



Water and Health

Hosted by **Danish Water Forum**

Organised by:

- **Peter E. Holm**, Professor University of Copenhagen
- **Hans-Jørgen Albrechtsen**, Professor Technical University of Denmark, DTU Sustain
- **Kurt Møller**, Senior Consultant Danish Regions

Format: Knowledge sharing, panel discussion, dialogue and networking

When: 30. September 2026, 10:15 – 15:00

Venue: Danske Regioner, Dampfærgevej 22, 2100 København Ø.

Sign up: Email to dwf@danishwaterforum.dk with heading: “Water & Health” and the contents with full name, affiliation, email address, and phone number. Please also add your choice of sandwich for lunch (meat, fish or vegetarian). **Admission is free**, but **there is a no-show fee of 500 dkk**. Cancellation is free until 27. September.

Water and Health: Are We Ready for the Challenges Ahead?

Providing clean, safe and healthy drinking water has long been a cornerstone of Danish water management. However, emerging contaminants, antimicrobial resistance, climate change and increasing pressures on water resources are raising new questions about how we protect water quality and public health.

Join Danish Water Forum for a thematic meeting exploring these challenges through a **One Health perspective** ([One health](#)), recognizing the close links between human, animal and environmental health.

The meeting offers an opportunity for dialogue across disciplines and sectors and for identifying priorities to ensure that drinking water remains not only clean and safe, but also healthy.

10:15 – 10:30 | Arrival & Coffee

- Coffee/tea

10:30 – 10:45 | Welcome & Framing

Welcome by Peter E. Holm, Professor University of Copenhagen and NN, Danish Regions

Scene-setting remarks:

- Why water quality is central to public and environmental health
- Emerging risks and increasing complexity
- Introducing the One.Health approach: linking human, animal, and ecosystem health

Knowledge Updates and Perspectives, session moderated by Peter E. Holm

10:50 – 11:15 | The One Health Framework



Topic: “Water Quality Through a One Health Lens”

Lisbeth Thuelstrup, Professor Technical University of Denmark, DTU Food.

11:15 – 11:40 | Public Health & Contaminants in Denmark

Topic: “Nitrate and naturally occurring elements like lithium, arsenic and fluoride in drinking water”

Birgitte Hansen, Professor at the Department of Geochemistry, GEUS

11:40 – 12:05 | Drinking Water & Utility Perspective

Topic: “From Source Protection to Advanced Treatment” into the “technosphere infrastructure”

Hans-Jørgen Albrechtsen, Professor Technical University of Denmark, DTU Sustain

12:05 – 12:30 | Policy & Governance

Topic: “Regulating for Health in an Integrated System” (One Health)

Maria Sommer Holtze, Director at the Danish Center for Environmental and Energy, Danish Center for Food and Agriculture, DCE/DCA

12:30 – 13:15 | Lunch (Sandwich and Water (of cause!!))

13:15 – 14:30 | Moderated Panel Discussion by DWF President, Ida Holm Olesen

Theme: *Are We Managing Water as a Health System or Just as Infrastructure?*

Panel with the speakers

Key discussion prompts:

- Are current standards sufficient from a One Health perspective?
- How should Denmark tackle antimicrobial resistance via water systems?
- Prevention vs. treatment — where should investment priorities lie?
- What institutional barriers limit integrated action?
- What would a One Health-based Danish water strategy look like?
- Includes audience Q&A and 1-minute closing remark from each panelist:
“One priority action for the next five years.”
- **Closing Reflections**

14:30 – 15:00 | Networking