

Department of Public Health Sciences
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Principal Investigator

The Stockholm Public Health Cohort Collaboration Policy

The Stockholm Public Health Cohort is a prospective study set within the framework of the Stockholm County Council public health surveys of 2002, 2006 and 2010. The surveys involved random samples of the background population of Stockholm county above 18 years. To date, the study comprise almost 90 000 participants (Table 1).

Table 1. Baseline sample size and number of responders at recruitment and attrition over questionnaire-based follow-up in the Stockholm Public Health Cohort

Sub-cohort, by year of recruitment	Questionnaire-based waves of data collection						
	Recruitment in 2002		Recruitment in 2006		Follow-up in 2007	Recruitment and follow-up in 2010	
	Baseline sample	Responders	Baseline sample	Responders	Responders	Baseline sample	Responders
2002	49 909	31 182			23 794		19 327
2006			56 634	34 707			25 167
2010						55 341	30 767

Respondents that were recruited in 2002 were followed-up in 2007. In 2010, a new wave of data collection was conducted, including a cross-sectional sample of the background population of Stockholm County, and a follow-up study of the participants enrolled in the 2002 and 2006 surveys. Participants have given their informed consent to the preservation of their national registration number (NRN), future contacts and record linkages. The study has been approved by the ethical review board (Dnr 2010/1879-31/5; Dnr 2007/545-31).

Data is collected using postal or web-based questionnaires (more recently), covering health parameters, tobacco use (including snus), physical activity, alcohol consumption, labour market position, physical and psychosocial work environment, anthropometry, and other life circumstances. Self-reported exposure and outcome information is being complemented by extensive information from longitudinal health and sociodemographic data registries regarding study participants as well as their first-degree relatives.

Access to the SPHC

Because the SPHC is an (inter)national resource, collaboration with academic researchers is encouraged. Regardless of the type of research, all potential collaborations or data access agreements must, however, be reviewed by the Steering Committee of the SPHC. In order to access the material, an application should be submitted to the Steering Committee, by an applicant with a PhD or equivalent degree. Application can only be granted after ethical vetting and approval. If the applicant is not based at a Swedish university, we require that s/he has a collaborator based at a Swedish university. This is to assure that the Swedish research community benefits from their national resource. After approval, a contract will be established, and data provided after a payment agreement is arranged. Projects involving additional data collection must be discussed with Steering Committee in great detail for coordination and planning.

Costs for accessing data

The maintenance and basic development of the SPHC is guaranteed through base support from the Stockholm County Council. Any individual research attempt based on the SPHC data must, however, be self-supporting. Furthermore, costs for data extraction are based on a modest flat fee and hourly rates for the SPHC database manager. Help with data analysis is charged according to separate agreements for the specific projects. Further instructions for applicants are available from the Research Proposal Form.

Other requirements

Copies of all publications (including published abstracts) should be sent to the SPHC. Scales that are derived from any data in the SPHC or additionally collected data used in a publication should be sent to the database administrator for inclusion in the database. This information will then be available for other researchers.

Further inquiries and applications:

These should be sent to: Cecilia.Magnusson@ki.se

For the Steering Committee of the Stockholm Public Health Cohort

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