Health inequalities and the prolongation of working life

Subproject 1: The impact of retirement age on health outcomes in Switzerland and Sweden

Background
Current demographic and economic developments in Western countries fuel a trend of extending working life. The experience of many countries in incentivizing longer working lives provides an opportunity to examine how different retirement transition patterns potentially can affect health outcomes of people in old age.

Research questions
Subproject 2 aims to analyze how the retirement age relates to individuals’ health outcomes. We assess individuals’ health status over time, starting with the time before or at retirement and then measuring health status briefly after retirement. We analyze an array of health outcomes with a particular focus on cognition.

Data & Method
We use data from the longitudinal Swiss survey "Vivre-Leben-Vivere" (VLV) and from the longitudinal Swedish survey on Health, Aging and Retirement Transitions (HEARTS). The strength of these datasets is their extensive information on cognition.

Activities and publications
Current activities and publications are described below and regularly updated.

Project lead
Dr. Isabel Baumann

National and international collaboration
Prof. Dr. Matthias Kliegel and Dr. Andreas Ihle (Centre Interfacultaire de Gérontologie et d’Etudes de Vulnérabilité, University of Geneva, Switzerland), Prof. Dr. med. Julia Dratva and Prof. Dr. Frank Wieber (Institute for Health Sciences, Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Switzerland), Prof. Dr. Boo Johansson, Prof. Dr. Linda Hassing, Dr. Stefanie König, Linn Zulka (Department of Psychology, University of Gothenburg, Sweden). Prof. Dr. Neda Agahi (Aging Research Center, Karolinska Institute and Stockholm University, Sweden).

Project duration
1.4.2019 – 31.3.2021

Funding
Ambizione Grant of the Swiss National Sciences Foundation (SNSF)
Current activities & project news

May-August 2019

Research stay by Dr. Isabel Baumann at the Department of Psychology at the University of Gothenburg

November 2019

Organization of a research workshop on retirement and inequalities in old age at the University of Geneva

Interdisciplinary perspectives on retirement and inequality in old-age: short- and long-term effects

November 29, 2019 - CMU, University of Geneva - Salle 802.2226.a

Workshop organizers: Isabel Baumann, Andreas ihle, Matthias Kriegel, Nicky Le Feuvre, Rafael Lalive, Jürgen Maurer and Michele Pellizzari

Keynote speakers:
Hanna van Solinge (Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute, The Hague, The Netherlands), Stefanie König and Linn Zulka (Department of Psychology, University of Gothenburg, Sweden), Axel Börsch-Supan (Max Planck Institute for Social Law and Social Policy Munich Center for the Economics of Aging, Munich, Germany)

Registration
Health inequalities and the prolongation of working life

Subproject 2: A comparative analysis of retirement transition patterns

Background
Current demographic and economic developments in Western countries fuel a trend of extending working life. The experience of many countries in incentivizing longer working lives provides an opportunity to examine how different retirement transition patterns potentially can affect health outcomes of people in old age.

Research questions
Subproject 2 aims to analyze how different retirement transition patterns – such as gradual retirement transitions – or different retirement ages are related to health outcomes. We adopt a comparative perspective that allows us to examine how different welfare contexts affect retirement transition.

Data & Method
We rely on a large harmonized dataset based on the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE), the U.S. Health and Retirement Study (HRS) and the Chilean Social Protection Survey (EPS). We use longitudinal methods such as sequence or survival analysis.

Activities and publications
Current activities and publications are described below and regularly updated.

Project lead
Dr. Isabel Baumann

National and international collaboration
Ass. Prof. Ignacio Madero Cabib, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Dr. Ariane Froidevaux, University of Florida in Gainesville, Prof. Neda Agahi and Prof. Johan Fritzell, Karolinska Institute/University of Stockholm, Prof. Christian Maggiori, University of Applied Sciences and Arts Western Switzerland

Project duration

Funding
Ambizione Grant of the Swiss National Sciences Foundation (SNSF)
Current activities & project news

January 2019
Research stay by Ass. Prof. Ignacio Madero-Cabib at ZHAW in Switzerland.

January 2019
Presentation by Ass. Prof. Ignacio Madero-Cabib and Dr. Isabel Baumann at the Center for Health Sciences at ZHAW

March 2019
Publication


May 2019
IAGG-ER Conference in Gothenburg, Sweden

Presentation of a paper entitled “Retirement Trajectories in Countries with Flexible Retirement Policies but Different Welfare State Contexts” by Isabel Baumann and Ignacio Madero-Cabib