

Anna Horwitz

MD, PhD

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Summary

I am a specialist in ophthalmology with a PhD in neuroscience and experience in clinical practice and epidemiological research. My research uses Danish health registries to study medication use, eye disease and systemic health. My interest in medicines and patient care began during medical school, when I published my first article on patient information leaflets in 2009. I have also worked in public health medicine and studied the relationship between sensory brain responses and cognitive function.

Education

- Jan 2025 **Specialist Recognition in Ophthalmology**, Danish Patient Safety Authority.
- 2017 **PhD in Neuroscience**, University of Copenhagen.
- 2010 **MD (cand.med.)**, University of Copenhagen.
- 2007 **BSc in Medicine**, University of Copenhagen.
- 2003 **Upper Secondary School (Mathematics)**, Virum Gymnasium.

Clinical Positions & Activities

- Mar 2025 – present **Consulting Ophthalmologist, External Consultant on the FOREVER Project**, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen.
Medical assessment of eye examinations, including fundus images and visual fields, in a population-based research project. Maternity leave began on 1 October 2025. Resumed work on 1 July 2026.
- 2017 – 2024 **Specialist Training in Ophthalmology**, Rigshospitalet (Glostrup) and Zealand University Hospital.
 - Completed training in 2024. Specialist recognition awarded in January 2025.
 - Maternity Leave 1: May 2019 – Sep 2020
 - Maternity Leave 2: Jun 2021 – Oct 2021
 - Rotations in comprehensive ophthalmology, surgical training, and specialized ophthalmic care.
 - Clinical work in medical retinal disease and neuro-ophthalmology.
- Oct 2016 – Sep 2017 **Introductory Residency (First Year) in Ophthalmology**, Rigshospitalet (Glostrup), Copenhagen.
- Jul 2012 – Jul 2013 **Introductory Position in Public Health Medicine and Research Assistant**, Research Centre for Prevention and Health, Copenhagen.
 - Epidemiological research within the Health2006 study.
- Jul 2011 – Jul 2012 **Introductory Position in Neurosurgery**, Rigshospitalet (Glostrup/Blegdamsvej).
 - Spine Surgery (6 months), Knowledge Center for Spinal Diseases.
 - Cranial Surgery (6 months), Department of Neurosurgery.
- Jun – Jul 2011 **Unpaid Internship**, Dept. of Ophthalmology, Rigshospitalet (Glostrup).
- Mar – May 2011 **Resident Physician**, Dept. of Psychiatry, OUH (Svendborg).
- Sep 2010 – Feb 2011 **Foundation Doctor**, Dept. of Psychiatry, OUH (Svendborg).

Mar – Aug 2010 **Foundation Doctor**, *Dept. of Medicine, OUH (Svendborg)*.

Academic Positions & Activities

2025 **Guest Researcher**, *Department of Drug Design and Pharmacology, University of Copenhagen*. Appointment began in March 2025.

Jan 2018 – Jul 2018 **Postdoctoral Fellow, Molecular & Cellular Pharmacology**, *Dept. of Drug Design and Pharmacology, University of Copenhagen*.

- Investigated relationships between eye diseases and systemic or neurological conditions using Danish national health registries.
- Used epidemiological and causal inference methods, including regression discontinuity.
- Research Visit, Visual Attention Lab, Harvard University & Brigham and Women's Hospital (Spring 2018).

2013 – 2016 **PhD Fellow**, *University of Copenhagen*.

- Studied sensory-evoked brain responses and cognitive function. PhD degree awarded in 2017.
- Visiting Researcher, New York Eye and Ear Infirmary (Oct–Dec 2015).

Publications

22 journal publications and 7 published conference abstracts as of 17 October 2026.

Journal Publications

1. Esmann FVL, Heerfordt IM, Windfeld-Mathiasen J, **Horwitz A**, Dalhoff KP, Andersen JT, Middelboe M, Horwitz H. *Anabolic androgenic steroid use and risk of diabetes mellitus in males*. *Diabetes, Obesity and Metabolism*, 2026, 28(2), 1076–1080. [Link](#).
2. Bastrup Israelsen S, Heerfordt IM, Mogensen M, **Horwitz A**, Yri HM, Olsen RH, Horwitz H. *Isotretinoin is not associated with elevated risk of pseudotumor cerebri: A Danish register-based cohort study*. *Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology*, 2026, 95(4), 1195–1197. [Link](#).
3. Heerfordt IM, Mogensen M, **Horwitz A**, Andersen JT, Gotfredsen DR, Gade C, Heerfordt CK, Olsen RH, Horwitz H. *Risk of Stevens-Johnson Syndrome and Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis After Initiation of Antiseizure Medication: A Danish Nationwide Cohort Study*. *Neurology*, 2026, 107(3), e218355. [Link](#).
4. Heerfordt IM, Middelboe M, Hærskjold A, **Horwitz A**, Olsen RH, Horwitz H. *Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis and Mortality: A Danish Cohort Study With 30 Years of Follow-Up*. *The Journal of Dermatology*, 2026, 53(1), 35–40. [Link](#).
5. Niazi S, Gnesin F, Thein AS, Andreasen JR, **Horwitz A**, Mouhammad ZA, Jawad BN, Niazi Z, Pourhadi N, Zareini B, Meaidi A, Torp-Pedersen C, Kolko M. *Association between Glucagon-like Peptide-1 Receptor Agonists and the Risk of Glaucoma in Individuals with Type 2 Diabetes*. *Ophthalmology*, 2024, 131(9), 1056–1063. [Link](#).
6. **Horwitz A**, Klemp M, Rovelt J, Horwitz H, Torp-Pedersen C, Kolko M. *Inferring glaucoma status from prescriptions, diagnoses, and operations data: A Danish nationwide study*. *PLOS ONE*, 2023, 18(12), e0292439. [Link](#).
7. Subhi Y, Windfeld-Mathiasen J, **Horwitz A**, Horwitz H. *Risk of Central Serous Chorioretinopathy in Male Androgen Abusers*. *Ophthalmology and Therapy*, 2023, 12(2), 1073–1080. [Link](#).
8. **Horwitz A**, Horwitz H. *Drug-induced optic neuropathy*. *Adverse Drug Reaction Bulletin*, 2022, 334(1), 1295–1298. [Link](#).
9. Mouhammad ZA, Vohra R, **Horwitz A**, Thein AS, Rovelt J, Cvenkel B, Williams PA, Azuara-Blanco A, Kolko M. *Glucagon-Like Peptide 1 Receptor Agonists - Potential Game Changers in the Treatment of Glaucoma?*. *Frontiers in Neuroscience*, 2022, 16, 824054. [Link](#).

10. Windfeld-Mathiasen J, Dalhoff KP, Andersen JT, Klemp M, **Horwitz A**, Horwitz H. *Male Fertility Before and After Androgen Abuse*. The Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism, 2021, 106(2), 442–449. Link.
11. Müllertz O, Jacobsen J, Thyssen JP, **Horwitz A**, Kolko M. *Betaxolol Ophthalmic Solution as Alternative Treatment for Patients with Timolol Allergy: A Case Report*. Reports, 2020, 3(3), 21. Link.
12. **Horwitz A**, Klemp M, Horwitz H, Thomsen MD, Rostrup E, Mortensen EL, Osler M, Lauritzen M, Benedek K. *Brain Responses to Passive Sensory Stimulation Correlate With Intelligence*. Frontiers in Aging Neuroscience, 2019, 11, 201. Link.
13. Wiegand I, Lauritzen MJ, Osler M, Mortensen EL, Rostrup E, Rask L, Richard N, **Horwitz A**, Benedek K, Vangkilde S, Petersen A. *EEG correlates of visual short-term memory in older age vary with adult lifespan cognitive development*. Neurobiology of Aging, 2018, 62, 210–220. Link.
14. **Horwitz A**, Klemp M, Jeppesen J, Tsai JC, Torp-Pedersen C, Kolko M. *Antihypertensive Medication Postpones the Onset of Glaucoma: Evidence From a Nationwide Study*. Hypertension, 2017, 69(2), 202–210. Link.
15. **Horwitz A**, Mortensen EL, Osler M, Fagerlund B, Lauritzen M, Benedek K. *Passive Double-Sensory Evoked Coherence Correlates with Long-Term Memory Capacity*. Frontiers in Human Neuroscience, 2017, 11, 598. Link.
16. Horwitz H, Dalhoff KP, Klemp M, **Horwitz A**, Andersen JT, Jürgens G. *The prognosis following amphetamine poisoning*. Scandinavian Journal of Public Health, 2017, 45(8), 773–781. Link.
17. **Horwitz A**, Dyhr Thomsen M, Wiegand I, Horwitz H, Klemp M, Nikolic M, Rask L, Lauritzen M, Benedek K. *Visual steady state in relation to age and cognitive function*. PLOS ONE, 2017, 12(2), e0171859. Link.
18. **Horwitz A**, Petrovski BÉ, Torp-Pedersen C, Kolko M. *Danish Nationwide Data Reveal a Link between Diabetes Mellitus, Diabetic Retinopathy, and Glaucoma*. Journal of Diabetes Research, 2016, 2016, 2684674. Link.
19. **Horwitz A**, Skaaby T, Kårhus LL, Schwarz P, Jørgensen T, Rumessen JJ, Linneberg A. *Screening for celiac disease in Danish adults*. Scandinavian Journal of Gastroenterology, 2015, 50(7), 824–831. Link.
20. Kolko M, **Horwitz A**, Thygesen J, Jeppesen J, Torp-Pedersen C. *The Prevalence and Incidence of Glaucoma in Denmark in a Fifteen Year Period: A Nationwide Study*. PLOS ONE, 2015, 10(7), e0132048. Link. Shared first authorship with Miriam Kolko.
21. **Horwitz A**, Horwitz H. *Politics and policies*. Journal of Insurance Medicine, 2014, 44(1), 49–52. Link.
22. **Horwitz A**, Reuther L, Andersen SE. *Patienters vurdering af medicinpakningernes indlægssedler*. Ugeskrift for Læger, 2009, 171(8), 599–602. Link.

Published Conference Abstracts

1. **Horwitz A**, Klemp M, Andreasen J, Horwitz H, Freiberg J, Torp-Pedersen C, Kolko M. *Glaucoma and cardioprotective medication*. Acta Ophthalmologica, 2022, 100(S275). Link.
2. **Horwitz A**, Klemp MPB, Torp-Pedersen C, Kolko M. *Incidence and prevalence of glaucoma in native and immigrant groups living in Denmark*. Acta Ophthalmologica, 2018, 96(S261), 53. Link.
3. **Horwitz A**, Klemp M, Horwitz H, Thomsen MD, Rostrup E, Mortensen EL, Osler M, Lauritzen M, Benedek K. *P380 Intelligence is predicted by single-vs-double-sensory brain responses*. Clinical Neurophysiology, 2017, 128(9), e301. Link.

4. **Horwitz A**, Petrovski BÉ, Petrovski G, Torp-Pedersen C, Kolko M. *A link between diabetes mellitus and glaucoma — Danish Nationwide Study*. Acta Ophthalmologica, 2016, 94(S256). Link.
5. **Horwitz A**, Jeppesen J, Torp-Pedersen C, Kolko M. *Risk of glaucoma and treatment with systemic antihypertensive treatment – A nationwide study*. Acta Ophthalmologica, 2015, 93(S255). Link.
6. Kolko M, **Horwitz A**, Thygesen J, Jeppesen J, Torp-Pedersen C. *The prevalence and incidence of glaucoma in Denmark in a fifteen year period: A nationwide study*. Acta Ophthalmologica, 2015, 93(S255). Link.
7. Jelinek A, **Horwitz A**, Piilgaard H, Lauritzen M, Benedek K. *YIA5: Predictor of severity and long distance outcome of patients with critical illness myopathy and polyneuropathy*. Clinical Neurophysiology, 2014, 125(Supplement 1), S25. Link.

Science Communication

1. Miriam Kolko, **Anna Horwitz**. *Omkring 100.000 anvender medicin mod grøn stær – det er dobbelt så mange som forventet*. Værn om Synet, 2015. Link.

Research Presentations

- 2019 European Association for Vision and Eye Research, Nice (poster)
- 2018 European Association for Vision and Eye Research, Nice (verbal presentation and poster)
- 2017 The 16th European Congress of Clinical Neurophysiology, Budapest
- 2016 European Glaucoma Society (poster), Prague; Lancet Neurology (poster), London
- 2015 European Association for Vision and Eye Research (poster), Nice; Neurophysiological Society, Elsinore; Danish Annual Eye Society Conference (poster), Kolding; Neurology Meeting, Vejle
- 2013 Young Neurophysiologists, Neurologists and Neurosurgeons, Fredericia; Autoimmune Disease Symposium, Copenhagen
- 2012 Research Day, Glostrup; Doctors' Days, Kolding
- 2011 Doctors' Days, Kolding

Key Skills & Expertise

- Epidemiology & Big Data Analysis (Danish nationwide registries)
- Causal Inference Methods (Regression Discontinuity)
- Scientific Writing & Research Presentations
- Clinical Ophthalmology & Surgery (Glaucoma, Retinal Disorders, Neuro-ophthalmology)

Professional Development & Courses

- Advanced EEG Data Analysis in Cognitive Science (University of Copenhagen)
- Linking MRI to Neuroanatomy (University of Copenhagen)
- Responsible Conduct of Research (University of Copenhagen)
- Epidemiology with Stata & Basic Statistics (pre-PhD)
- Multiple postgraduate clinical courses in Ophthalmology, Neuroimaging, and Clinical Pharmacology

Languages

Danish (native), English (professional working proficiency)

References

Available upon request.