

SUNDSVALLS TIDNING

Patients protest: "Disaster and decay



Healtcare in deep crisis

SUNDSVALLS TURNING

The care association warns: Most overcrowding in the country worst at Sundsvall hospital

TIDNINGEN
ANGERMANLAND
Västernorrland worst - Longest
queues for care in the country

In many respects, healthcare in Västernorrland is worst in Sweden with longer queues, more overcrowding and fewer care places in relation to the population than in any other county.

This is because healthcare in the Västernorrland Region has been governed for more than ten years by politicians who have tried to save money by reducing healthcare resources.

As the number of patients has not decreased but increased, this has instead led to significantly increased costs at the same time as a sharp increase in workload has meant that staff have worn out and more and more people have left the region. The stress has then become even worse for the staff who remain - a dangerous downward spiral that has led to a deep crisis with deteriorating patient safety, injuries and deaths.

The congestion at Sundsvall Hospital has become particularly serious. There have recently been more overcrowding - more patients than real care places - than any other hospital in Sweden. "Corridor care" (patients in the corridor rather in the patient rooms) has become everyday.

Read our entire election program at www.sjukvardspartiet.se

The care chain must be strengthened

The crisis is paralyzing both hospitals and primary care care and health centers. Therefore, a new policy is needed for the entire care chain. It is largely about personnel issues.

The health centers have enormous staffing problems. Only half of the region's health centers have a permanent doctor.

Because the waiting times even to get a telephone contact are unreasonably long, it is all too often already overcrowded hospitals that have to take care of patients seeking care.

The healthcare party will change that through an offensive personnel policy and recruitment, with three emergency hospitals in the county and that health centers open branches and service points, especially in rural areas. Patient travel will be halved and waiting times will be greatly reduced.

A proper investment in the entire care chain and in its own, permanently employed care staff is necessary to get the finances in balance. Here are some important parts of our action program:

- A new care model with local leadership, governance and finances.
- More care places at the county's three hospitals.
- 150 new career positions for experienced and skilled nurses and assistant nurses.
- Developmental nurses and developmental assistant nurses who both work in health care and have set aside working hours for care-related development.
- Care development should take place on the floor instead of by salaried employees and consultants.



Three elections - three votes



On election day, you can split your votes. This means that you can vote for three different parties by voting in the three elections to the Riksdag, the region and the kommun (municipality). This is why you take three different ballots, yellow, blue and white.

- To vote in the election to the region, which primarily controls healthcare throughout the county, you must take a blue ballot paper.
- To vote for better healthcare in Västernorrland choose the Healthcare Party's blue ballot paper (Sjukvårdspartiet).

Sjukvårdspartiet is a local party in Västernorrland, founded in 1994. We do not have a party office in Stockholm that decides on our politics. The issue and there solution is what matters most to us.

Vote for Sjukvårspartiet in the regional election on 11 September

Read our entire election program at www.sjukvardspartiet.se

Higher wages solve the crisis

A very successful recruitment campaign is the first and most important condition for healthcare in Västernorrland to be able to recover from its long-standing crisis. Therefore, the region must become a wage leader in Sweden for nurses and specialist nurses. The salaries of other healthcare staff must be competitive and higher than the national average

If the wage increases are large enough, they pay off. The region pays approximately SEK 500 million for rental staff and SEK 250 million in overtime costs per year - a total of approximately SEK 750 million. Although the recruitment that the wage investment makes possible only reduces overtime and rental costs by half, the wage increases have resulted in lower costs for the region.

To pay, as now, among the lowest wages in Sweden, is to let stinginess deceive wisdom.





Sundsvall Hospital

Sjukvårdspartiets largest investment concerns
Sundsvall Hospital - both due to the hospital's central
role as a county hospital, the large catchment area in
terms of population and the deep crisis that is
hampering operations.

Sundsvall Hospital will offer emergency and basic medical care for the residents in its catchment area. The county hospital must have a wellthought-out and wide range of specialties, which is not rational to have at all three hospitals.

But the hospital is in a catastrophic situation due to staff shortages created by excessive centralization and poor staffing policies. Overcrowding - the worst in Sweden - and "corridor care" is commonplace at Sundsvall Hospital. Since the summer of 2021, the situation has been so acute that patient safety has not been maintained.

To solve the crisis, a new and better policy must start with the staff. The focus must be on better conditions for and successful recruitment of own healthcare staff. But the Healthcare Party also wants to work for a series of other proposals at Sundsvall Hospital:

- Re-establish enough care places to take care of the patients
- without overcrowding.
- The emergency geriatrics department will be reopened.
- Acquire a surgical robot for increased precision and
- increased surgical capacity.
- Obtain a PET / DT X-ray at the hospital to diagnose tumors and Alzheimer's and to monitor the effects of treatments.

Örnsköldsvik Hospital

Three emergency hospitals are a prerequisite for equal, fair and accessible health care in Västernorrland. But Örnsköldsvik Hospital is seriously threatened by the staff shortage created by excessive centralization and poor staffing policies.

Sjukvårdspartiet believes that care should be close to the citizens. Man ska inte behöva resa långt för att få grundläggande sjukvård eller akutvård. You should not have to travel far to get basic medical care or emergency care. For example, cuts in psychiatric care have seriously reduced accessibility for people with severe mental illness who are forced to make long and recurring trips to Sundsvall.

In recent years, the neonatal care at the hospital, which is important for newborns, has been threatened with closure. This is also a threat to BB and the birth in Örnsköldsvik.De senaste åren har den för nyfödda barn viktiga neonatalvården på sjukhuset varit nedläggningshotad. Detta är ett hot också mot BB och förlossningen i Örnsköldsvik.

That is why Sjukvårdspartiet wants to work for:

- That Örnsköldsvik Hospital maintains its range of orthopedics, surgery, medicine, pediatric and gynecological care as well as childbirth, neonatal care and BB.
- To reopen seven bedplaces for in the psychiatry ward as a complement to care with a so-called SPOT team.
- Expansion of geriatric care places.
- That the hospital opens more care places so that corridor care and overcrowding only takes place in extreme exceptional cases.

Sollefteå Hospital

Three emergency hospitals are a prerequisite for equal, fair and accessible health care in Västernorrland. In the vast hinterland with its bad roads, Sollefteå Hospital is literally vital.

But the hospital is threatened with closure both through poor personnel policy and through various parties' demands for further centralization and large-scale operations. This is despite the fact that the Armed Forces has for several years begun a reestablishment of its operations in Sollefteå.

Sjukvårdspartiet believes that BB and childbirth are a natural part of an emergency hospital and should be available at all three counties in the county. There must also be emergency surgery to be able to have a caesarean section. A safe and secure birth is a gender equality issue.

That is why Sjukvårdspartiet wants to work for:

- That Sollefteå Hospital reopens emergency orthopedics, emergency surgery, gynecology and childbirth and BB.
- That chemotherapy treatment should again be possible at the hospital.
- That Sollefteå Hospital will be developed into the region's
- educational hub for doctors.
- That the hospital opens more care places so that corridor care and overcrowding only takes place in extreme exceptional cases.

Local care in Härnösand

Sjukvårdspartiet wants to realize the vision of a developed local care at Härnösand Hospital with a health center, primary care emergency room, specialist clinics and public dental care under one roof.

At the closure of Härnösand Hospital, a Community Care Concept was promised that would provide the residents of Härnösand with safe and close care.

Of the nine specialties promised today, in practice almost nothing remains. The hospital building in Härnösand has even been sold, despite opposition from, among others, Sjukvårdspartiet.

Strengthened healthcare in Härnösand provides increased accessibility for the population in Härnösand municipality. It would also relieve Sundsvall's hospital and reduce patient travel.

That is why Sjukvårdspartiet wants to work for:

- To staff the specialist clinic with the specialties that the population needs most.
- To set up a primary care emergency service open evenings and weekends.
- To strengthen and develop day care to provide the closeness and accessibility that the population needs.
- To place an MRI camera on X-ray in Härnösand.
- To expand the psychiatric clinic with a mobile team for care in patients' homes with a so-called SPOT team.
- To reopen medical rehab.



About Robert Thunfors

Robert became involved in healthcare when his father died of cancer at the age of 54. Robert and his father saw a health care system with major shortcomings. The staff were fantastic but worked in a care system that did not work.

Robert is a political scientist and works as an investigator in public administration. Since 2018, he has been elected by Sjukvårdspartiet as group leader in the regional council.

- My father first waited to seek care but was then sent around the care apparatus and not taken seriously. The patient was far from in the center and was mostly seen as a problem, says Robert.

We need care that works. And that requires a new political majority in the region, led by Sjukvårdspartiet, a leadership that prioritises healthcare.



About Pia Lundin

Pia has fought for patients for 40 years as a specialist nurse and as head of emergency care and IVA. The deteriorating conditions created by different political majorities led her to become politically involved.

Since 2018, Pia has been elected by Sjukvårdspartiet and the Opposition Council in the Västernorrland Region.

- I have fought against the many closures of wards and care places, says Pia. We need a new policy in the region. We must provide the staff with sufficient resources and the faith in the future they need to be able and able to help you as a patient when you need care.
- There must be an end to corridor care and long transports. They cost lives.

We are the ones with the knowledge in healthcare

