Mind the complexity: social disparities in sickness absence and disability pension

Social disparities in sickness absence and disability pension are continuously observed in epidemiological research. However, research in this field is challenging due to the many intertwined factors. The ambition with this pre-conference is to identify, discuss, and disentangle some of the most important challenges for future research on these disparities.

The conference will be based on oral presentations and interactive seminars/workshops. The invited presenters have particular interest and knowledge in relevant fields as; measures and mechanisms of social disparities in health; intersectional epidemiology, cross-country examinations, and life course epidemiology.

Venue: Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre, Glasgow, Scotland, UK.
Time: Wednesday 19 November – Thursday 20 November 2014 – for the first time a lunch-to-lunch programme!
Organizing committee: Jesper Löve, Mikko Laaksonen, Inger Haukenes, Gunnel Hensing, Kristina Alexanderson
Registration: www.ephconference.eu

PROGRAMME

Wednesday 19 November 2014

12:30  ■  Lunch
13:30  ■  Welcome and introduction: Mind the complexity: understanding and overcoming social disparities in sickness absence and disability pension. Jesper Löve, Senior lecturer, PhD, University of Gothenburg; Kristina Alexanderson, Professor, Karolinska Institutet, Sweden, and president of the EUPHA Section of Social Security & Health
14:00  ■  Patterns of health-related exclusion from working life - a narrative review taking history into account. Inger Haukenes, PhD, Norwegian Institute of Public Health, Norway
14:30  ■  Intersectionality: relevance for research about social disparities in health? Olena Hankivsky, Professor, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada
15:15  ■  Workshop/Group work 1, with coffee/tea - Intersectionality in epidemiological research on social disparities in sickness absence and disability pension - how do we do this and what do we need?
16:00  ■  Reports from the groups and discussion
16:25  ■  Victims of economic crises and cuts in welfare systems – a Swedish example. Bo Burström, Professor, Karolinska Institutet, Sweden
16:55  ■  Summing up and preparation for day two
17:00  ■  End of afternoon programme
18:00  ■  Joint pre-conference dinner and continues discussions
Thursday 20 November 2014

8:30  ■ Recollection of yesterday and presentation of today’s schedule Jesper Löve
8:45  ■ Socioeconomic differences in health outcomes after disability retirement. Taina Leinonen, PhD, Helsinki University, Finland
9:15  ■ Life course perspective: relevance for social disparities in sickness absence and disability pension? Tomas Hemmingsson, Professor, Stockholm University, Sweden
9:45  ■ Workshop/Group work 2, with coffee/tea: Measures and mechanisms – the association between SES and disparities in sickness absence and disability pension.
10:30 ■ Reports from the groups and discussion
10:45 ■ Lessons learned on research on social disparities in Sickness absence and Disability pension. Mikko Laaksonen, Senior Researcher, Finnish Center for pensions
11:30 ■ What have we learned and how to we move forward?
11:50 ■ Summing up of the pre-conference Professor Gunnel Hensing, Professor, University of Gothenburg; Sweden, and vice president of the EUPHA Section of Social Security and Health
12:00 ■ Lunch

This, as the previous pre-conferences of the EUPHA Section on Social Security and Health, will be a meeting place for the sickness absence researchers of Europe – to learn, develop, initiate different types of collaborations, and enjoy!

You are most welcome!