

Program for the Section of Social Security and Health's 3:rd Pre-conference Meeting on Sickness Absence at the EUPHA-conference in Graz, 2005

Research on health consequences of sickness absence and disability pension

Time: 8:30 – 21:00 Wensday November 9th 2005

Participants: All persons doing research on sickness absence are welcome to participate!

Pre-conference venue: The meeting will be held in Graz, at the same place as the EUPHA-conference.

Background information

Research on sickness absence and disability pension is so far rather undeveloped both regarding methods, theories, and concepts. To promote a development of this sickness-absence researchers from all over Europe have formed a network within the EUPHA section on Social Security and Health. The section has previously organized two Pre-Conference Meetings on Sickness-Absence Research, the first one in 2003 on methodological aspects in research using sickness-absence data and the 2nd one in 2004 on theoretical aspects in research on sick-leave. These pre-conference meetings have been an success why the Section will continue to organize them.

The research on consequences of sickness absence is very limited, yet most of us use arguments about possible negative 'side effects' of being long-term sickness absent, when applying for research grants. The program includes a general overview of possible consequences, of studies so far performed, regarding results, methodological problems, and possible ways to deal with them. We aim to provide a forum for exchange of knowledge and experience.

Objectives

The main objectives of the 2005 pre-conference meeting are:

- Improving our knowledge on possible consequences of sickness absence and disability pension, on studies so far performed, and on theoretical, methodological, and ethical challenges in such studies
- Exchanging information about our datasets, sickness absence theories, research questions, and research objectives.
- Sharing other information between section members. This year's meeting may be a starting point for collaboration with researchers on sickness absence in Europe.

Costs

Participation in the meeting is free of charge, however we have no funding for the dinner yet.

Registration

When registering for the EUPHA conference you can also register for the pre-conference

Program

8:30 Introduction, Welcome, presentations

9:05 What are the possible consequences of sickness absence and disability pension?

Professor Kristina Alexanderson.

9:35 Coffe

10:00 Health consequences of sickness absence among civil servants in the UK, Dr Jane Ferrie

10:45 Health consequences of sickness absence in Finland. Professor Mika Kivimäki

11:30 Health consequences of disability pension in Norway, Dr Styrle Gjesdal

12:00 Lunch

13:00 Short presentation of other studies:

- Mortality and disability pension in Sweden. Nadine Karlsson
- Self reported health consequences among a long-term sickness absentees in Sweden. Kristina Alexanderson
- Other studies. *(please let us know if you are planning or doing such a study!)*

13:45 Methodological problems in this type of research. Jane Ferrie and Mika Kivimäki

14:30 Coffe

15:00 Diskussion

16:40 Evaluation of the day. Plans for the future

18:00 Dinner

Pre-conference meeting organisers /organizing committee

- Prof. Kristina Alexanderson, Sweden (kristina.alexanderson@cns.ki.se)
- Dr Jane Ferrie, United Kingdom (j.ferrie@ucl.ac.uk)
- Dr Jenny Head, United Kingdom (J.Head@ucl.ac.uk)
- PhD MD Styrle Gjesdal, Norway (sturla.gjesdal@isf.uib.no)
- Prof Mika Kivimäki, Finland (mika.kivimaki@occuphealth.fi)

Welcome!!!!