The aim of this prospective cohort study will be to assess changes in self-reported psychosocial factors, work ability, and job satisfaction, as well as to evaluate the incidence of somatic complaints and health disorders in anaesthesia HPs. Additional objective of the study will be to evaluate associations between analysed variables.

**Cohort participants** HPs working in a health institution for anaesthesia, reanimation and intensive care from Skopje will be included in the first phase of the study with a possibility to enrol other health institutions during the next phases of the research. The first phase will involve about 120 anaesthesia HPs (about 50 physicians and 70 nurses).

**Data collection phases** At enrolment point, the participants will be invited to complete questionnaires and to attend a preventive medical examination by a specialist in occupational medicine (OM). The follow-up will include an annually self-administered questionnaire as well as periodic visits to an OM specialist.

**Main types of data collected** Data collected for participants will include demographic and job characteristics; physical, psychological, emotional, and cognitive job demands; characteristics of shift/night work; burnout dimensions; teamwork; presence of chronic respiratory, skin, and musculoskeletal symptoms; work ability index; and job satisfaction factors (planning issues, general attitudes, performance issues, management issues, supervisory issues, training and salary issues, and benefits issues). Regarding medical examination by an OM specialist, a plenty of data on health status as well as work ability, will be collected at enrolment phase, and during follow-up.

**Mental Health**

**Objective** Mental disorders contribute strongly to disability. Work in human service occupations has been considered a risk factor in several studies. We aimed at quantifying this relationship in a prospective follow-up of all employed persons born in Norway, 1967–1976.

**Methods** We conducted follow-up in several national registries. Based upon the ISCO98 four-digit code, we classified 2007 occupations into customer contact, client/patient contact, and reference (no contact). Client/patient contact was subdivided into health care, education and social work. We collected mental disorder diagnoses (ICD-10 F00-F99), in particular affective (F30-F39) and stress-related (F40-F48), in the Norwegian Patient Registry, 2008–2011. Four-year prevalence differences (PD) per 100 across occupational categories were estimated in binomial regression models adjusted for year of birth, marital history, current family pattern, and education level.

**Results** Among 4 45 651 employed persons, 18% held customer-related occupations while 25% held occupations with client/patient contact. The total four-year prevalence of mental disorder was 8.6/100 (38,207 patients). Affective and stress-related prevalences were 5.3 and 6.5 for women, and 3.0 and 3.2 for men, respectively. Adjusted PD estimates showed positive associations between client/patient contact occupations and mental disorders: for women, affective and stress-related disorder PD estimates were 1.1 (95% confidence interval (CI); 0.9–1.3) and 1.3 (CI; 1.0–1.5), respectively. The corresponding PD estimates for men were 1.7 (CI; 1.5–2.0) and 1.5 (CI; 1.2–1.7). We found strongest associations for women in social work (PD 2.3 for stress-related disorders) and men in health care (PD 2.6 for affective disorders). Associations with other mental disorder categories were weak, as were associations with customer contact occupations.

**Conclusions** Affective and stress-related morbidity was clearly associated with occupations involving client/patient contact for both sexes. We cannot dismiss health selection as an alternative to a causal effect of work-related factors. This register-based study is not well suited to provide mechanistic explanations.

**Risk of Mental Health Disorders in Human Service Occupations: A Register Based Study of 445,651 Norwegians**


**Background** There is increasing recognition of job insecurity as an emerging issue in public health. We sought to examine whether job security improvements were associated with improvements in mental health in a large, working population-representative repeated-measures panel study.

**Methods** We used both within-person fixed effects (FE) and random effects (RE) regression to analyse data from 14 annual waves of a national Australian survey (19 169 persons, 1 06 942 observations). Mental Health Inventory-5 scores (outcome) were modeled in relation to self-reported job security (categorical, quintiles), adjusting for age, year, education, and job change in the past year.

**Results** Both FE and RE models showed stepwise improvements in MHI-5 scores with improving job security, with stronger exposure-outcome relationships in the RE models, and for men compared to women. All models showed roughly monotonic improvements in MHI-5 score by quintile of improvement in job security. The strongest relationship was observed in the RE model for males: for a one-quintile improvement in job security, beta=2.06 [1.67, 2.46], and the following for two- (3.94 [3.54, 4.34]), three- (5.82 [5.40, 6.24]), and four- (7.18 [6.71, 7.64]) quintile improvements. The FE model for males produced slightly smaller coefficients, reaching a maximum of 5.55 [5.06, 6.05) for a four-quintile improvement.

**Conclusions** This Australian national panel study showed a strong dose-response relationship between job security and depression and anxiety symptoms. Stronger causal inference over previous observational research is supported by the dose-response finding and the relative consistency of the FE and RE results. Policy and practice intervention to improve job security could benefit population health.