

## Invitation to defense of PhD thesis

Otitis Media in Greenland – the Long-term Outcome

Friday, May 11, 2012 at 14:00 hours

Auditorium 2, Rigshospitalet University Hospital  
Blegdamsvej 9, 2100 Copenhagen

Public defense by Ramon Gordon Jensen, MD

Otitis media (OM) is one of the most common childhood infections and a leading cause of doctors' visits in the developed part of the world. Here, it often resolves spontaneously without complications. However, in the developing part of the world and among certain indigenous populations a more severe form of OM is found. Chronic suppurative otitis media (CSOM) develops in early childhood where the middle ear infection leads to a chronic perforation of the tympanic membrane with repeated periods of drainage that can last throughout life. The WHO has estimated that CSOM affects between 65-330 million people worldwide. But even though it is the most severe form of otitis media, epidemiological research on the disease is limited. This disease is rarely seen in the developed part of the world but among the Inuit population in Greenland, it is highly prevalent. The dissertation is based on long-term follow-up studies of Greenlandic children. In the presentation the following issues will be discussed:



*Risk factors for the development of CSOM.*

*New insights in the natural history*

*The occurrence and severity of hearing loss*

*Can we fix the problem?*

### Assessment committee:

Maroeska Rovers, Assoc. professor, Radboud University Nijmegen, The Netherlands

Peter Morris, MD, Assoc. professor, Menzies School of Health Research, Australia

Per Cayé-Thomasen, MD, Assoc. professor, University of Copenhagen (chairperson)

### Supervisors:

Preben Homøe, MD, DMSc, Assoc. professor

Anders Koch, MD, PhD, MPH

Peter Bjerregard, MD, Professor

The defense is expected to last 2 hours and will be held in English.

**Afterwards, the Department of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery will host a small reception.**

**Auditorium 2 is at the ground level near entrance 44**

