meal demand

*Historical Data - to be generated from the monitoring tool*

- Portion size
- Food intake
- Plate waste

*Model accuracy-choose best model*

- Quantitative(Time series meth) vrs Qualitative (Intuition)

*Model simplicity of computation*

- Should be easy to use by foodservice staff

## Expected Outcome:

Increase the accuracy of forecasting meal demands

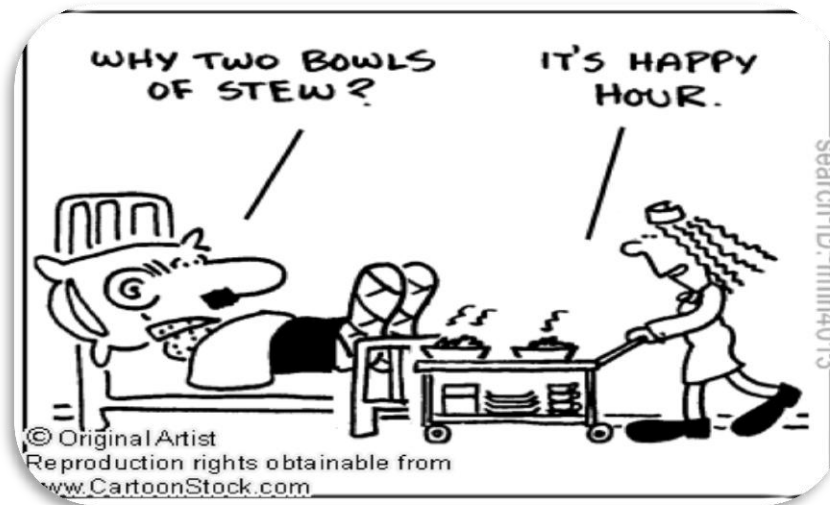
Reduce food waste from bulk meal service

Improve food intake and dietary assessment

Minimize work load related data collection and forecasting

## In conclusion

- Huge potential savings in waste reduction
- Need for environmental focused food science
- Focus on "metaproduct" features
- Need for holistic benchmarking
- Intelligent ICT
- Role of story telling experience economy
- Strengthening evidence driven innovation in food service



## Thanks to

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DSF  
RTI  
AAU

Read more on  
[www.menu.aau.dk/](http://www.menu.aau.dk/)