

The Danish Future Occupation of Children and Adolescents cohort (the FOCA cohort): Education, work-life, health and living conditions in a life-course perspective.

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INTRODUCTION

Getting caught in the transition from lower to upper secondary education or vocational education can cause educational and even working life to end before it begins for many adolescents. According to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) 20 % of young people end their educational pathway before reaching upper secondary level, with potential negative consequences for both the individual and society.

METHODS

The Future Occupation of Children and Adolescents cohort (the FOCA cohort) is a large population-based cohort study that was established as a resource for research in order to study childhood factors and future educational and vocational trajectories in a life-course perspective. The cohort covers a broad array of themes within public health, including diseases and health behaviours. Through linkage to register data on the participants' parents, the cohort allows investigation of parental effects over time on children's behaviours and interactions through generations.



The welcome page for the web-based questionnaire survey, developed together with Komitéen for Sundhedsoplysning / Skolesundhed.dk

PARTICIPANTS

The FOCA cohort consists of 13,100 adolescents attending 9th grade in Denmark during the first quarter of 2017 independent of school type. This corresponded to 650 schools being represented (37.23 %), widely distributed across the country. Included were 6,685 girls (51.03 %), and 6,415 boys (48.97 %) with an average age of 15.85 years.

Sociale relationer	Opvækst	Skolekrav	Familiefunktion	Selvvurderet helbred	Sense of coherence, meningsfuldhed	Motionsvaner og fysisk aktivitet
Fritidsinteresser	Derhjemme	Skolekontrol	Forældre	Livstilfredshed	Selvværd	Alkohol
Gaming	Der hvor du bor	Læse- og skrivevanskeligheder	Husregler	Mental sundhed	Håndtering af problemer (coping)	Rygning
Ensomhed	Afsavn i hverdagen	Lektier		Depression	Begivenheder og belastninger	Hash
	Fritidsjob	Lektiehjælp		Kropsform	Ulykker	Illegale stoffer
	Subjective SES	Karakterer		Smerter		Snus
		Støtte fra lærer		Medicinforbrug		
		Integration i klassen		Selvskade og selvmord		
		Fravær		Oplevet stress		
		Skoletilfredshed		Udadreagerende reaktioner		
		IT				
		Skole og fremtidsplaner				

Overview of topics included in the questionnaire

RESULTS

Frequencies of responses to all items in the baseline questionnaire is conducted. The cohort is currently merged with register data on parents' socioeconomic position and labour market history, which shows representativeness among the adolescents' socioeconomic background compared to the general population in Denmark.

CONCLUSION

No conclusions can be drawn as this is a newly established cohort. Future Studies will focus on factors affecting future health, education, work and well-being in a life-course perspective and for specific research projects it will be possible to apply for permission to link data to further ongoing national registers covering all participants.

