



**FORTE Network Meeting, Ystad Saltsjöbad, Skåne, 19 - 20 October 2017**

## **Methodological issues in register-based research**

### **Theme: Concepts and terminology in Demography and Epidemiology - a case for unification?**

Organizers: Anders Ahlbom, Jonas Björk, Anita Berglund, Kirk Scott

#### **Thursday 19 October 2017**

**12:00** Lunch

**13:00** Introduction to the FORTE network. Outcome of previous year and continuation.  
Aim of the meeting. Procedures. Expected outcomes. Presentation of participants.

**13:30** Concepts and terminology in Demography and Epidemiology with respect to  
*-fundamental measures of basic events* (Karin Leander, Marcus Ebeling)  
*-study designs* (Sven Drefahl, Liisa Byberg)

**15:30** (Coffee break)

**16:00** *-validity issues and interpretation of results* (Ulf Strömberg, Juho Härkönen)

**17:00** Reflections and additional remarks. Introduction to next day.

**18:00** Relaxation

**19:30** Dinner

#### **Friday 20 October 2017**

**09:00** Unification workshop. Coffee.

**11:00** Presentations and conclusions. Future network activities.

**12:45** Lunch

**13:30** - 15:00. Concluding visit to the spa (optional)

## **FORTE Network Meeting – General information**

### **Aim**

The aim of the FORTE Network 2016 – 2018 is to strengthening the position of Swedish register-based research, partly through increased knowledge and shared experiences regarding adequate scientific approaches and partly by forming new long-term partnerships between significant research groups in Epidemiology and Demography, both at junior and senior levels.

### **Format**

This is by no means a traditional conference where you passively listen to lectures and presentations. Instead, the format will be informal introductions (see abstracts on next page) followed by lively discussions, both in plenum and in smaller groups. Although only a few have been asked to prepare presentations, active preparation and participation is expected from everyone and is crucial for a successful and rewarding meeting.

### **Expected outcome**

FORTE requires that results of the network meetings are reported. New insights, methodological ideas, clarification of concepts etc. across the disciplines that merit further work and publication as short communications or original papers are encouraged.

### **Participation**

The network funding will cover accommodation but not travelling costs.

Please notify Anna E Larsson ([anna\\_e.larsson@med.lu.se](mailto:anna_e.larsson@med.lu.se)) about your participation by e-mail no later than 25 August 2017. Inform Anna about any special dietary requests that you might have.

### **Travelling to Ystad Saltsjöbad**

Please see <http://www.yzb.se/om-oss/vagbeskrivning/> or <http://www.yzb.se/om-oss/vagbeskrivning/?lang=en> for information on how to get to the meeting.

## **Theme: Concepts and terminology in Demography and Epidemiology – a case for unification?**

The focus of this year's network meeting will be fundamental concepts and terminology in Demography and Epidemiology. Similarities and differences between the two disciplines with respect to how basic concepts are defined and referred to will be explored. To the extent that it turns out that similar things are defined differently or called differently the justification or explanation will be sought. A starting point is that any scientific discipline requires a fundament made up by well-defined building blocks as well as an agreed upon terminology to utilize them. A question for the meeting is to what extent these are in place for Demography and for Epidemiology respectively. A further question is to what extent a common understanding and a more unified set of concepts and terms would be beneficial. Differences in concepts and terminology will be discussed with respect to fundamental measures, study designs and bias issues. Two speakers, one representing Demography and one Epidemiology, will introduce each of these three sessions.

### **Speakers**

#### **Fundamental measures of basic events**

Karin Leander, Karolinska institutet (Epidemiology)

Marcus Ebeling, University of Rostock (Demography)

#### **Study design**

Sven Drefahl, Stockholm University (Demography)

Liisa Byberg, Uppsala University (Epidemiology)

#### **Validity issues and interpretation of results**

Ulf Strömberg, Sahlgrenska Academy (Epidemiology)

Juho Härkönen, Stockholm University (Demography)