

## Annual Report 2003

**Annual Report 2003** innehåller totalt **244** referenser sorterade efter försteförfattarens efternamn. Under året anställda forskare vid Psykologiska institutionen är markerade med blå färg.

### Lite statistik

- Av 244 bidrag är 66 "in press".
- 140 referenser avser artiklar i vetenskapliga tidskrifter (Journal). Av dessa var 53 st "in press".
- 49 referenser avser böcker eller bokkapitel (Book (chapter)). Av dessa var 13 "in press".
- 11 referenser avser rapporter (Report).
- 55 referenser avser konferensbidrag (Proceedings).
- 4 referenser avser doktorsavhandlingar (Dissertations) som lagts fram under året.
- 214 av alla bidrag är på engelska och 30 på svenska.

**Referens:**

af Klinteberg, B. (2003). Workshop 'Impulsivity and Aggressiveness: Which Implications for Personality Disorders?', Florence, October 9-12. Invited presentation 'Behavior disturbances and psychopathic personality: Neuropsychological aspects'. *The VIII Congress of the International Society for the Study of Personality Disorders*.

**Abstract:**

In longitudinal studies it has been shown that hyperactive children constitute a risk group in developing antisocial personality disorder and psychopathy. When the demands of everyday life are increasing, the insufficient ability of hyperactive children becomes more obvious in principally three fields: inter-human (social) relationships, personality and emotional life, and behavior. The higher rate of impulsivity, often found in individuals with psychopathic behavior, have been found to be associated with criminality and violence; impulsivity seems to be connected to the aggressive expression or, more exactly, to the aspects of destruction in violent behaviour. The psychobiological basis of impulsivity is very well evidenced, not only in groups of patients and criminals, but also in groups of 'normal' individuals. The connection between impulsivity and biological indicators in 'normal' adolescents and adults confirms the hypothesis that a biological vulnerability can be present in an individual, without the developing of any kind of psychosocial disturbance, if there are protecting resources in the individual or in his/her family or environment.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings hyperactivity, impulsivity, psychopathy, neuropsychology**Referens:**

af Klinteberg, B. (2003). Invited presentation 'Biology, norms, and personality: Possible risk patterns in the development of psychosocial deviance'. *The Swedish Society of Medicine, Berzelius Symposium 61 'ADHD - a multidisciplinary approach'*, Stockholm May 7-9.

**Abstract:**

The focus concerns the significance of psychological, social and psychobiological factors in the development of psychosocial disturbances. Within two longitudinal projects, childhood vulnerability indicators and normbreaking behavior in adolescence were related to forms of adult disinhibitory psychosocial disturbances, psychobiological measures, and self-rated personality. Of special relevance to this presentation are some longitudinal findings of early hyperactive behavior and normbreaking behaviors being connected to adult high impulsivity and other psychopathy-related traits. Hyperactive behavior was also evidenced to be significantly related to subsequent alcohol problems and violent offending, as well as significantly associated with psychobiological measures. Relevant to an interactionistic theoretical approach, there is a growing recognition of personality dimensions as moderators of stressful situations over the life span. Thus, some longitudinal findings of the outcome of environmental influences, such as neglect and abuse, and of early attachment and behavior characteristics on adult psychopathy related traits and violence is discussed.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings development, normbreaking behavior, personality, stress, longitudinal study**Referens:**

af Klinteberg, B. (2003). Invited presentation 'Hur kan man stödja utsatta barn - och vad utmärker barn i riskzon? [How could we support children subjected at risk - and what about their core characteristics?] Den första Nationella Folkhälsostämman 'Insatser för riskgrupper och personer med riskbeteende', Stockholm, March 12-14.

**Abstract:****Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings hyperactive behavior, alcohol, violent behavior, gender**Referens:**

af Klinteberg, B. (2003). Invited presentation 'Rökning, alkohol och personlighet'. [Smoking, alcohol and personality.] Symposium 'Den rökande människan i fokus'. *Psykologidagarna*, Stockholm, April 1-2.

**Abstract:**

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings smoking, alcohol, personality

**Referens:** af Klinteberg, B., Lang, S., Freidenfelt, J., & Alm, P.O. (in press). Risk indicators and stress situations as related to pursuant disinhibitory psychosocial disturbances. In J. Strelau (Ed.), *Personality and extreme stress*. Warsaw: The Gdansk Psychology Publishing Company.

**Abstract:** Within a longitudinal project, the relationships between early behaviour and forms of adult disinhibitory psychosocial disturbances were analyzed. In a first phase of the investigation, Psychopathy Check List (PCL) scores and violent offending were studied in a sample of males (n=199) with a history of childhood neglect and/or abuse. The subjects were grouped on the variable victimization yielding high (n=89) and low victimization (n=110) groups. The high victimization subjects exerted significantly more violence, as did also subjects with high PCL scores. To elucidate a possible co-morbidity of all three problems in the same persons, a combined dimensional and categorical approach was applied. There were two significant patterns found, indicating that (1) 'high' victimization in childhood is closely linked to later 'extensive' violence and 'high' PCL scores at adult age; and (2) 'low' victimization in childhood is closely linked to 'none or minor' later indications of violence and 'low' adult PCL scores at adult age in the same individuals. These results point to possible underlying mechanisms associated with all three problems characterizing the affected subjects. In a second phase, the connections between childhood hyperactive and non-hyperactive behaviour versus adult psychopathic traits were studied in the same sample of males (n=199). A variable approach was applied and results indicated that hyperactive individuals, characterised by poor peer relations and a display of aggression affect, showed psychopathic traits in adulthood. Non-hyperactive individuals, on the other hand, displaying psychopathic traits at adult age, were found to have been brought up in poor emotional home climates and to be characterised by attention problems and profound adjustment difficulties. The present results highlight the influence of environmental stress on various individual risk patterns in the development of psychosocial disturbances.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) victimization, vulnerability, psychopathy, violence

**Referens:** af Klinteberg, B., & von Knorring, L. (2003). Invited presentation 'Impulsivity – an important personality trait in Type II alcoholism and early onset delinquent behavior'. *Scientific Meeting on Nordic Alcohol Research (NAR) 'Alcohol and Stress'*, Gothenburg, October 9-11; and at the *11th Biennial Meeting of the International Society for the Study of Individual Differences*, Graz, Austria, July 13-17.

**Abstract:** The impulse control disorders in the DSM include several rather separate disorders both on Axis I (Intermittent explosive disorder, Pathological gambling, Pyromania etc.); and Axis II (such as Borderline personality disorder, Antisocial Personality disorder). However, within Axis II a considerable comorbidity has been demonstrated both within Cluster B and between the three Clusters (Ekselius et al., 1994). A clinical subgrouping of alcoholism into Type I and Type II alcoholism has been suggested. By means of the definition, Type II alcoholics are characterized by early onset, use and abuse not only of alcohol, but also of other drugs, together with several social complications. The Type II alcoholics have increased scores in the Zuckerman Sensation Seeking Scales (SSS) and the Extraversion scale in the Eysenck Personality Inventory (EPI) as well as low levels of the psychobiological correlate of high impulsivity - platelet MAO activity.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings impulse control, alcoholism, personality, delinquency

**Referens:** af Klinteberg, B., von Knorring, L., & Orelund, L. (in press). On the psychobiology of impulsivity. In R. Stelmack (Ed.) *On the Psychobiology of Personality: Essays in Honor of Marvin Zuckerman*. New York: Elsevier Science.

**Abstract:** Impulsivity seems to be a very basic personality trait, both in psychiatric syndromes and personality disorders, with a high genetic component. Impulsive personality/behavior has therefore become an interesting area for both geneticists and researchers within the psychological field. There are strong support that genetic factors interact with the environment in influencing and contributing to the development of impulsive personality/behavior, which in turn indicate an enhanced risk to develop different forms of psychosocial disturbances. Some perspectives on the complexity of psychosocial and psychogenetic associations with impulsivity will be illustrated, as well as the possible nature of some biological factors underlying personality/behavior.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) personality disorders, behavior disturbances, impulsivity, genetic influence

**Referens:** Airaksinen, E., Larsson, M., Lundberg, I., & Forsell, Y. (in press). Cognitive functions in depressive disorders: Evidence from a population-based study. *Psychological Medicine*.

**Abstract:** Most of the available evidence on the effects of depression is based on clinical samples focusing on inpatients suffering from Major Depression. The aims of this study were to examine cognitive functioning in population-based samples and to determine whether cognitive performance varies as a function of depression subgroup. Population-based samples (aged 20–64 years) with Major Depression (n=68), Dysthymia (n=28), Mixed Anxiety-Depressive Disorder (n=25) and Minor Depression (n=66) were examined on a variety of cognitive tasks (i.e., episodic memory, verbal fluency, perceptual-motor speed, and mental flexibility). 175 non-depressed individuals served as controls. The total group of depressed showed impairments in tasks tapping episodic memory and mental flexibility. Of more interest, however, was the observation that the pattern of impairments varied as a function of depressive subgroup: the Major Depression and Mixed Anxiety-Depressive Disorder groups exhibited significant memory dysfunction, whereas individuals with Dysthymia showed pronounced difficulties in mental flexibility. Minor Depression did not affect cognitive performance. Verbal fluency and perceptual-motor speed were not affected by depression. These results indicate that persons with depressive disorders in the population exhibit cognitive impairments in tasks tapping episodic memory and mental flexibility and that cognitive impairment vary as a function of depressive disorder.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal depression, cognition, population-based

**Referens:** Almkvist, O. (2003). Cognitive syndrome(s) in preclinical and clinical vascular dementia. *International Psychogeriatrics*, 15, Suppl 1:127-31.

**Abstract:** It is still a challenge to identify typical features of cognitive function in vascular dementia (VaD) in clinical as

well as in preclinical stages. Selective empirical findings are described to illuminate degrees of cognitive decline. In predementia stages, speeded performance (motor and mental) and executive functions may be affected as demonstrated by CADASIL subjects and stroke survivors. In dementia stages, motor and mental speed as well as executive functions is commonly affected in addition to typical cognitive dysfunction in dementia (memory, verbal, and visuospatial). To summarize characteristics during preclinical and clinical stages, VaD appears to be associated with impairment in motor and mental speed as well as in executive function.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal vascular dementia, CADASIL, cognitive dysfunction

**Referens:** Almkvist, O., Axelman, K., Basun, H., Jensen, M., Viitanen, M., Wahlund, L.O., & Lannfelt, L. (2003). Clinical findings in nondemented mutation carriers predisposed to Alzheimer's disease: a model of mild cognitive impairment. *Acta Neurologica Scandinavica Supplement*, 179, 77-82.

**Abstract:** Individuals carrying a mutation associated with Alzheimer's disease (AD) may serve as a model of mild cognitive impairment (MCI). Nondemented individuals from these families can be subdivided into asymptomatic and symptomatic groups. Four families were studied. Two families are associated with APP mutations ( $\text{K}^{\text{N}670/\text{E}671}_{\text{ML}}, \text{E}693_{\text{G}}$ ) and two with PS1 mutation ( $\text{M}146_{\text{V}}, \text{H}163_{\text{Y}}$ ). Clinical symptoms, level of global cognitive functioning as evaluated by Mini-Mental State Examination, neuropsychological test results, neuroradiological examinations (magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and single-photon emission tomography (SPECT)), as well as cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) measurements of tau and  $\beta$ -amyloid are reported. Nondemented mutation carriers did not report any symptoms indicating cognitive decline. In addition, no clinical signs of dementia or marked cognitive impairment in neuropsychological tests were found. A reduction of temporal blood flow with SPECT was indicated in 5/13 nondemented mutation carriers. Two of these 13 individuals had moderate hyperintensities in deep white matter as observed on MRI. CSF measurements of  $\text{A}\beta_{42/43}$  were inconclusive because of large biological variation. A nonsignificant elevation of tau was detected in mutation carriers. In conclusion, clinical examinations of relatively young individuals carrying an AD mutation did not reveal any marked abnormalities before the clinical onset of dementia.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal Alzheimer's disease, mutation carriers, MRI, SPECT

**Referens:** Andersson, W., Aspling, A., & Johansson, G. (2003). *Utmärkningar för nytänkare. Byggkommissionens rapport om företagsförnyelse och medarbetarutveckling i byggnäringen. [Challenges and New Approaches. Report on Organizational and Human Resources Development in the Construction Industry.]* Stockholm: The Swedish Construction Federation.

**Abstract:** This report is the result of a 2-year investigation by an independent committee into the Swedish construction industry. It was initiated by the industry itself, with the task of analyzing problems confronting the industry in terms of product quality, organizational values and cultures, personnel policies, labor relations, and general profitability. Suggestions include, for instance, better use of experiences from other industries rather than nurturing a uniqueness myth, focus on development at the corporate rather than at the industrial level, integration and collaboration rather than negotiations and defence of territory.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Report construction industry, organizational culture, personnel policies

**Referens:** Andersson-Stråberg, T., Hellgren, J., & Sverke, M. (2003). Attitudes towards individual wages among human service workers within the public sector. Poster presented at the VIIth European Conference on Organizational Psychology and Health Care, Vienna, 8-11 October 2003.

**Abstract:** A movement described as New Public Management has inspired organizations in many European countries. Municipalities and county councils in Sweden are going through immense changes concerning amongst other things new principles of governing and organization. This renewal has also led to changes in the way that wages are distributed. Today the policy of individually based wages is widely accepted in the private sector. But employers and union representatives within the public sector have gradually started to introduce individual wages among human service employees. Individual wages are based on performance and decided at the local workplace to a higher degree, in comparison to the traditional wage systems. Employers appear to hold great expectations that performance-based wages will lead to a higher efficiency etc. among their employees. But if an organization is going to benefit from this kind of change in wage policies, the employees' attitudes towards individual wages are crucial. The aim of this study is to investigate attitudes toward individualized pay among human service workers in the public sector and try to identify the factors behind their positive or negative attitudes. Questionnaire data show that employees that have a more positive attitude towards individual wages also are affected in a more favourable way by such a system than persons with a more negative attitude. A person's attitude towards individual pay also seems to be related to how positively they regard the wage criteria policy that exists within the organization. There also appears to be a connection between different categories of employees and their attitudes towards performance-based pay, for example younger employees seems to have more positive attitudes towards performance based wages than older ones. This study contributes to a better understanding of positive and negative attitudes towards individually based wages among human service employees.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings pay-for-performance, pay equity, New Public Management

**Referens:** Arnaiz, E., & Almkvist, O. (2003). Neuropsychological features of mild cognitive impairment and preclinical. Alzheimer's disease. *Acta Neurologica Scandinavica Supplement*, 179, 34-41.

**Abstract:** Recent research has identified a transitional state between the cognitive changes of normal aging and Alzheimer's disease (AD), known as mild cognitive impairment (MCI). MCI patients experience memory loss to a greater extent than one would expect for age, yet they do not meet currently accepted criteria for clinically probable AD. An issue currently under investigation is whether MCI represents the preclinical stages of AD or a distinct and static cognitive aetiology. In an attempt to address this issue, the present investigations are adopting a convergent approach to the detection of preclinical AD, where multiple risk factors are considered when making a diagnosis. Currently, one of the most important tools when assessing early cognitive changes is neuropsychological evaluation. MCI subjects typically record neuropsychological performance between that of healthy older individuals and demented patients. Tests assessing new learning, delayed recall and attention/executive function seem to provide valuable information for screening and diagnosis of MCI and early AD if interpreted properly. Recommendations concerning methodological issues and the early management of neuropsychological MCI studies were made.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal mild cognitive impairment, preclinical Alzheimer's disease, cognitive functioning, memory loss

**Referens:** Axelman, K., Lannfelt, L., Almkvist, O., & Carlsson, M. (2003). Life situation, coping and quality of life in people with high and low risk of developing Alzheimer's disease. *Dementia and Geriatric Cognitive Disorders*, 16, 220-8.

**Abstract:** The psychosocial consequences of being at different risk for inheriting Alzheimer's disease (AD) were investigated in a high-risk group ( $n = 106$ ) and a low-risk group ( $n = 37$ ). Non-affected individuals from families with AD in two or more generations answered questions about their life situation, quality of life and coping. Their answers were compared with a population sample ( $n = 408$ ). The high-risk group assessed the quality of their personal relationships and everyday life higher than did the population sample. They also used less emotive and supportive coping strategies compared with the population sample. Nearly 90% in the high-risk group felt anxiety concerning their own risk or the risk of their children and grandchildren of developing AD. About 50% of the respondents complained about a lack of information. The pieces of information they asked for were early signs of the disease, treatment, and practical information on how to handle everyday life with an affected relative.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal Alzheimer's disease, coping, quality of life, risk factors

**Referens:** Axelsson, Ö., Berglund, B., & Nilsson, M.E. (2003). Towards green labeling of soundscapes in residential areas. In G. Brambilla, C. Ianiello & L. Maffei (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 5th European Conference on Noise Control (Euronoise 2003)*. Roma, Italian Association of Acoustics (AIA) [Available on CD, ISBN: 88-88942-00-9].

**Abstract:** 'Green' labeling of soundscapes would require a metric 'diagnostic' system. Since great differences exist among soundscapes in various environmental contexts (e.g., urban or rural), the selected context was delimited to road-traffic noise exposed residential areas. A large database of 30-s binaural recordings from noise-exposed and noise-shielded sides of buildings provided 14 representative soundscape excerpts. Twenty-one participants scaled these with regard to perceived similarity (196 pairs) and to four perceptual-emotional attributes. Multidimensional scaling of individual (dis)similarity matrices gave three 'perceptual' dimensions (INDSCAL): (1) softness-loudness, (2) eventfulness-monotonousness, and (3) foreground-background. To aid further labeling of individual soundscapes, four attribute scales were introduced as vectors in the INDSCAL solution (annoying, appealing, boring, and interesting). For the noise-exposed side, three loud and monotonous soundscapes were found to be more annoying and boring than the ones that were eventful (still background) or contained bird song (foreground). The latter were also labeled more interesting. For the noise-shielded side, six soft and monotonous and three bird-song soundscapes were found to be approximately equally appealing and interesting. The present empirically determined tentative 'diagnostic' system constitutes a good starting point for classification and 'green' labeling of soundscapes in residential areas.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings Book (chapter) soundscape, multidimensional scaling, traffic noise

**Referens:** Backenroth-Ohsako, G.A.M., Wennberg, P., & af Klinteberg, B. (2003). Personality and work life: A comparison between hearing impaired persons and a normal-hearing population. *Social Behavior and Personality*, 31 (2), 191-204.

**Abstract:** Hearing loss is commonly found amongst the normal population and constitutes a hidden problem in working life. The aim of this study is to compare differences between hearing impaired persons and a control sample of hearing subjects with regard to their work life conditions and personality traits. The investigation group consisted of 41 hearing impaired individuals with a mean age of 49 years. The control sample consisted of 182 subjects with a mean age of 36 years. Overall it was found that subjects in the control sample were more satisfied with their current work situation. However the investigation group reported that they performed well at work and, in comparison to the control sample, they reported a higher level of performance. Furthermore, the personality profiles differed between the two groups. The hearing impaired sample – illustrated by case studies – showed significantly higher levels of muscular tension and psychastenia after controlling for gender and age. The results suggest the need for increased awareness for how work conditions may be experienced when a hearing impairment is present, as well as future practical intervention studies to assist hearing impaired employees to cope with an increasingly demanding work life.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal personality, hearing impairment, work

**Referens:** Backlund, L., Skåner, Y., Montgomery, H., Bring, J., & Strenger, L.E. (2003). *GPs' decisions on drug treatment for patients with high cholesterol values: A think-aloud study*. Paper presented at The Sixth International Conference on naturalistic Decision Making. Pensacola Beach, FL, USA.

**Abstract:** The purpose of this study was to study how General Practitioners use clinical information and decision rules in their decisions on treatment of high cholesterol values. To compare think-aloud data and rating data: Do they give comparable information about the directionality of the decision process over time? Does adding a rating task affect the think-aloud protocols or the decisions? Twenty GPs were presented with six case vignettes and were instructed to think aloud while successively more information about a case was presented, and finally to decide if a drug should be prescribed or not. Ten of the participants were also asked to rate their inclination to drug prescription during successive phases of the decision process. The protocols were coded for directionality in relation to the decision task (to prescribe or not), for clinical information referred to, and for the use of decision rules. Both think-aloud data and ratings indicated that an increasing differentiation between the two decision alternatives (to prescribe or not) takes place during the decision process. The results were in line with predictions made from Search for Dominance Structure theory and Differentiation and Consolidation theory. Think-aloud data seemed to be more sensitive to the directionality of the decision process. The addition of a rating task did not affect the final decisions or the directionality in the think-aloud data. However, ratings probably introduced bias to the think-aloud reports, as rating participants talked more about pharmacological treatment and less about other possible actions. It was concluded that the results generally supported the validity of both think-aloud data and of rating scales as descriptors of decision processes.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings drug treatment, cholesterol, think-aloud

**Referens:** Backlund, L., Skåner, Y., Montgomery, H., Bring, J., & Strenger, L.E. (2003). Doctors' decision

processes in a drug-prescription ask: The validity of rating scales and think-aloud reports.  
*Organizational Behavior and Human Decision Processes*, 91, 108-117.

**Abstract:**

The validity of rating scales and of think-aloud protocols were compared in a medical decision task (treatment of high cholesterol values). Twenty doctors were exposed to six case vignettes. All participants were asked to think aloud and ten of them were also asked to rate their inclination to drug prescription during successive phases of the decision process. Both think-aloud data and ratings indicated an increasing differentiation over time in the inclination to a certain decision between those who finally decided for and against drug prescription, respectively. Think-aloud data seemed to be more sensitive to the directionality of the decision process. The addition of a rating task did not affect the directionality in the think-aloud data. However, rating participants talked more about pharmacological treatment and less about other possible actions. It was concluded that the results generally supported the validity of both think-aloud data and of rating scales as descriptors of decision processes.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal drug prescription, cholesterol, think-aloud

**Referens:**

Backlund, L., Skåner, Y., [Montgomery, H.](#), Bring, J., & Strenger, L.E. (in press). The role of guidelines and the patient's life-style in GPs' management of hypercholesterolaemia. *BMC Family Practice*.

**Abstract:**

Twenty GPs were exposed to six case vignettes presented on a computer. In the course of six screens, successively more information was added to the case. The doctors were instructed to think aloud while processing the cases (Think-Aloud Protocols) and finally to decide for or against drug treatment. After the six cases they were asked to describe how they usually reason when they meet patients with high cholesterol values (Free-Report Protocols). The two sets of protocols were coded for cause-effect relations that were supposed to reflect the doctors' knowledge of guidelines. The Think-Aloud Protocols were also searched for reasons for the decisions to prescribe or not to prescribe. According to the protocols, the GPs were well aware of the importance of previous coronary heart disease and diabetes in their decisions. On the other hand, only a few doctors mentioned other arterio-sclerotic diseases like stroke and peripheral artery disease as variables affecting their decisions. There were several instances when the doctors' decisions apparently deviated from their knowledge of the guidelines. The arguments for the decisions in these cases often concerned aspects of the patient's life-style like smoking or overweight- either as risk-increasing factors or as alternative strategies for intervention. Coding verbal protocols for knowledge and for decision arguments seems to be a valuable tool for increasing our understanding of how guidelines are used in the on treatment of hypercholesterolaemia. The doctors' decisions seemed reasonable when their stated reasons were taken into account. While the need for decision support is obvious, the current guidelines may be too simple in some respects.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal drug treatment, cholesterol, think-aloud

**Referens:**

[Baraldi, S.](#), & [Sverke, M.](#) (2003). *White-collar union mergers: Motives, barriers and effects – Non-response analysis of questionnaire data 2002*. Reports from the Department of Psychology, Stockholm University, No. 866.

**Abstract:**

A number of Swedish unions are involved in the planning, or implementation, of major merger operations, in order to achieve economies of scales and to adjust to the rapidly changing working life. This provides a basis and opportunity for studying union mergers and contributing to the understanding of what instigates them, how they are implemented, and which possible effects resulting from them might be identified. A project with these particular aims was initiated in 2002, when the baseline measurement of a planned longitudinal questionnaire study of union mergers was conducted. The focal organizations of the project were four national unions, which, up until December 2001, were planning to merge into one union. To examine whether the samples used in the project's baseline measurement were representative, a non-response analysis was carried out, which also constitutes the main purpose of this report. The samples were compared with the respective union total populations in terms of basic demographics. The samples were also compared with randomly selected sub-samples of non-respondents who, in a short telephone interview, responded to central items in the overall questionnaire. The comparisons revealed strong similarities between the baseline measurement samples and the respective union total populations, as well as with the non-response sub-samples, regarding personal backgrounds. An overall similarity was also found between baseline measurement samples and non-response sub-samples regarding different outcome variables. In general, these analyses indicate that the baseline data are representative of the respective union populations.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Report union mergers, representative samples, non-response analysis

**Referens:**

[Baraldi, S.](#), [Sverke, M.](#), & [Näswall, K.](#) (2003). Human service work and union structural change: Predicting member attitudes toward union mergers. Poster presented at the *VIIth European Conference on Organizational Psychology and Health Care*, Vienna, 8-11 October 2003.

**Abstract:**

Swedish trade unions are by tradition considered as very important factors when it comes to human service workers' rights and safety on the labor market and their work identification in general. This is reflected in the fact that approximately 80% of Swedish human service workers (and workers in general) are union members. During the past couple of decades many Swedish human service unions have been engaged in the planning, or implementation, of mergers in order to achieve economies of scales and adjust to a rapidly changing working life. The literature on union mergers shows that many planned mergers are never implemented, mostly due to member opposition. In addition, the literature on the implications of implemented union mergers indicates that members' attitudes toward mergers may affect outcomes of the merger such as general organizational goals and members' union-related attitudes. In order to further understand members' attitudes toward mergers we investigated what factors might predict positive or negative attitudes toward mergers. The basis for this study was a merger attempt between four Swedish unions organizing human service workers. Preliminary results from analyses of questionnaire data show that when union members are ideologically committed to their unions, they also appear to have more positive attitudes toward union mergers in general. The results also show that members' attitudes toward mergers depend on demographic variables such as age, membership tenure and whether the member holds a union office or not. These results suggest that the members' identification with their unions, along with certain demographic variables, play important roles as predictors of attitudes toward mergers. They may therefore affect the results of the merger and the chances of the merger ever being implemented.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings human service work, union mergers, attitudes

**Referens:**

[Berglund, B.](#), & [Borg, E.](#) (Eds.), *Fechner Day 2003*. Stockholm: International Society for

## Psychophysics.

**Abstract:** Proceedings of the Nineteenth Annual Meeting of the International Society for Psychophysics. Larnaca Bay, Cyprus, October 19-23, 2003.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) Proceedings perception, psychophysics, Fechner Day

**Referens:** Berglund, B., & Harju, E.L. (2003). Master scaling of perceived intensity of touch, cold and warmth. *European Journal of Pain*, 7, 323-334.

**Abstract:** A new approach is presented for scaling perceived intensity of touch, cold and warmth based on magnitude estimation. In this method named master scaling thenar is utilized as common reference area for scaling and calibration perceived intensity. The master scaling is particularly well suited for clinical applications in which the stimulation in pain-affected body areas creates a complex perception (e.g., paradoxical heat for cold stimulation) and/or aberrant psychophysical functions for perceived intensity. The results from three different experiments showed that: (a) All patients and healthy subjects were able to scale adequately the perceived intensity of touch, cold, and warmth at unaffected body areas. (b) Thenar stimulations were shown to be adequate common references in the joint scaling of perceived intensity of other body areas in pain patients as well as healthy persons. 8c) Individual thenar psychophysical functions can be used for screening patients and healthy persons with regard to their ability to scale perceived intensity of touch, cold and warmth. (d) Master scaled perceived intensity scales can be used for determining of various pain-unaffected body areas are normal or abnormal in patients and in healthy persons. (e) The interindividual variation in perceived intensity is considerably reduced after master scaling and approaches that of intraindividual variation as found in olfaction and hearing. Finally, empirically based thenar Master Functions of perceived intensity for touch, cold and warmth are proposed to be used in future sensory testing of patients, as well as of healthy persons.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal pain syndromes, warmth, cold, touch, master scaling

**Referens:** Berglund, B., Johansson, I., & Zheng, L. (2003). Odor and sensory irritation perception in women with chemical sensitivity. In B. Berglund & E. Borg (Eds.), *Fechner Day 2003* (pp. 25-30). Stockholm: International Society for Psychophysics.

**Abstract:** Persons with chemical sensitivity (CS) and their non-CS opposites were recruited from a random sample of the Stockholm women population and thoroughly screened according to self-reported sensitivities. Odor and sensory-irritation detection and pyridine and formaldehyde recognition were jointly tested with the method of constant stimuli (dynamic olfactometry). The P25, P50 and P75 absolute thresholds of odor and sensory-irritation detection and of pyridine and formaldehyde recognition were systematically lower for the CS than the non-CS group. Compared to non-CS, the CS had lower false alarm rates (except for irritation), with smaller standard deviations, and also narrower range of effective thresholds. According to signal detectability theory, (SDT) higher sensitivity indexes ( $d'$ ) were found in CS than non-CS regarding odor detection and substance recognition. The CS-persons' previously self-reported specific sensitivity to formaldehyde could not be experimentally verified even for formaldehyde recognition. The SDT-results rather suggest that CS-persons may be generally, slightly more sensitive than non-CS although the difference in sensitivity seems too small to support existence of functional syndrome.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings Book (chapter) chemical sensitivity, odor, sensory irritation, Fechner Day

**Referens:** Berglund, B., & Lindvall, T. (2003). Olfaction. In S. Kuwano (Ed.), *Handbook of Human Factors* (pp. 82-85). Tokyo, Japan: Asakura Publishing Co. Ltd. (In Japanese translation).

**Abstract:** This handbook chapter describes the human sense of smell starting with the chemical stimulation of receptor cells and concludes with odor interaction processes at the perceptual level. The receptor cells terminate in knobs with cilia which are the initial site of olfactory signal transduction which in turn is similar to other receptor-mediated neuronal communication processes. In contrast to most other neurons, olfactory receptor cells are continuously, but slowly being regenerated. The axons of the olfactory receptor cells form bundles which carry the olfactory information directly, without synapses, to the olfactory bulbs of the brain. There are 800-1000 genes that encode altogether 1000 odor receptors and each type of receptor is expressed in thousands of neurons. Thus far, no specific receptors have been identified and it is not possible to predict odor sensations from chemical structure of an odorant or to establish the "odor space". The human olfactory system has a higher capacity than chemical instruments to identify a large number of odors at weaker concentrations. This is supported by processes of selective self-adaptation, cross-adaptation and facilitation. The input-output characteristics of the olfactory systems adheres to a power function with exponents less than one for most chemical compounds which means that the olfactory system attenuates the stimulus information, relatively more at high concentrations. An even stronger attenuating function is activated for mixtures of different odorous substances. Odor perception is modulated by activities in the trigeminal system.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) olfactory system, sensory processes

**Referens:** Berglund, B., & Lindvall, T. (2003). The olfactory environment. In S. Kuwano (Ed.), *Handbook of Human Factors* (pp. 672-683). Tokyo, Japan: Asakura Publishing Co. Ltd. (in Japanese translation).

**Abstract:** Comfort is an essential aspect of a healthy environment. The air we breathe evokes air-quality perceptions which contribute to this comfort (odor, freshness, etc.). The perception of air is multisensorial (olfaction, trigeminal, warmth, cold, pressure) but is still perceived as an entity, i.e., as having one odor. Environmental odors are broad-band mixtures of hundreds of odorants, constituents of air which humans are unable to pinpoint. The qualitative character of air results from the joint impact of a large number of chemical and physical as well as sensory components. The discipline of psychophysics provides a tool box of techniques for sensory evaluation of air quality. The main approaches to sensory evaluation of indoor air quality include detection or identification, discrimination, equal-attribute matching, category scaling, magnitude estimation, descriptor profiling, classification, and multidimensional scaling. If perceived air quality in a building is improved by removing pollution sources and increasing ventilation, the risk for adverse health effects is typically also reduced. Indoor air quality assessments with psychological methods is either conducted directly in rooms or based on materials and compounds testing. Models are, however, required for predicting human reactions to real life exposures from laboratory tests of individual materials. Such tests also have other important uses, for example, labeling of materials and products or guiding company product development. Other applications for sensory testing are auditing buildings, comparing buildings or occupant groups and

comparing systems and interventions within a building.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) air quality, sensory evaluation, materials testing

**Referens:** Berglund, B., & Nilsson, M.E. (2003). Identification of sounds from traffic. *Perceptual and Motor Skills*, 97: 675-688.

**Abstract:** Listeners' ability to identify road-traffic, aircraft, or train sounds in environmental sound recordings was studied in a psychoacoustical experiment involving 16 participants. In free-labeling identification, excerpt traffic sounds were described in terms of "object" (sound-producing source) rather than in terms of perceptual attribute. The main sounds identified were traffic sounds, but a few references were also made to machine-related or water-related sources. Sounds from aircraft were easier to identify than the sounds from trains, which in turn were easier to identify than the sounds from road-traffic. This identification order was confirmed in multiple-choice and dominant-source identification tasks. Compared to free-labeling, multiple-choice identifications produced considerably more false alarms (i.e., identification of a sound source not present). For multiple-choice, several sound sources were particularly identified in the excerpt road-traffic and train sounds although the (recorded) sound was typically clearly discerned in the joint dominant-source identification task. Comparison with physical properties of sound suggested that spectral rather than temporal cues were used in sound-source identification.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal traffic sound, identification, multidimensional scaling

**Referens:** Bergman, L.R., & El-Khoury, B.M. (2003). A person-oriented approach: Methods for today and methods for tomorrow. Special Issue of *New Directions for Child and Adolescent Development*, 101, 25-38.

**Abstract:** The starting point is the holistic, interactionistic view in which the individual is seen as an organized whole, functioning and developing as a totality. In this view, the importance of patterns of operating factors is emphasized. From this perspective it is clear that a standard variable-oriented approach, focusing on the variable as the theoretical and analytical unit, has limitations. Instead one might prefer a person-oriented approach where the specific pattern of operating factors is the main theoretical and analytical unit. Such an approach is presented here, focusing on the study of individual development. First methodological implications of a holistic-interactionistic perspective are outlined and it is pointed to possible problems with current variable-based methods for studying individual development within this perspective. Then desirable properties of a mathematical model of a phenomenon are discussed. Selected methods for carrying out person-oriented research are overviewed, including observation-grounded methods, theory-grounded methods, and the study of dynamical systems. Finally, some important issues for the person-oriented approach of tomorrow are presented.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal cluster analysis, individual development, interaction, ISSN: 1520-3247

**Referens:** Bergman, L.R., Magnusson, D., & El-Khoury, B.M. (2003). *Studying individual development in an interindividual context: A person-oriented approach*. Vol. 4 in the series Paths through life (D. Magnusson, Ed.). Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum.

**Abstract:** This volume deals with a person-oriented approach for studying individual development in a context where many individuals' development are studied. The aim is to arrive at an understanding of interindividual differences in development. With a person-oriented approach is here meant an approach in which the individual "as a whole" is at focus. The statistical analysis deals usually with patterns of values in relevant variables, believed to reflect the essential properties of the system under study. Hence, in contrast to the ordinary variable-oriented approach, the value pattern, and not the variable, becomes the core theoretical and analytical unit. The theoretical background of the person-oriented approach within the holistic-interactionistic research paradigm is presented and its relation to the new Developmental Science is emphasized. Measurement and the choice of method of analysis are discussed and a basic tool chest for person-oriented analysis is presented. A statistical package, SLEIPNER, for carrying out such analyses is introduced. SLEIPNER is available on the web. The methods and programs are illustrated by an extensive empirical analysis of school adjustment, based on data from the longitudinal research program Individual Development and Adaptation (IDA).

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) cluster analysis, interaction, person-oriented

**Referens:** Berman, A.H. (2003). "Alternativa" behandlingsprogram för intagna i fängelse: Ett nytt perspektiv. ["Alternative" treatment programs for prison inmates: A new perspective.] *Socialmedicinsk tidskrift*, 80(3), 278-286. Reprinted in *Tidsskrift för kriminalvård* (2003) 3, 4-13.

**Abstract:** Prison rehabilitation in Sweden aims to reduce criminal recidivism by means of evidence-based, cognitive-behaviorally based programs. This article suggests the application of a broader concept of rehabilitation that includes insights about necessary aspects of constructing a new, non-criminal identity. "Alternative" treatment programs for prisoners, such as theatre, expressive art therapies, horticultural therapy or auricular acupuncture, are described in a few published studies. The concept of "good lives" and an existential psychological approach contribute an explanation of why such programs can be valuable in themselves or as complements to existing programs. If "alternative" treatment programs are introduced, they should be accompanied by qualitative process evaluation as well as controlled outcome evaluation.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal prison, rehabilitation, treatment

**Referens:** Berman, A.H., Bergman, H., Palmstierna, T., & Schlyter, F. (in press). Evaluation of the Drug Use Disorders Identification Test (DUDIT) in Criminal Justice and Detoxification Settings and in a Swedish Population Sample. *European Addiction Research*.

**Abstract:** Psychometric properties of the 11-item self-report Drug Use Disorders Identification Test (DUDIT) were evaluated in a sample of heavy drug users from prison, probation, and inpatient detoxification settings, and in a general Swedish population sample. In the drug user sample, the DUDIT predicted drug dependence with a sensitivity of 90% for both DSM-4 and ICD-10 and a respective specificity of 78% and 88%. Reliability according to Cronbach's alpha coefficient was .80. In the population sample, 3.1% scored positive on the

DUDIT; T-score values are suggested. The DUDIT screens effectively for drug-related problems in clinically selected groups and may prove useful in the context of public health surveys.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal screening, substance abuse, psychometric properties

**Referens:** Berman, A.H., Lundberg, U., Krook, A.L., & Gyllenhammar, C. (in press). Treating Drug Using Prison Inmates with Auricular Acupuncture: A Randomized Controlled Trial. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*.

**Abstract:** This study tested the viability of auricular acupuncture in prisons for alleviating inmates' symptoms of psychological and physical discomfort and reducing their drug use. The experimental NADA-Acudetox protocol was compared with a non-specific helix control protocol in a randomized trial.

Over a period of 18 months, a 4-week, 14-session auricular acupuncture treatment program was offered in two prisons to 163 men and women with self-reported drug use.

Among treatment completers, no differences by method were found in self-reported symptoms of discomfort. Drug use occurred in the NADA group but not in the helix group. In contrast, confidence in the NADA treatment increased over time while it decreased for the helix treatment. No significant negative side effects were observed for either method.

Participants in both groups reported reduced symptoms of discomfort and improved nighttime sleep. Future research should compare auricular acupuncture to a non-invasive control in order to attempt to disentangle active effects from placebo.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal drug abuse treatment, prisons, auricular acupuncture

**Referens:** Bernhard, C., & Sverke, M. (in press). Work attitudes, role stress and health among different types of contingent workers in the Swedish health care sector. *Research and Practice in Human Resource Management*.

**Abstract:** Contingent employment has been a frequently used tool for organisations to increase flexibility and cut labour costs. Previous research has suggested that contingent employment is no unitary phenomenon. By applying cluster analysis to data from the Swedish health care sector, the present study identified four types of contingent workers characterised by distinct profiles on demographic and work-related variables. Despite differences in organisational commitment, role overload, and job-induced tension, these groups of contingent workers reported rather similar levels of work attitudes, role stress, and well-being. The paper demonstrates the importance of combining variables in understanding the heterogeneity of contingent work and discusses how a pattern approach can provide valuable information for research on contingent employment and its consequences.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal temporary work, work attitudes, well-being

**Referens:** Berntsson, E., & Sverke, M. (2003). What determines employability? Human capital or dual labor market? Poster presented at the *European Academy of Occupational Health Psychology Conference*, Berlin, 20-21 November 2003.

**Abstract:** Introduction and objective: The notion of employability is used more frequently in the management literature as a result of a changing nature of work. As job insecurity becomes more common among employees, employability is argued to be a new form of job security. In the present study employability is defined as an individual's perception of his or hers ability to find a new employment. The aim of the present study is to describe the employable individual in Sweden. Based on large data registers from Statistics Sweden the study tries to explore the antecedents of employability and what consequences it has.

Material and method: To be able to accomplish the present study I have used data registers established by Statistics Sweden. The datasets that are used in the present study are Labour survey (AKU), Work environment survey and Longitudinal database concerning education, income and employment (LOUISE). The AKU and Work environment survey are both cross-sectional designs, with data collected every second year starting 1989 with approximately 10 000 participants each time. For the present study I have collected data concerning employability, work environment and demography from the AKU and the Work environment survey. LOUISE on the other hand is a longitudinal database with records of every individual in Sweden. Data is collected each year and started in 1990. From the LOUISE I have primarily collected data concerning sickness absence, turnover intention and unemployment. In the present study I have analysed the years of 1993 (N=6498), 1995 (N=12262), 1997 (N=9937) and 1999 (N=9537) where 93/95 represents a considerable recession and 97/99 are characterised by an economic boom. 93/95 is analysed separately as one period and then compared to 97/99 considering a number of variables, e g education, age, sex, geographical location of the respondents home, work environment, health, and unemployment.

Results: Data analyses are under way and results will be reported when the analyses are finished. However, preliminary data analysis indicates a strong difference between individuals due to economic situation. During the years of 1997 and 1999 a substantially greater amount of individuals report a higher employability. The results also indicate a great difference between individuals due to education (higher education is related to a higher employability), age (younger age is related to a higher employability) and geographical location (living in larger cities is related to a higher employability).

Conclusion: The results so far are expected but yet interesting. They indicate that education is very important for the individuals' perception of employability but also that the national economic situation is extremely important for the perceived employability. Next I will analyse the relationship between employability and work environment variables (e g physical and psychosocial work environment) but also the relationship between employability and the respondents' health, turnover intention and unemployment.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings employability, human capital, dual labor market, predict

**Referens:** Boalt Boëthius, S., & Ögren, M.-L. (2003). *Grupphandledning. Den lilla gruppens som forum för lärande. [The small group as a forum for learning.]* Stockholm: Mareld, Ericastiftelsen.

Despite an extending usage of group supervision in psychotherapy training, there is a lack of systematic

**Abstract:** studies and literature on this topic. This book, being the second revised edition, aims at highlighting aspects of group supervision in various contexts. Different theoretical models of group supervision are presented, concerning group supervision in psychotherapy in training programmes as well as group supervision in clinical treatment spheres. Different theoretical models concerning the development of the professional role are described, just as are different models of learning. In three chapters of the book there is a focus on recent empirical studies of group supervision in psychotherapy in a training context.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) group supervision, psychotherapy, theoretical models

**Referens:** Borg, E. (2003). The multidimensional character of perceived exertion for a maximal and submaximal cycle ergometer test. In B. Berglund & E. Borg (Eds.), *Fechner Day 2003* (pp. 31-36). Stockholm: International Society for Psychophysics.

**Abstract:** A number of subjective symptoms that may occur as a result of physical exertion were studied in forty healthy subjects, 24 men and 16 women, after a cycle ergometer exercise test, at voluntary maximum as well as at 120 W (sub-maximum). After each test condition, ratings of 19 subjective symptoms were collected according to the Borg CR10 scale. Symptoms profiles were found to be similar for both conditions with higher absolute levels for the max-test. For the submax-test sex differences were found mainly for symptoms related to the intensity of the exercise (as motivated by differences in working capacity). An explorative Principal Component Analyses resulted in 4 components for the max-test (70.1% variance explained). The first component was related to physical distress, the second to psychological annoyance, the third and fourth to local and to central sensations of perceived exertion. The submax-test resulted in 2 components (82.2% variance explained). The first referred to annoyance and/or health-related symptoms and the second to different aspects of exertion.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings Book (chapter) Borg CR10-scale, subjective symptoms, physical work, Fechner Day

**Referens:** Borg, G. (2003). An index for relations between perceptual magnitudes based on level-anchored ratio scaling. In B. Berglund & E. Borg (Eds.), *Fechner Day 2003* (pp. 37-42). Stockholm: International Society for Psychophysics.

**Abstract:** A "ratio index" (RI), is presented, which shows the ratio between two responses obtained in "ratio scaling". Several different "ratio scaling" methods may be used in constructing this index, so long as they obtain responses on a ratio scale (or "semi-ratio scale"). In this study, I used, and present, my own "category-ratio (CR) scaling" methods. I had several reasons for my choice of method, as described in the paper. I also present a few examples for testing the RI. The examples were taken from one of the most common and important fields of application in psychophysical scaling, namely, determination of subjective somatic symptoms. During a stress test with an ergometer, healthy subjects perceive about the same amount of breathlessness (b) as of exertion in the legs (l). The RIB/l is, therefore, close to 1. In patients with lung disease, by comparison, normal breathlessness changes to severe difficulties breathing and dominates the symptoms profile. Consequently, their RIB/l may be very high, but may decrease with successful therapy. Applicability of the RI is discussed also for other areas of perception and for some relevant physiological variables.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings Book (chapter) Borg CR10-scale, fatigue, dyspnea, Fechner Day

**Referens:** Borg, G. (2003). Att träna lagom hårt, så det känns bra. *Svensk Idrottsforskning*, 4, 4-9.

**Abstract:**

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal Borgskala, CR skala, RPE

**Referens:** Borg, G. (2003). Min tid som psykologistudent i Stockholm under Katz' tid. In L.-G. Nilsson (Ed.), *Psykologiska institutionen: En Jubileumsbok* (pp. 41-50). Stockholm: Psykologiska institutionen.

**Abstract:**

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) David Katz, psykologihistoria

**Referens:** Borg, G. (2003). Ansträngning och andra symtom. In K. Brauer, L. Jorfeldt & O. Pahlm (Eds.), *Det kliniska arbetsprovet* (pp. 111-121). Lund: Studentlitteratur.

**Abstract:**

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) somatiska symtom, psykofysik, Borgskala

**Referens:** Borg, G., & Hassmén, P. (2003). Upplevd ansträngning som hjälper att styra motionsintensiteten. In A. Ståhle (Ed.), *FYSS - Fysisk aktivitet i sjukdomsprevention och sjukdomsbehandling* (pp. 53-64). Stockholm: Statens Folkhälsoinstitut.

**Abstract:**

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) RPE, Borg-skala, idrott

**Referens:** Briem, V., Radeborg, K., Salo, I., & Bengtsson, H. (in press). Developmental Aspects of Children's Behaviour and Safety while Cycling. *Journal of Pediatric Psychology*.

**Abstract:** Objective: To examine children's competence while cycling, as demonstrated in mistakes in performance and failure to comply with safety rules.

Methods: Children in three age groups (8, 10, and 12 years) participated in a realistic yet simulated traffic environment.

Results: The boys' cycling speed increased steadily with age, while that of the girls increased from 8 to 10, but

decreased at age 12. Most children had adequate motor control by age 10, and the youngest compensated for their less developed skills by cycling slowly and braking early at junctions. Serious mistakes, often related to the children's age and gender, consisted of the children failing to stop at signals or stopping too late, especially at short stopping range.

**Conclusions:** There are considerable individual differences in children's cycling competence that are related to biological factors, such as age and gender, and psychological factors, such as rule compliance and choice of cycling speed.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal children, risk taking, bicycling

**Referens:** Bunce, D., Kivipelto, M., & Wahlin, Å. (in press). Cognitive support and episodic free recall in adults aged 75 years and older: The influence of apolipoprotein ε4, vitamin B12 and folate. *Neuropsychology*.

**Abstract:** Apolipoprotein (apoE) genotype, vitamin B12 and folate, were examined in relation to episodic free recall in a population-based sample of 167 adults aged 75 years and older ( $M=82.81$  years). Cognitive support at the encoding and retrieval phases of the episodic memory tasks also was taken into account. Participants were neither demented, suffering depression, nor taking vitamin B12 or folate supplements. Four groups were entered into a factorial design according to apoE genotype ( $\epsilon4$  versus non- $\epsilon4$  allele carriers) and low versus normal vitamin B12 or folate levels (low group=vitamin B12  $<250$  pmol/liter; folate  $<12$  nmol/liter). Statistical analyses revealed a significant association involving low vitamin B12, and the  $\epsilon4$  genotype in respect to free recall performance, but only in circumstances of low cognitive support where task demands were high. This result was retained having removed individuals who became demented up to six years following testing. A similar, but nonsignificant, trend was evident in relation to folate. The results suggest apoE genotype, B vitamins, and cognitive task demands interact to predict episodic memory performance in older adults, and that this is unrelated to incident dementia for a six-year period following testing. The findings are discussed with reference to the concept of brain reserve.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal ApoE, vitamin B, episodic memory

**Referens:** Busch, H., Barth Olofsson, A.S., Rosenhagen, S., & Collins, A. (2003). Menopausal Transition and Psychological Development. *Menopause, 10* (2), 179-187.

**Abstract:** Objective: To study women's psychological development during menopause and to examine the relationship between women's appraisal of menopause and symptom reporting.

Design: A population-based sample of 130 healthy women were assessed annually during five consecutive years using semi-structured interviews, a menopausal symptom rating scale and the SCL-90 rating scale.

Results: Qualitative analyses of the interviews showed that the majority of the women (57%) had neutral beliefs about menopause, while 31% were pessimistic and 12% were optimistic. Optimistic and neutral expectations were associated with low levels of symptom reporting, while the pessimistic appraisal was significantly related to elevated symptom scores. The majority of the neutral and pessimistic women re-appraised menopause during the study period and at the last follow-up, 67% appraised menopause positively. A positive re-appraisal among the initially pessimistic women was associated with more frequent statements about personal growth compared to the other subgroups.

Conclusions: Menopause has a developmental potential and is a positive period for most women.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal menopause, psychological development, qualitative

**Referens:** Bäckman, L., Wahlin, Å., Small, B.J., Herlitz, A., Winblad, B., & Fratiglioni, L. (in press). Cognitive functioning in aging and dementia: The Kungsholmen Project. *Aging, Neuropsychology and Cognition*.

**Abstract:** The Kungsholmen Project (KP) is a community-based longitudinal study of aging and dementia targeting the 75+ population. In this article, we review empirical studies with a cognitive focus from the KP. The main findings indicate that (a) there is an age-related decline for some cognitive domains (e.g., episodic memory, verbal fluency, visuoconstructive skill, psychomotor speed), but not for others (e.g., primary memory, visuoceptive skill, motor-hand coordination), (b) multiple individual-difference variables within demographic (e.g., sex, education) life-style (e.g., activity levels), genetic (e.g., apolipoprotein E genotype), and health-related (e.g., vitamin B deficiency, depression, diabetes) domains are related to late-life cognitive functioning, (c) a potential for improving cognitive performance – a reserve capacity – is present also among very old adults, (d) the 2 most common dementia diseases, Alzheimer's disease (AD) and vascular dementia (VaD), affect cognition in a strikingly similar manner, (e) the role of individual-difference variables in cognitive functioning is markedly reduced in dementia – the pathogenesis itself may overshadow the influence of other variables, and (f) there is a long preclinical period in dementia during which cognitive deficits are detectable. As is true with the other projects represented in this issue, the KP portrays a rather diversified picture of cognitive aging, although systematic patterns are evident with regard to the variability of late-life cognitive functioning.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal aging, cognition, health

**Referens:** Böhm, B., Katz-Salamon, M., Smedler, A.-C., Lagercrantz, H., & Forssberg, H. (2002). Developmental risks and protective factors for influencing cognitive outcome at 51/2 years of age in very-low-birthweight children. *Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology, 44*, 508-516.

**Abstract:** In a population-based follow-up study (Stockholm Neonatal Project), 182 children with a birth weight of 1500g or less (very-low birthweight: VLBW) and a control group of 125 children born healthy at term were examined with the Wechsler Preschool and Primary Scale of Intelligence - Revised (WPPSI-R) and a neuropsychological test battery (Nepsy) at 51/2 years of age. The WPPSI-R results of the VLBW children fell well within the normal range: WPPSI-R full scale IQ 95.7, verbal subscale IQ 99.9, and performance subscale IQ 91.6. Nevertheless, the control group had significantly better results than the VLBW group which could be attributed to the greater variability of the VLBW group, with a larger proportion falling in the lower area of the IQ distribution, especially on the performance subscale. Likewise, the control group displayed better executive function (Nepsy). Paternal education was equal in the two groups and was the single most important predictor of IQ, possibly acting as a

protective factor. The need for glasses or lenses was inversely associated with all IQ measures and severe retinopathy of prematurity (ROP) had the most negative impact on full-scale and performance IQ. These two IQ measures were also negatively associated with intrauterine growth retardation late in pregnancy. We conclude that VLBW children, in the absence of these identified risk factors, have normal cognitive development.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal very low birth weight, cognitive, developmental risk

**Referens:** Böhm, B., [Smedler, A.-C.](#), & Forssberg, H. (in press). Impulse control working memory and other executive functions in preterm children when starting school. *Acta Paediatrica*.

**Abstract:** Objective: The aim of this study was to explore whether children born preterm have deficient executive functions (EF) in comparison with children born at full term, and if so, whether this is dependent on inferior intelligence scores and can be correlated to specific neonatal risk factors and gender.

Methods: In a population based study the executive functions of 182 preterm children (birth weight less than 1500g, VLBW) and 125 controls from the Stockholm Neonatal Project were assessed at 51/2 years with a neuropsychological test battery (Nepsy, 1990).

Results: The controls surpassed the VLBW children on tests of executive functions (EF), even after controlling for intelligence (IQ), a necessary correction since there were significant correlations between measures of EF and IQ. EF was associated with retinopathy of prematurity (ROP), and with visual impairment as a whole. In both groups, girls surpassed boys on tests of executive functions.

Conclusion: We conclude that it is possible to analyse executive functions already in preschool age. Preterm children are at risk of having subnormal levels of executive functioning, even though their general IQ is normal.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal preterm birth, executive functions, intelligence

**Referens:** Chirumbolo, A., & [Hellgren, J.](#) (2003). Individual and organizational consequences of job insecurity: A European study. *Economic and Industrial Democracy*, 24, 217-240.

**Abstract:** The increased flexibility on the labor market has given rise to feelings of job insecurity in many individuals. The stress literature suggests that the fear of losing one's job could be as detrimental as loosing the job itself, and numerous studies indicate that job insecurity may indeed have important consequences for both the individual and the organization. However, the effects of job insecurity on short-term consequences are typically larger than those on long-term consequences. Therefore, the aim of this paper was to investigate if short-term consequences (job satisfaction and organizational commitment) mediate the impact of job insecurity on long-term outcomes (mental health complaints and turnover intention). Survey data from four European countries show that the effect of job insecurity on turnover intention is mediated by organizational commitment and job satisfaction. In contrast, it appears that work attitudes partially mediate the effect of job insecurity on mental health complaints.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal job insecurity, turnover intention, well-being

**Referens:** Chotai, J., Smedh, K., Johansson, C., [Nilsson, L.-G.](#), & Adolfsson, R. (in press). An epidemiological study on gender differences in self-reported seasonal changes in mood and behaviour in a general population of northern Sweden. *Nordic Journal of Psychiatry*.

**Abstract:** Gender differences have been reported regarding symptoms, prevalence and heritability of seasonal affective disorders (SAD). We focus on gender aspects in this study of self-reported seasonal changes in mood and behaviour in a general population. The Seasonal Pattern Assessment Questionnaire (SPAQ) was completed by 2620 adults (55.6% women) aged 35 – 85 years, enrolled in the Betula prospective random cohort study of Umeå, Sweden. October to February turned out to be suitable winter months. Seasonal affective disorder (SAD) was found in 2.2% and sub-syndromal SAD (S-SAD) in 5.7%. Women had about 1.5 times higher prevalences than men, and seasonality problems decreased with age in both genders. Preference for eating least was distributed with a peak in summer, whereas preference for eating most had a major peak in winter (winter eaters) and a minor peak in summer (summer eaters). Significantly more of winter eaters in women, and significantly more of summer eaters in men, felt worst in winter. Seasonal change in weight was considered significantly as a problem by women but not men. Winter behaviour of sleeping most was considered significantly as a problem by men but not women. Women reacted significantly to temperature-related changes (negatively to cold/short days and positively to hot/long days), whereas men reacted significantly to sunshine-related changes (negatively to cloudy days and positively to sunny days). Subtle gender differences may thus underlie the pathophysiology of seasonal problems. Studies of an eventual efficacy of treating SAD women with raised ambient temperature, and gender-specific comparisons with other therapies, would be of interest.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal seasonal affective disorder, epidemiology, gender

**Referens:** Chotai, J., Smedh, K., [Nilsson, L.-G.](#), & Adolfsson, R. (in press). A dual vulnerability hypothesis for seasonal depression is supported by the seasonal pattern assessment questionnaire in relation to the temperament and character inventory of personality in a general population. *Journal of Affective Disorders*.

**Abstract:** Personality structure obtained from the psychobiological Temperament and Character Inventory (TCI) was studied in relation to self-reported seasonal variations in mood and behavior measured by the Seasonal Pattern Assessment Questionnaire (SPAQ). The subjects comprised 1761 adults (57.6% women) in the age range 35–85 years, enrolled in the Betula prospective random cohort study of Umeå, Sweden. Personality profiles of subjects who reported the occurrence of a high degree of seasonal variation as such were associated with a combination of high self-transcendence (ST) and high persistence (PS), irrespective of the level of harm avoidance (HA). Subjects who reported feeling worst in winter were associated with high HA, irrespective of the levels of ST and PS. Also, subjects feeling worst in summer or experiencing overall problems with seasonal variation were associated with high HA in their personality profiles. Using the SPAQ criteria to define seasonal affective disorder (SAD) or subsyndromal SAD (S-SAD), subjects with these disorders often had combinations of high self-transcendence (ST) and high persistence (PS), but with different associations with HA. No evaluations were made for SAD or subsyndromal SAD according to the DSM-IV or ICD 10 criteria. Our results

relating SPAQ with TCI give support for a dual vulnerability hypothesis for seasonal depression proposed in the literature, where it is attributed to a combination of a seasonal factor and a depression factor. Examining the literature regarding the relationships between the different TCI scales and monoamine neurotransmitter functions, those relationships suggest that these two vulnerability factors for seasonal depression may be modulated by different neurotransmitter systems.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal depression, personality, seasonal depression

**Referens:** Christianson, S.-Å., & Merckelbach, H. (in press). Crime Related Amnesia as a Form of Deception. In P.A. Granhag & L.A. Strömwall (Eds.), *Deception in forensic contexts*. Cambridge University Press.

**Abstract:** It is not uncommon that defendants claim amnesia for the crime of which they are accused. In this chapter, we focus on amnesia for homicide and the issue of whether this is genuine or feigned memory loss. Among lay people, a large majority believe that it is perfectly possible for an offender to develop complete amnesia for his crime and that in certain types of homicide, dissociative amnesia is a highly plausible scenario. Mental health professionals who appear as expert witnesses in such cases often assume that this type of memory loss is the joint effect of strong emotions and excessive drug or alcohol use. It is also common to seek arguments for this interpretation by interviewing the defendant. We present arguments for why this approach is dubious. To begin with, our empirical data from interviews with homicide offenders show that they have a strong motivation for feigning amnesia and also that their memory loss possesses the typical features of malingered amnesia. Second, dissociative amnesia is not the only or even the most prevalent form of crime-related amnesia. Third, the diagnostic differentiation between these types of amnesia cannot be made solely on the basis of interviews. To make this differentiation, experts should rely on tests (e.g., the SIMS), tasks (e.g., the SVT), and clues that are typical for malingering memory dysfunctions (e.g., sharp boundaries between remembering and forgetting). Although this may seem simple, such an approach requires sophisticated knowledge about diagnostic quality parameters. Many psychologists and psychiatrists do not possess such knowledge and therefore their competence to act as expert witnesses in cases in which claims of crime-related amnesia are raised is doubtful. A main question in this chapter was whether homicide offenders who claim amnesia are liars. A yes-or-no answer does not justice to the complexities of the whole issue. Rather, in considering all the obstacles a homicide offender has to meet in remembering and telling about the crime, it is not surprising that offenders often claim amnesia.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) amnesia, forensic, homicide

**Referens:** Daderman, A.M., & Kristiansson, M. (2003). Degree of psychopathy-implications for treatment in male juvenile delinquents. *International Journal of Law and Psychiatry*, 26, 301-15.

**Abstract:** We have assessed psychopathy (PCL-R) in male juvenile delinquents with the aim of discussing treatment strategies. We studied 56 male juvenile delinquents whose ages ranged from 14 to 20 years, with a mean of 17 years ( $SD=1.2$ ) from four youth correctional institutions in Sweden. All of the young people had shown early onset of conduct disorder. The modified version of the Hare Psychopathy Checklist – Revised (PCL-R), designed to be used with young people (Forth, Hart, & Hare, 1990), was used to assess psychopathy. The mean PCL-R score was 29.3 in this sample ( $SD=7.8$ ), and 73% had scores between 27 and 40, indicating high degree of psychopathy; 59% of the participants had scores above 30, and, according to the manual, were classified as psychopaths. The results indicate that psychopathy is common in male juvenile delinquents, and that degree of psychopathy may have implications for early intervention strategies in male adolescents with conduct disorder.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal psychopathy (PCL-R), juvenile delinquents, treatment programs

**Referens:** Daderman, A.M., Strindlund, H., Wiklund, N., Fredriksen, S.O., & Lidberg, L. (2003). The importance of a urine sample in persons intoxicated with flunitrazepam - legal issues in a forensic psychiatric case study of a serial murderer. *Forensic Science International*, 137, 21-7.

**Abstract:** The sedative-hypnotic benzodiazepine flunitrazepam (FZ) is abused worldwide. The purpose of our study was to investigate violence and anterograde amnesia following intoxication with FZ, and how this was legally evaluated in forensic psychiatric investigations with the objective of drawing some conclusions about the importance of urine sample in a case of a suspected intoxication with FZ. The case was a 23-year-old male university student who, intoxicated with FZ (and possibly with other substances such as diazepam, amphetamines or cannabis), first stabbed an acquaintance and, 2 years later, two friends to death. The police investigation files, including video-typed interviews, the forensic psychiatric files, and also results from the forensic autopsy of the victims, were compared with the information obtained from the case. Only partial recovery from anterograde amnesia was shown during a period of several months. Some important new information is contained in this case report: a forensic analysis of blood sample instead of a urine sample, might lead to confusion during police investigation and forensic psychiatric assessment (FPA) of an FZ abuser, and in consequence wrong legal decisions. FZ, alone or combined with other substances, induces severe violence and is followed by anterograde amnesia. All cases of bizarre, unexpected aggression followed by anterograde amnesia should be assessed for abuse of FZ. A urine sample is needed in case of suspected FZ intoxication. The police need to be more aware of these issues, and they must recognise that they play a crucial role in an assessment procedure. Declaring FZ an illegal drug is strongly recommended.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal flunitrazepam, anterograde amnesia, aggression

**Referens:** Daukantaite, D., & Bergman, L.R. (2003). *Components of subjective well-being in Swedish women*. Stockholm University, Department of Psychology, Reports from the project IDA, No. 83.

**Abstract:** The purpose of the study was to contribute to our knowledge about (a) the relationships among different SWB components, and (b) their relationships to personality and sociodemographic factors. Data were taken from the longitudinal research program Individual Development and Adaptation (IDA, Magnusson, 1988). The sample comprised 569 Örebro women, aged 43, who took part in a personal interview (including hand-outs) in 1998. Data were also used from an intensive psychological-medical examination ( $N=369$ ). Both variable-oriented and person-oriented methods were used for analyzing the data. Most of the variable-oriented results we presented can be regarded as largely replications of results obtained by other researchers. Our results confirmed the often reported finding that the predictive power of sociodemographic factors is low. Marital status and income were the strongest predictors. With regard to personality variables, we found that personality factors tend to be the strongest and most consistent predictors of SWB. Optimism and the Negative Emotionality (neuroticism) related KSP scales were found to be strongest predictors of SWB components. The person-oriented analyses, searching for general SWB types and domain-specific types of satisfaction, indicated several interesting results.

With regard to general SWB types, we claim to have identified a typology that we believe to some extent can be generalized. Two clusters with generalized very low SWB emerged. Compared to a reference cluster, women in these clusters reported significantly higher negative emotionality, aggressive nonconformity, and significantly lower optimism. One fairly large cluster with generalized high SWB also emerged. Compared to a reference cluster, the women scored significantly higher on Optimism and the Extraversion related composite scale and significantly lower on Negative Emotionality and Aggressive Nonconformity. With regard to types of domain-specific satisfaction, the results are less clear-cut.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Report subjective well-being, women

**Referens:** De Witte, H., & [Näswall, K.](#) (2003). 'Objective' versus 'subjective' job insecurity: Consequences of temporary work for job satisfaction and organizational commitment in four European countries. *Economic and Industrial Democracy*, 24, 149-188.

**Abstract:** This contribution analyses whether temporary work and (the subjective perception of) job insecurity are associated with a reduction in job satisfaction and organizational commitment, as proposed in the literature. An interaction between temporary work and job insecurity is also tested. Data from four European countries (Belgium, the Netherlands, Italy and Sweden) are used to test the robustness of the hypotheses. The results show that temporary work is not associated with a reduction in job satisfaction and organizational commitment. Job insecurity is associated with a lower score on both outcome variables, as hypothesized. In two countries, an interaction was found: job insecurity was only associated with a reduction in job satisfaction and organizational commitment among workers with a permanent contract, suggesting that the psychological contract was violated for this category of workers.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal temporary work, job insecurity, attitudinal reactions

**Referens:** [Dimdins, G.](#), & [Montgomery, H.](#) (in press). Differentiating in-group favoritism from shared reality in intergroup perception. *Scandinavian Journal of Psychology*.

**Abstract:** Two basic factors influence mutual ratings of social groups: in-group favoritism (related to evaluative aspects of a rating) and the perception of shared reality (related to descriptive aspects). In two studies, we examine the usefulness of Peabody's (1968) method of separating evaluative and descriptive aspects of rating in intergroup judgments. In Study 1, Latvian and Russian students made different evaluations of both groups, but the same groups agreed on descriptive ratings, but they expected their fellow students to be in-group biased. The participants agreed on the descriptive ratings of both groups. The results demonstrate that shared reality influences intergroup ratings, despite differences in evaluations.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal in-group favoritism, intergroup perception

**Referens:** [Dimdins, G.](#), [Montgomery, H.](#), & Austers, I. (in press). Differentiating explanations of attitude-consistent behavior. The role of perspectives and mode of perspective taking. *Scandinavian Journal of Psychology*.

**Abstract:** We examined whether participants could differentiate between explanations of attitudinal behavior related to EU membership given from two perspectives (EU supporter and EU opponent) by means of three perspective taking modes (the explainer's own perspective, imagined in-group members' perspective and imagined out-group members' perspective). Participants were presented with explanations provided from different perspectives and perspective taking modes, and were asked to judge the extent to which they agreed with each explanation, to guess the attitude of the provider of each explanation, and to rate the quality of each explanation in various respects. Participants could not differentiate between explanations given by in-group members and out-group members who imagined the same perspective. They responded more favorably to explanations given from own perspective than from the imagined perspectives. The results suggest that there exists a shared understanding about how both sides should explain attitudinal behavior, but it is measurably different from the actual explanations.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal attitudes, perspectives, EU

**Referens:** [Dimdins, G.](#), [Montgomery, H.](#), & Austers, I. (2003). The false polarization effect in explanations of attitudinal behaviour. *Current Research in Social Psychology*, 8, 275-301.

**Abstract:** Supporters and opponents of Latvia's EU membership rated attitudinal behavior of EU supporters and opponents on a number of causal explanation scales from their own perspective and simulated perspectives of both groups. From a target's in-group perspective, both groups rated the causes of behavior as more stable, controllable and rational, and less subjective and less influenced by others than the respective group did from their own perspective. Although the results were not consistent for all rating scales and all perspectives, the study demonstrates that a false polarization effect occurs in explanations of attitudinal behavior. Directions for future research are discussed.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal false polarization effect, attitudes, EU

**Referens:** Dixon, R.A., Bäckman, L., & [Nilsson, L.-G.](#) (in press). *New frontiers in cognitive aging*. New York: Oxford University Press.

**Abstract:** This book contains 17 chapters in five different sections. One single introductory chapter is included in the first section. In this chapter Dixon and Nilsson discuss what the frontiers of cognitive aging are. The second section contains chapters by Denise Park, Christopher Herzog, David F. Hultsch, and Leah Light, who discuss new theoretical orientations in cognitive aging. The third section is on new directions in the cognitive neuroscience of aging with chapters by Naftali Raz, Lars Nyberg, Lars Bäckman, and Roberto Cabeza. The fourth section, on biological and health effects on cognitive aging, includes chapters by Ulman Lindenberger, Helene Christensen, Nancy L. Pedersen, Agneta Herlitz, Åke Wahlin, Peter Graf, and Paul Verhaegen. In the final section Daniel R. Birch discusses research directions, perspectives, and imperatives for the future.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) cognition, memory, aging

**Referens:** Dixon, R.A., & Nilsson, L.-G. (in press). Don't fence us in: Probing the frontiers of cognitive aging. In R. A. Dixon, L. Bäckman & L.-G. Nilsson (Eds.), *New frontiers in cognitive aging*. New York: Oxford University Press.

**Abstract:** This chapter describes the multidisciplinary nature of cognitive aging research. The main components that of this area are the aging neuroscience of cognition, aging health context of cognition, the genetics of cognition, the biological/physiological substrates of cognition, and new methodological techniques for measuring multiple aging-related influences on cognition. Rather than viewing these aspects of the context as separate and non-interactive influences, one may imagine that a defined subset of them may operate to form the critical epidemiological context of targeted phenomena in cognitive aging.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) aging, cognition, neuroscience

**Referens:** Dixon, R.A., Wahlin, Å., Maitland, S.B., Hultsch, D.V., Hertzog, C., & Bäckman, L. (in press). Profiles of episodic memory change in late adulthood: Generalizability across samples and performance indices. *Memory & Cognition*.

**Abstract:** Younger adults recall more information from episodic memory tasks than do older adults. Because longitudinal studies are rare and often incompatible, the extent of actual late-life memory change is not well-established. We assemble two different longitudinal samples of normal older adults, each of which is tested twice at a 3-year interval using a battery of episodic memory indicators. Together, two-wave data from both the Victoria Longitudinal Study in Canada (VLS; n=400) and the Kungsholmen Project in Sweden (KP; n=168) cover a 40-year span of adulthood, ranging from 54 to 94 years of age. Principal memory tasks include categorizable word lists, story recall, and random word lists, as well as indicators of cognitive support. Overall, examination of performance on sets of common and complementary episodic tasks reveal that for both samples actual 3-year changes are modest and that when decline occurs it is gradual. The exception - greater decline for more supported tasks - suggests that these may be especially sensitive to late-life changes.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal aging, episodic memory, longitudinal

**Referens:** Dåderman, A.M., & Kristiansson, M. (in press). Psychopathy-related personality traits in male juvenile delinquents: An application of a person-oriented approach. *International Journal of Law and Psychiatry*.

**Abstract:** We have employed cluster analysis on a sample of juvenile delinquents that included about 60% psychopaths (PCL-R) with scores above 30, and examined the relationships between psychopathy-related personality traits and psychopathy in order to highlight the need of different treatment strategies. The juvenile delinquents were 56 males with early onset of conduct disorder (DSM-IV) whose ages ranged from 14 to 20 years, with a mean of 17 years (SD=1.2), from four youth correctional institutions in Sweden. Personality traits were measured along five dimensions: impulsiveness, monotony avoidance, socialization, verbal aggression, and somatic anxiety; scales were taken from the Karolinska Scales of Personality. With respect to personality traits, we discovered seven clusters; three of these were multi-deviant clusters (the members of these clusters had all traits deviant from what is normal), three of these consisted of participants for who the majority of traits were deviant (only one or two traits were within the normal range), and one of these consisted of participants for who all traits were within the normal range. No significant correlations were found between the personality scale scores and the PCL-R scores. We suggest that juvenile delinquents are a heterogeneous group and that young people with psychopathy may develop different personality pattern. The classification will be helpful in managing therapeutic efforts in male adolescents with conduct disorder.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal psychopathy (PCL-R), cluster analysis, juvenile delinquents

**Referens:** Dåderman, A.M., Lindgren, M., & Lidberg, L. (in press). The prevalence of dyslexia and AD/HD in a sample of forensic psychiatric rapists. *Nordic Journal of Psychiatry*.

**Abstract:** The prevalence of dyslexia and Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (AD/HD) (DSM-IV) is markedly increased among those who are sentenced for criminal offences. The aim of the study was to identify developmental disabilities, dyslexia, and AD/HD among severely disturbed men in forensic psychiatric care, and to study the co-occurrence of such disabilities, with the objective to discuss the importance of the diagnoses in forensic psychiatry. The participants were ten males who had committed rape on adult women, and included two murder-rapists; one of which had murdered more than one victim (i.e., a serial murderer). All had been assigned to special long-term forensic psychiatric care, based predominantly on a psychodynamic ground. In order to be identified as having dyslexia, a participant's performance on at least three out of four tests of academic skills had to be markedly below the expected level (more than two stanine steps), given the participant's nonverbal intellectual capacity and considering the length of his education. AD/HD was investigated by studying the participants' forensic psychiatric files and by a clinical interview. Seven of the ten participants met the DSM-IV criteria for dyslexia, and six of them met the DSM-IV criteria for AD/HD. Four participants had AD/HD and dyslexia, three had AD/HD but no dyslexia, and two had dyslexia but no AD/HD. Only one participant had neither dyslexia nor AD/HD. The participants with dyslexia performed well in tests assessing nonverbal reasoning, visuo-spatial capacity, and visual memory. Although the generalisation of the results from ten rapists is severely limited, the results indicate the importance of assessing dyslexia as well as AD/HD in people who are admitted for forensic psychiatric assessment. The lack of correct diagnoses may negatively influence the choice of appropriate forensic psychiatric care. Early assessment of those disorders might have a positive influence on the psychological development and socialisation process in people with dyslexia and/or AD/HD.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal dyslexia, AD/HD, forensic, psychiatric, rapists

**Referens:** Eisler, A.D. (2003). The human sense of time: Biological, cognitive and cultural considerations. In R. Bucceri, M. Saniga & M. Stuckey (Eds.), *The Nature of Time: Geometry, Physics and Perception* (pp. 5-18). Dordrecht: Kluwer Academic Publishers.

**Abstract:** Psychological (subjective) time is the feeling of how time is passing, how much time seems to have gone by. Our inner clocks, most often circadian, are postulated as basic to our sense of internal time. Light seems to be the most prominent zeitgeber, or time giver, of biological rhythms. Most blind people respond to the same circadian rhythm as sighted people, presumably because social cues convey sufficient time-of-day information. The relationship between psychological (subjective, perceived) time and the universal objective (physical,

clock) time depends not only on the biological time sense, but also on age, gender, personality, cognitive ability, learning, culture, physical and social environment, and so on. Disruption of psychological time is a central feature of many kinds of psychopathology, for instance in certain individuals with organic brain lesions, in schizophrenics, in depressive patients, etc. Disruption of psychological time, or of the time sense, influences behavior and leads to an impairing of the sense of identity, thereby giving rise to the feeling of depersonalization. Some results from my empirical research are presented in terms of biological, cognitive, developmental, cultural, and psychopathological factors.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) brain, internal clock, schizophrenics

**Referens:** Eisler, A.D., Eisler, H., & Yoshida, M. (2003). Perception of human ecology: cross-cultural and gender comparisons. *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, 23, 89-101.

**Abstract:** This study examined cultural and gender influences on attitudes, beliefs, opinions, and perceived risk factors in human ecology; further, on the level of knowledge about nature and the environment, and finally, on behavior affecting the environment. Subjects from Japan, Germany, Sweden, and the United States completed a survey scale consisting of seven components: (1) image of the sea, (2) image of the mountain, (3) image of the river, (4) sea affairs score, (5) environmental attitudes scale, (6) environmental knowledge scale, and (7) environmental behavior scale. Cultural differences revealed by the analyses included the following: (1) the Japanese group rated the sea, the mountain, and the river as less pleasant than did the other three groups, (2) the Japanese had the highest scores in environmental knowledge and the Americans the lowest, (3) the German group had the lowest sea affairs scores, and (4) both the German and the Swedish participants described and evaluated their behavior as most protective and the Japanese as least protective of the environment. Gender differences were also obtained, between as well as within cultures. Compared with male subjects, female subjects across countries perceived the risk factors as more serious as regards ecological and environmental problems, the global instability caused by economic nationalism, and the growing gap between rich and poor nations. Male subjects showed higher environmental knowledge, whereas females showed higher motivation for ecological thinking and behavior. These findings are discussed in terms of culture, gender, and cognition.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal culture, ecology, perception

**Referens:** Eisler, A.D., Eisler, H., & Yoshida, M. (2003). Perception of global risks: A human ecological approach. In B. Berglund & E. Borg (Eds.), *Fechner Day 2003* (pp. 65-70). Stockholm, Sweden: International Society for Psychophysics.

**Abstract:** Most studies of risk perception and risk judgments have focused on risks which may occur in a single culture. In contrast, the current article presents cross-cultural comparisons of perception of global risks, thereby involving a human ecological approach. Global risk perceptions were compared between German, Japanese, Swedish and American groups. The subjects were required to categorize listed global risk factors into the five most serious and the rest, that is, those perceived as less serious or not serious at all. The results show striking similarities as well as differences and provide substantial evidence that cultural values are significant predictors of perceived global risks. The data also indicate the potential role of research in a cross-cultural perspective, with orientation toward human ecology, using psychophysical methods, for international and national practices regarding political, economic and environmental decisions.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings Book (chapter) cultural values, perception, risk factors, Fechner Day

**Referens:** Eisler, A.D., Eisler, H., & Yoshida, M. (2003). The impact of culture and gender on risk perception. In *Abstract Book of the 8th European Congress of Psychology*, p. 184. Vienna, Austria: The Austrian Psychological Association. (ISSN 1025-1839)

**Abstract:** The purpose of this study was to examine cultural diversity as well as cultural similarity of perceived risk factors. The intention was also to enrich our understanding of cultural variations in risk perception. To what extent agree people of different cultures in their worries about the same dangers, and to what extent perceive people of one cultural group as great certain risks that people of other cultural groups think of as small? A central thesis is that perception of risk factors, and how people respond to risks, are dependent on culture, gender, etc. Subjects from Germany, Japan, Sweden, and the United States completed a survey including 34 serious risk factors. The result revealed that nuclear weapons and energy problems were perceived as high-risk factors by the Japanese group, ozone hole and unemployment by the German, air pollution by the Swedish, and racial segregation by the United States group. Unexpectedly, the German and the Swedish participants were most concerned about hunger and poverty. Another similarity is that overpopulation was viewed as a high-risk factor by both the Swedish and the United States group. Gender differences were also obtained, between as well as within cultures. The females perceived the risk factors as more serious than male subjects. Thus our current research provides substantial evidence that cultural values and gender roles are significant predictors of perceived risks. The result is discussed in terms of the trend of globalization, and of the diffusion of technological risks beyond national borders.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings cognition, perception, risks

**Referens:** Eisler, A.D., Eisler, H., & Yoshida, M. (2003). The differences between self-reported behavior, and attitudes and belief toward global environmental issues. In M. Fulop & M. Berkics (Eds.), *Abstract Book of the 6th European Congress of the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology* (p. 101). Budapest, Hungary: The Institute for Psychology, Hungarian Academy of Sciences. (ISBN 963 0000 00 0)

**Abstract:** The relationship between attitudes, value orientation and reported behavior regarding global environmental issues was studied across four cultures. Participants from Germany, Japan, Sweden and the United States (N=1317) completed a survey questionnaire and the results showed differences between attitudes and self-reported behavior concerning global environmental issues, and a tendency for these differences to be greater in the German and in the Swedish group than in the Japanese and the American. Furthermore, the German and the Swedish participants viewed their countries as protecting the environment to a greater degree, than the Japanese. Implications of these findings are discussed and the potential role of cross-cultural research in view of present environmental problems, focusing on behavior, various hazards, and serious technological mishaps, is stressed.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings Book (chapter) behavior, culture, environment

- Referens:** Eisler, H. (2003). The parallel-clock model: A tool for quantification of experienced duration. In R. Buccieri, M. Saniga & M. Stuckey (Eds.), *The Nature of Time: Geometry, Physics and Perception* (pp. 19-26). Dordrecht: Kluwer Academic Publishers.
- Abstract:** Subjective, psychological, experienced time (duration) practically never agrees with clock time. Psychophysics, instead of regarding this as error, constructs subjective scales and relates these to the physical scales. For almost all modalities the psychophysical function proved to be a power function, in its simplest form  $T = kS^{\alpha}$ , where  $S$  denotes subjective,  $T$  physical magnitude, and the exponent  $\alpha$  is characteristic for the pertinent modality. The exponent is, e.g., about .6 for loudness (vs. sound pressure), 1.5 for heaviness, and .9 for time (durations in the second range). One common psychophysical method is to ask an observer to halve or double a sensation. From the empirically found linearity between set ratios and standards the power function can be derived mathematically. However, psychophysical scaling experiments are based on observers' conception of numbers, like 1/2 or 2, the epistemological status of which is not quite clear. The parallel-clock model provides an elegant solution of this problem. It builds on duration reproduction, that is, a standard of a certain duration is indicated by, e.g., noise, and after a short pause (a silent interval) the noise resumes and is terminated by the observer when s/he experiences that the noise after the pause has lasted as long as the standard duration. The reproduced duration is a linear function of the standard duration, entailing a power function for subjective time, too. According to the parallel-clock model the total subjective duration (standard + reproduction, that is, the duration from the onset of the standard to the offset of the reproduction) is accumulated in one sensory register ("internal clock"), and the subjective counterpart of the reproduction in another. The observer experiences the two durations to be of the same length when the difference between the total subjective duration  $T_{total}$  and the subjective duration of the reproduction  $T_{reproduction}$  equals the subjective duration of the reproduction  $T_{reproduction}$ . Accordingly, the subjective reproduced duration is half of the subjective total duration. In this way the scaling necessary number (here 1/2) is introduced by means of the model rather than by the observer. The parallel-clock model, which thus makes quantification of subjective duration possible, was tested empirically both in humans and rats. After a detailed mathematical description certain applications of the model on experimental data will be mentioned.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) duration, mathematical modeling, subjective time
- Referens:** Eisler, H. (2003). Det förflutna med en skymt av nuet. I L.-G. Nilsson (Ed.), *Psykologiska institutionen: En Jubileumsbok* (pp. 213-222). Stockholm: Psykologiska institutionen, Stockholms universitet.
- Abstract:**
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) förflytten tid, minne, utveckling
- Referens:** Ek, U., Fellenius, K., & Jacobson, L. (2003). Reading acquisition, cognitive and visual development and self-esteem in four young persons with cerebral visual impairment. *Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness*, 97, 741-755.
- Abstract:** We performed a longitudinal in-depth study of reading acquisition, cognitive and visual development in four children with cerebral visual impairment. During the study period (1996-2002) their visual acuity improved, full scale IQ declined mostly due to difficulties in abstract thinking, visual cognitive organization and extremely low processing speed. They had a poor interest in reading but all acquired reading and writing abilities in different media.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal CVI, cognitive, vision
- Referens:** Ek, U., Holmberg, K., de Geer, L., Swärd, C., & Fernell, E. (in press). Behavioural and learning problems in school-children related to cognitive test data. *Acta Paediatrica Scandinavica*.
- Abstract:** Aim: To assess cognitive functions in children who were reported by their teachers and parents to exhibit learning and/or behavioural problems, especially in the field of attention.
- Method: In connection with the scheduled school health examination in grade 4 in one municipality, 591 children were screened through questionnaires and interviews with the parents and teachers. Those with positive rating scores were subjected to further cognitive assessments, including the WISC III. A cluster analysis based on cognitive data was performed.
- Results: One third (175 children) of the population obtained a positive rating score, indicating significant behavioural and/or learning problems. Of these, 144 children were assessed. Cluster analysis revealed six clusters. Within these clusters two large groups were identified: one group displayed generally low cognitive abilities and one group was dominated by attention deficit symptoms.
- Conclusion: We found a surprisingly high number of positive rating scores in the cohort (30%). This could be explained on the one hand by known developmental disorders, such as mental retardation and learning disabilities, ADHD and pervasive developmental disorders and, on the other hand, by prevalent milder cognitive dysfunctions that, in combination with inappropriate demands, seemed to lead to overt behavioural problems.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal behavioural and learning problems, school children, ADHD
- Referens:** Eklund, J., Freidenfelt, J., & af Klinteberg, B. (2003). Psykosocial problematik - individen i fokus. [Psychosocial problems - the individual at focus.] *Socialmedicinsk tidskrift*, 3, 268-277.
- Abstract:** Results from studies on childhood and adolescent risk factors associated with alcohol problems, criminality and violent offending are presented. The theoretical framework based on neuropsychological functioning and the

interplay between psychological and biological factors in the development of psychosocial disturbances is discussed in terms of health equity aspects.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal psychosocial dysfunctioning, vulnerability, development, individual differences

**Referens:** Eklund, J.M., & af Klinteberg, B. (2003). Childhood behaviour as related to subsequent drinking offences and violent offending: a prospective study of 11-14 year old youths into their fourth decade. *Criminal Behaviour and Mental Health*, 13(4), 294-309.

**Abstract:** Childhood hyperactivity has previously been found to be closely connected to subsequent alcohol problems and violent offending among men considered to be without major mental disorders. For others, these associations might be moderated or confounded by other factors, predominantly comorbid conduct disorder. The purpose of the study was to investigate aspects of childhood hyperactive behaviour in relation to alcohol or violent offences in adult life, taking the possible confounders of early criminality and aggressive behaviour into account. Method A total of 192 young male law breakers and 95 non-criminal controls were followed from age 11-14 years into their thirties. Information on aspects of hyperactivity, aggressive behaviour, early criminality and later offences was included in the analyses. The results supported the hypothesis that aspects of childhood hyperactive behaviour were significantly associated with later drinking offences and violent offending. Further analyses revealed attention difficulties to be the component of hyperactivity most contributing to the relationship. When taking possible confounding variables into consideration, attention difficulties were related to subsequent violent offending among boys with early criminality, independently of early aggressive behaviour. Early criminality, attention difficulties and aggressive behaviour, however, often co-occurred in the same individual. Subsequent drinking offences or violent offending appeared seven times more often among individuals with all early behavioural problems as compared with those who had no such problems. Conclusion: Complex antisocial behaviours in adult life commonly represent persistence of complex childhood behavioural difficulties, but among young law breakers there does appear to be a subgroup of boys with a main problem of attention difficulties who go on to violent offending, even in the absence of early manifestation of aggression.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal hyperactive behavior, aggression, attention difficulties, alcohol, violence

**Referens:** Eklund, J.M., & af Klinteberg, B. (2003). Invited presentation 'Violent behaviour, alcohol and drug use among adolescents as related to sex and personality characteristics'. *Scientific Meeting on Nordic Alcohol Research (NAR) 'Alcohol and Stress'*, Gothenburg, October 9-11.

**Abstract:** The study focused on patterns of violent behaviour, alcohol and drug use in adolescents in 8th grade (age 14 years, n=966), and examined whether these patterns are associated with personality differences. Similarities and dissimilarities between girls and boys were also studied. Person-oriented analyses revealed that violent behaviour and alcohol use, with or without drug use occurred in the same individual more often than could be expected by chance. Adolescents with combined violent behaviour and alcohol use were generally characterized by higher extraversion, lower conformity, higher anxiety and higher aggressiveness with more pronounced differences among girls. Although few boys and girls reported both alcohol and drug use, those adolescents had higher frequency of intoxication, were more often involved in violent behaviour and among the girls there were indications of personality differences similar to the suggested type II alcoholism features in adults. Conclusions: Personality differences associated with violence and alcohol use among adults can also be found in adolescents. Although it is more common among boys, girls engaging in e.g. violent behaviour may be more deviant. Looking at a combination of early problem behaviours might help identifying a group of adolescents at risk for more serious problems.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings person-oriented method, alcohol, violent behavior, personality traits

**Referens:** Eklund, J.M., & af Klinteberg, B. (2003). Presentation 'Childhood behaviour, subsequent drinking offences and violent offending: a prospective study of males with a history of early criminal behaviour'. The 11th Biennial Meeting of the International Society for the Study of Individual Differences, Graz, Austria, July 13-17.

**Abstract:** Earlier, child hyperactivity was related to both subsequent alcohol problems and violent offending in a group of normal male subjects. However, these associations might be moderated or confounded by other factors, predominantly conduct behaviour problems. The purpose of the present study was to investigate aspects of child hyperactive behaviour in relation to subsequent drinking offences and violent offending as well as possible confounding factors in a group of young male delinquents. Lawbreakers and controls were followed from age 11-14 years to adult age (n=287 boys), concerning early criminality, attention difficulties, motor restlessness, aggressive behaviour, later drinking offences and violent offending. In a person-oriented approach, child hyperactive behaviour – as a combination of attention difficulties and motor restlessness – was closely connected to later drinking offences and violent offending, forming a significant 'type'. Further analysis revealed attention difficulties to be the component of hyperactivity contributing to the relationships. Finally, when taking possible confounding variables into consideration, drinking offences with violent offending was found more common than expected among males characterized by persistent early criminality and attention difficulties, with or without aggressive behaviour. A focus on the issue of co-morbidity in the study of behaviour problems and psychosocial health outcome is discussed.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings hyperactive behavior, confounding factors, alcohol, violence, longitudinal study

**Referens:** Eklund, J.M., & af Klinteberg, B. (2003). Presentation 'Violent behaviour, alcohol and drug use among adolescents as related to sex, personality characteristics and psychopathic traits'. The Third Annual International Association of Forensic Mental Health Services (IAFMHS) Conference 'From Institutions to the Community', Miami Beach, Florida, April 9-12.

**Abstract:** The study focuses on patterns of violent behaviour, alcohol and drug use in adolescent girls and boys in 8th grade (age 14 years, n=approx. 1200), and examines whether these patterns are associated with differences in personality characteristics and psychopathic traits. Similarities and dissimilarities between girls and boys are also presented.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings person-oriented method, alcohol, drug use, violent behavior, personality traits, gender differences

- Referens:** El-Khoury, B.M., & Mellner, C. (in press). Symptom development and timing of menarche: A longitudinal study. *International Journal of Psychiatric Research*.
- Abstract:** Self-reported somatic complaints among females were studied cross sectionally at age 15 and 43, and longitudinally between these two ages. Specifically, the relationship between symptom development and timing of menarche was considered. The sample consisted of 477 females representing the general Swedish population. All the included symptoms were significantly related to each other at both ages. There was also longitudinal correlational stability for all the studied symptoms. In addition, symptoms at age 15 were associated with early menarcheal timing. Moreover, pattern analyses of the studied symptoms were conducted with roots in person-oriented methodology. These results revealed structural as well as individual stability in patterns of symptom reporting for nearly thirty years. That is, similar configurations of symptoms were found at both ages, and it was the same females who reported being either symptom free or reporting a high symptom load at both ages. Moreover, at age 15 fewer early maturing females than expected by chance, whereas more of the late maturing females than expected, reported being symptom free. However, there were no effects of menarcheal timing on symptom reporting at age 43.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal biological maturation, somatic complaints, females
- Referens:** Englund, P., Nilsson, L.-G., Persson, T., & Weibull, J. (2003). Pioneers in psychological and experimental economics. [Pionjärer inom psykologisk och experimentell ekonomi.] *Ekonomisk debatt*, 1, 7-14.
- Abstract:** Economic theory has traditionally assumed a "homo oeconomicus", whose actions are driven by self-interest and rationality. Economy has also been seen as a non-experimental science in which, like astronomy and meteorology, one is limited to draw conclusions on the basis of direct observations in the economic reality. This picture has changed during the last two decades. Controlled experiments in the laboratory plays an important role in economic research today. The results from such experiments sometimes make basic postulates in economic theory questionable. This development has been driven by researchers in two areas that are in the process of merging- cognitive psychologists studies on judgement and decisionmaking, and experimental economists tests of economic models in the laboratory. The economyprize in 2002 is rewarding the two definitive pioneers in these two areas: Daniel Kahneman and Vernon Smith.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal economics, experimental, cognitive psychology
- Referens:** Engstad, T., Almkvist, O., Viitanen, M., Arnesen, E. (2003). Impaired motor speed, visuospatial episodic memory and verbal fluency characterize cognition in long-term stroke survivors: the Tromso Study. *Neuroepidemiology*, 22, 326-331.
- Abstract:** The cognitive function after stroke is examined in acute and subacute phase, but poorly characterized in long-term stroke survivors. This paper discusses cognitive function among long-term stroke survivors, with matched stroke-free subjects, based on a population survey. General cognition, verbal, executive and visuospatial function, memory, attention, and motor speed were tested as well as motor function in upper extremities. Stroke survivors and controls were most effectively discriminated by means of motor speed, followed by visuospatial episodic memory and verbal fluency. This pattern of cognitive disturbances may be a consequence of cerebral lesions in frontal subcortical areas, and is different from Alzheimer's disease.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal stroke, cognitive function, visuospatial ability
- Referens:** Enkvist, J. (2003). A study of operator performance in a visual NDT inspection task by remote video camera. *Insight*, 45, 4 April., pp 252-257.
- Abstract:** In a performance detection test (PDT), ten operators inspected submerged ceramic plates for cracks, simulating inspection of internal components of water-cooled reactors. The demands in the present study were higher than what the procedure used was qualified for. Despite this, overall performance was good. For cracks covered by the original procedure (40mm and wider) the performance was excellent for even the strictest criterion (>95% hits). The average number of false calls was only 7.8%. Performance did not deteriorate significantly with time. The operators were highly consistent in their assessments, more than 92% of the indications were given the same assessment by the same operator in the first and in the second half of the PDT. The operators considered not being under time pressure as an important prerequisite for good performance. Since the number of false calls were low, operators were recommended to use a more lenient criterion in order to reduce the number of misses. It was concluded that with reasonable demands on designated flaw-size, operators achieve high performance. Also, it was concluded that inspecting in two instalments could improve performance.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal visual inspection, human factors, performance
- Referens:** Enkvist, J. (2003). *A human factors perspective on non-destructive testing (NDT): detection and identification of cracks*. Department of Psychology, Stockholm University (Doctoral dissertation).
- Abstract:** The main purpose of the present thesis is to give a human factors perspective on non-destructive testing (NDT) and to suggest how NDT reliability can be improved. By applying NDT it is possible to find cracks in different components before they become dangerous (e.g., in power plants and aircraft). Earlier studies on human factors in NDT have reported large variations in operator performance. However, no clear relationships have been found between inspection performance and relevant human factors. With a theoretical basis in the theory of human information processing, and the signal detection theory, the present thesis explores how NDT inspections are made and how the operators use the sometimes ambiguous information to make decisions with potentially severe consequences. Ultimately, the goal of this line of research is to increase NDT reliability by improving operator training, inspection procedures, and NDT equipment. The thesis includes one literature study and four experimental studies (studies II-V). The literature study gives a broad introduction to the psychological perspective on non-destructive testing. The experimental studies were designed as performance demonstration tests, where professional NDT operators performed actual inspections of test pieces that contained cracks and other flaws. Study II and III concerned manual ultrasonic testing, whereas the operators in study IV and V used visual inspection. One overall conclusion was that operator performance could benefit from the operator being aided in collecting relevant information. Another overall conclusion was that by making the assessments more lenient, operator performance could increase (at the expense of an acceptable increased false alarm rate). The results of the studies were discussed under three different themes, equipment and task design,

assessment aids, and psychosocial and physical environment. The equipment design plays an important role in operator performance; when the operators have to focus relatively much on the application of the equipment this takes important attention resources away from the primary task (i.e., the inspection). The implementation of assessment aids can help the operators to gather and consider relevant information before making their final assessments. It is also important to consider the psychosocial and physical environment, motivation plays an important role for the quality of NDT, a negative environment can affect the operators' performance negatively. For the operators to learn from their experience it is necessary that they receive feedback on their performance (e.g., from their organisation and through decision feedback).

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Dissertation human factors, performance, signal detection

**Referens:** Falkenberg, H., Sverke, M., & Andersson-Stråberg, T. (2003). Does privatization affect the employees? Climate, attitudes, and health in two emergency hospitals in Sweden. Poster presented at the VIIth European Conference on Organizational Psychology and Health Care, Vienna, 8-11 October 2003.

**Abstract:** During the last two decades the influence of market forces has increased, and a growing number of privatizations have been implemented in Sweden. The privatizations have been carried out in many different types of organizations. Health care is one of the sectors that have been exposed to major changes, and one of the most dramatic projects in this area is the privatization of an emergency hospital in Stockholm. Despite the number of privatizations, little is known about how privatization affects the employees. The main objective of this study is to investigate whether privatization of the emergency hospital led to changes in employees' perceptions of role stress, work related attitudes and strain. We also investigate if employees at different levels of the organization differ in their perception of the variables mentioned. The privatized hospital is compared with an emergency hospital that has remained a public administration unit. Longitudinal data of physicians, registered nurses and assistant nurses at both hospitals is used to evaluate the effects of the privatization. The results indicate that on an overall hospital level, a privatization does not appear to affect role stress, work related attitudes or strain. However different occupational groups were affected differently. Physicians were the group most affected by the privatization. Their situation was improved at the privatized hospital but impaired at the comparison hospital. Nurses at the privatized hospital reported more negative attitudes after the privatization while nurses at the comparison hospital reported more positive attitudes. There were only minor changes for assistant nurses at both hospitals.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings privatization, health-care, climate, attitudes, health

**Referens:** Falkenberg, H., Sverke, M., Hellgren, J., & Näswall, K. (in press). Sjukvård på bolag eller i förvaltningsform: Hur påverkas personalen? [Health care in a public stock company or in a public administration unit: How are the employees affected?] *Arbetsmarknad & Arbetsliv*.

**Abstract:** The forming of public stock companies has been common in the health care sector for some time. Despite this, the knowledge of how such transformations affect personnel is rather limited. The present study focuses on what impact the transformation of St Görans hospital into a public stock company had on the staff. The initial assumption has been that a change of type of management entails an organizational restructuring, which may result in changes of the employees' work climate as well as affecting their attitudes towards work and the organization. In order to investigate this, data were collected at two points in time, at both St Görans hospital and Södertälje hospital. The results show that leadership and organizational commitment developed in a positive way in the public stock company St Göran, but also that the transformation into a public stock company resulted in some role overload. One conclusion is that the forming of a public stock company not necessarily has to be negative for the employees if the conditions are favorable and the leaders are highly involved.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal work climate, attitudes, organizational change, health care

**Referens:** Floderus, B., Göransson, S.G.M., Alexanderson, K., & Aronsson, G. (2003). The influence of long-term sick leave on daily life. *Arbete och hälsa*, 13.

**Abstract:** The aim of the study was to analyse the influence of long-term sick leave on different aspects of daily life. The study group consisted of 862 men and women with a consecutive sick leave period of 12-18 months. Half of the group was still sick-listed when the individuals were contacted. The participants answered a mail questionnaire including 24 questions on negative and positive effects of their sick leave.

The most common negative influence was attributed to economy. In addition, more than every second individual (55-68%) reported less opportunity and desire to participate in leisure time activities, social and family activities, impaired sleep and reduced psychological well-being. Half of the individuals reported a more negative self-image. Negative effects on the relations to partner, children, family and friends were reported by 20-29% while 11-18% reported positive influences. Positive effects were mainly found for lifestyle, alcohol- and smoking habits and relations to children and partner. Positive consequences were more common than negative in one respect only - use of alcohol. The response patterns differed with gender, age and diagnosis. In the group with psychological diagnoses the consequences were polarised with few persons unaffected while in the group with musculoskeletal and other diagnoses, the consequences to a much higher degree were unipolar and negative. Those who reported a positive influence on sleep showed an increased probability of being back in work, particularly among the elderly.

The knowledge about potential consequences of long-term sick leave is very limited. Considering a high and increasing prevalence in many European countries, the high societal costs involved and the negative effects indicated for the individual, further studies are warranted, including methodological development within this research area.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal long term sick leave, population study, influences on daily life

**Referens:** Freidenfelt, J., & af Klinteberg, B. (2003). Are negative social and psychological childhood characteristics of significant importance in the development of psychosocial dysfunctioning? *International Journal of Forensic Mental Health*, 2(2), 181-193.

**Abstract:** The development of mental health from childhood to adulthood, as well as the associations between childhood hyperactive and non-hyperactive behavior versus adult psychopathic traits, were studied. The central target of examination was to focus on the importance of social and psychological risk characteristics in the psychosocial development of criminal risk individuals and a comparison group. Prospective longitudinal data from the research program 'Young Lawbreakers as Adults' (n=199) was used. Childhood maltreatment, poor friendships and adjustment problems were found to precede deterioration in mental health over the life span. Hyperactive individuals characterized by poor friendships and a display of aggression affects showed psychopathic traits in adulthood. Non-hyperactive individuals, also displaying psychopathic traits in adulthood, were instead found to have been maltreated and displayed adjustment difficulties in childhood. The results, indicating individual different needs of vulnerable children in the development of psychosocial dysfunctioning, were discussed in terms of the elaboration of preventive efforts within the area 'youth and antisocial behavior'.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal childhood maltreatment, psychosocial dysfunctioning, development, individual differences

**Referens:** Freidenfelt, J., & af Klinteberg, B. (2003). Presentation 'Adulthood personality and psychopathic traits in males displaying Hyperactive or No Hyperactive behaviour in childhood'. The 11th Biennial Meeting of the International Society for the Study of Individual Differences, Graz, Austria, July 13-17.

**Abstract:** The development of mental health from childhood to adulthood, as well as the associations between childhood hyperactive and non-hyperactive behaviour and adult psychopathic traits, were studied. The central target of examination was to focus on the importance of social and psychological risk and protective factors in the psychosocial development of criminal risk individuals and their controls. A variable approach was applied, using prospective longitudinal data from the research programme 'Young Lawbreakers as Adults' (n=199). Childhood maltreatment, poor friendships and attention and adjustment problems were found to be predictive of deterioration in mental health over the life span. Hyperactive individuals characterised by poor friendships and a display of aggression affect showed psychopathic traits in adulthood. Non-hyperactive individuals, who also showed psychopathic traits in adulthood had been maltreated in childhood, displayed profound adjustment difficulties and some attention problems in childhood. In a broader perspective, the results from this study can be of importance in the elaboration of preventive treatment programs within the area 'youth and antisocial behaviour'. Knowledge of individual different needs of vulnerable children might potentially guide them in the direction of "normal" psychosocial functioning.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings hyperactivity, mental health, psychopathy, longitudinal study, prevention

**Referens:** Freidenfelt, J., & af Klinteberg, B. (2003). Presentation 'Adulthood personality and psychopathic traits in males displaying Hyperactive or No Hyperactive behaviour in childhood'. The Third Annual International Association of Forensic Mental Health Services (IAFMHS) Conference 'From Institutions to the Community', Miami Beach, Florida, April 9-12.

**Abstract:** Personality in relation to psychopathic traits at adult age in subgroups of males displaying either hyperactivity or no hyperactivity symptoms in childhood was studied prospectively. It was found that hyperactive boys have an impulsivity personality style. Non-hyperactive boys had anxiety-prone, aggressive and callous lack of empathy related personality traits at the same time as they had high socialisation.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings hyperactive behavior, psychopathy, personality traits, longitudinal study

**Referens:** Fruhstorfer, H., Harju, E.L., & Lindblom, U.F. (2003). The significance of A- $\delta$  and C fibres for the perception of synthetic heat. *European Journal of Pain*, 7, 63-71.

**Abstract:** Synthetic heat is a perception of strong, but not painful, heat arising when skin is stimulated by an alternating pattern of adjacent cold and warmth. This study examines the contribution of different classes of nerve fibres to this perception. In 40 subjects changes in synthetic heat and thermal perceptions were studied during a 30-min ischaemic nerve block in one reaction time, and one threshold determination task. Synthetic heat stimuli were described as hot or warm, but not as painful, and were preceded by a transient cold. Reaction times for synthetic heat stimuli did not differ from those for cold stimuli. Thresholds for synthetic heat and thermal stimuli were similar. During a fibre nerve block the perception of synthetic heat lost the cold component whereas the frequency of hot and warm descriptors did not change. The perception of cold stimuli changed, such that pure cold was replaced by dysaesthetic descriptors. Reaction times and thresholds for thermal and synthetic heat stimuli increased equally during the nerve block. It is concluded that the perception of synthetic heat most likely arises from the fusion of signals dependent on unmyelinated low threshold cold and warm receptors. It is not dependent on A- $\delta$  cold fibres, and a contribution of nociceptors is quite unlikely. The possibility of a psychological contribution at the perceptual level is discussed.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal synthetic heat perception, perception threshold, reaction time

**Referens:** Fullagar, C., Sumer, H.C., Sverke, M., & Slick, R. (2003). Managerial sex role stereotyping: A cross-cultural analysis. *International Journal of Cross-Cultural Management*, 3, 93-107.

**Abstract:** Sex-role stereotyping of middle managers and the nature of sex stereotypes were investigated in two culturally distinct student samples from Turkey and Sweden. Based on existing empirical and theoretical evidence it was hypothesized that there would be considerably less sex-role stereotyping of management in Sweden than in Turkey. Findings of this study were also compared with those reported by Schein and Mueller on US, British, and German samples. Consistent with previous research, the results indicated that there is a predominant male stereotype associated with successful middle management. Yet, unexpectedly, sex-role stereotyping was observed to be weaker among Turkish participants than Swedish participants. Finally, although the nature of sex stereotypes differed for the two countries, the profile of successful managers was similar.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal cross-cultural research, leadership, sex-role stereotyping

**Referens:** Gidlöf Gunnarsson, A., & Berglund, B. (2003). SBS and chemical sensitivity in residents of renovated multi-family apartment buildings. *Healthy Buildings 2003*. Energy-Efficient Healthy Buildings: School of Design and Environment, National University of Singapore. (Available on CD.)

**Abstract:** Current remedial actions to buildings with indoor-environmental problems seem not to decrease efficiently residents' symptoms typical of the sick building syndrome (SBS). Apart from potential unsuccessful renovations

(cases), the cause could be that residents already have persistent symptoms due to sensitization mechanisms. The questionnaire study showed few significant differences in critical variables (e.g., SBS symptoms or indoor-environmental perceptions) between the cases and a referent random sample. In the total sample ( $n=1,622$ ), 15% fulfilled criteria for being SBS sensitive and 22% reported that they were chemically sensitive (CS). A configural frequency analysis of residents' response pattern in five variables [apartment renovation, signs of dampness in apartment, SBS sensitivity, CS, and psychological susceptibility (somatization)] revealed four response patterns (types) that were significantly more frequent than chance. The results show that the co-occurrence of one of the adverse building factors of the apartment and somatization in the resident is a prerequisite for SBS and/or CS to be reported by that resident.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings SBS sensitivity, renovation, psychological factors

**Referens:** Gidlöf Gunnarsson, A., Berglund, B., Haines, M.M., Nilsson, M.E., & Stansfeld, S.A. (2003). Psychological restoration in noise-exposed children. In R.G. de Jong, T. Houtgast, E.A.M. Franssen & W.F. Hofman (Eds.), *Noise as a Public Health Problem* (pp. 159-160). Schiedam, The Netherlands: International Commission on Biological Effects of Noise (ICBEN).

**Abstract:**

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings Book (chapter) psychological restoration, traffic noise, noise annoyance

**Referens:** Gidlöf Gunnarsson, A., Berglund, B., & Nilsson, M.E. (2003). Utilizing noise sensitivity in long-term and short-term noise annoyance model. In B. Berglund & E. Borg (Eds.), *Fechner Day 2003* (pp. 103-108). Stockholm: International Society for Psychophysics.

**Abstract:** A soundscape field study was conducted in three urban residential areas, differently exposed to road-traffic noise. Based on questionnaire reports, noise sensitive and noise insensitive residents were identified. Subsamples of each class ( $n=24+20$ ) participated in walks involving six indoor and outdoor listening places in their home areas. Long-term noise annoyance (last 12 months) was registered in questionnaires and short-term annoyance in protocols of 30-s soundscape listening. Compared to noise insensitives, noise sensitives more often heard road-traffic sounds, and were significantly more long-term noise annoyed but also somewhat more short-term noise annoyed. Noise sensitives' long-term annoyance was not possible to predict from aggregated short-term noise annoyances referring to six listening places, indoors and outdoors. On the contrary, noise insensitives' long-term annoyance was significantly predicted from the model including six short-term noise annoyances; the most outstanding predictor was "outdoors at the sidewalk of the noisy street". The findings suggest that between-groups differences in long-term and short-term noise annoyances was dependent on where the soundscapes were heard, for instance, outdoors or indoors with closed or open window. Thus, contextual effects were found to be of great importance in soundscape evaluation.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings Book (chapter) soundscape, noise sensitivity, noise annoyance, Fechner Day

**Referens:** Goslinga, S., & Sverke, M. (2003). Atypical work and trade union membership: Union attitudes and union turnover intention among traditional versus atypically employed union members. *Economic and Industrial Democracy*, 24, 290-312.

**Abstract:** Using data from three European countries (Sweden, Italy, and The Netherlands), this study compares full-time and part-time as well as permanent and temporary employed trade union members on several union attitudes (commitment, support, trust, instrumentality and satisfaction) and union turnover intention. It was hypothesized that union attitudes would be less positive, and union turnover intentions would be higher among atypically employed members (part-timers and temporary workers). However, only few differences between full-timers and part-timers and between permanent and temporary workers were found, and the differences that did emerge were not consistent across samples. Moreover, the results revealed no differences between traditional and atypical workers in union turnover intention. In view of these findings, the authors discuss some of the practical and research implications.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal union attitudes, part-time work, temporary work

**Referens:** Göransson, S., Baraldi, S., Eriksson-Hallberg, U., & Näswall, K. (2003). Organizational Change. "Winners and losers". Poster presented at the VIIth European Conference on Organizational Psychology and Health Care, Vienna, 8-11 October 2003.

**Abstract:** As a result of globalisation and technical development the increased demands on companies have resulted in major as well as minor organizational changes lately. There is a lot of research about organizational change and the effects of change, but the individual's perception of change is often disregarded. Employees have expectations regarding work in general and, more specifically, how changes should be conducted, and these expectations could be understood in terms of a psychological contract between the parties. Individuals expect that a change will result in something that is better in some way. If the change turns out to be negative for the individual it is probable that the employee will react with diminished trust in management and negative attitudes toward the organization. The purpose of the present study is to investigate organizational change, the perception of change, and the effects on work related outcomes, such as turnover intention, trust, job satisfaction and organizational commitment. Our first hypothesis is that organizational change in itself does not explain variation in any of these work related outcomes, but rather, that the perception of change is central in predicting work related outcomes. White-collar workers in the private service sector answered a questionnaire ( $n=590$ ) and the results show that the perception of change is an important predictor of all work-related outcomes; the "winners" (those for whom things got better after the change) reported higher trust, satisfaction and organizational commitment as well as weaker intentions to turnover from the organization. The results indicate the importance of including the perception of change in models on organizational change. Further, it is important for organizations to implement changes in humane ways, if they want employees who trust the employer, are satisfied with the job and committed to the company.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings organizational change, perception of change, work related outcomes

**Referens:** Göransson, S., Näswall, K., & Sverke, M. (2003). Positive health beliefs at work: Impact on organizational attitudes. Paper presented at the 11th European Congress on Work and Organizational Psychology, Lisbon, 14-17 May 2003.

**Abstract:** The increasing rate of sick leave is a big problem in Sweden. The changing nature of work with increasing demands is believed to be one reason among many others for this growing problem. We argue that the debate in the media about the connection between work, health, and the rapidly increasing sick leave rate per se has increased the awareness of how work may affect health. Our hypothesis is that actual well-being, as well as positive work related health beliefs affect the individuals' attitudes toward work (job satisfaction and organizational commitment) and turnover intention (from Swedish white-collar workers). Preliminary results from 785 retail- and wholesale employees (self-reported questionnaire data) show that especially positive health beliefs at work is an important factor in explaining job satisfaction, organizational commitment and turnover intention. We argue that positive health beliefs is an important factor for predicting turnover intention and suggest that turnover models should be expanded with this concept. Effects of working conditions perceived as having a good or bad influence on individuals' health is discussed in terms of contract theories. Although the notion of work related health beliefs is rather new and needs further investigation, our results imply that the employer needs to either change something so that the individual does not perceive work to negatively affect health, or assist the individual in finding a new job before he or she gets sick.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings health beliefs, organizational attitudes, turnover intentions

**Referens:** Hallberg, U.E., & Sverke, M. (in press). Construct validity of the Maslach Burnout Inventory: Two Swedish Health Care samples. *European Journal of Psychological Assessment*.

**Abstract:** Burnout has become a serious matter in workplace health, and the Maslach Burnout Inventory (MBI) is today the most widely used instrument for assessing the construct empirically. The present study examined the construct validity of a Swedish translation of the instrument for human service employees (MBI-HSS). Data from two samples of health care workers (N=448 and N=462) were used to test six propositions concerning dimensionality, internal consistency, measurement model stability, and relationships with predictors and outcomes. Support for the postulated three-factor model of emotional exhaustion, depersonalization and (reduced) personal accomplishment as well as for adequate reliabilities of the dimensions was found. A post hoc modification of the MBI was suggested in order to improve model fit. Multi-group confirmatory factor analysis indicated stability of measurement model parameters across organizational settings. Moreover, the propositions about the association between the burnout dimensions and predictors and outcomes were partly supported. Taken together, these tests provide strong support for the construct validity of the Swedish translation of the MBI-HSS.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal burnout, dimensionality, construct validity

**Referens:** Harms, L., & Patten, C. (in press). Peripheral detection as a measure of driver distraction. A study of memory-based vs. system-based navigation in a built-up area. *Transportation Research Part F: Traffic Psychology and Behaviour*.

**Abstract:** The effect of in-vehicle information systems (IVIS) on traffic safety is currently under debate and suitable methods for measuring and comparing the impact of such devices on driver behavior are urgently required. The secondary task technique may be a good tool for objective measurement of driver distraction caused by IVIS. The present study summarises previous results of secondary task studies in traffic contexts and investigates the suitability of one secondary task method, the peripheral detection task (PDT) method, as a standard procedure for safety testing and evaluation of IVIS. The study was concerned with the effect of navigation messages on PDT-performance (reaction time and hit rate) taking into account also behavioral variables. Professional drivers served as subjects. They had extensive prior local-knowledge and experience of driving in the built-up area in which the experiment took place. They were required to drive two different routes, one after memory and the other in accordance with navigation messages a standard navigation system installed in the car. In the navigation system condition subjects were subdivided into three groups, receiving either verbal, visual or both visual and verbal (full) navigation messages. Driving behavior was virtually uninfluenced by navigation condition (memory vs navigation system) and message modality (full, visual or verbal) whereas PDT-performance, showed some effects of navigation condition on subjects' reaction times and hit rates. Pair wise comparison of message modality within each three groups showed a prolongation in reaction time and a marginally significant decrease in hit rate with full navigation messages (combined visual and verbal ones). Visual navigation messages affected only hit rate and no significant differences between navigation conditions were observed for the group presented with verbal messages. The pattern of results suggests that the PDT-method is biased toward visual sources of information from IVIS. As visual information processing is an important component in safe driving, the PDT-method is suitable as a predominant method in a test battery, but for unbiased measurement of distraction, methods less dependent on mode of presentation would be more appropriate.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal peripheral detection task (PDT), advanced driver support systems, driver distraction

**Referens:** Hartig, T., Johansson, G., & Kylin, C. (2003). Residence in the social ecology of stress and restoration. *Journal of Social Issues*, 59, 611-636.

**Abstract:** We relate residence to health within a social ecological model of stress and restoration. As an isolated setting and in relation to other everyday settings, we discuss the residence in terms of demands, coping resources and responses, and opportunities for restoration. Our model indicates how processes operating above the household level can affect health by modifying the quantity, quality, and distribution of demands, resources, and restoration opportunities within and across the settings of everyday life, including the residence. We illustrate some of these social ecological dynamics with the case of home-based telework. Concluding, we discuss the utility of the model for environmental interventions intended to alleviate health-threatening chronic stress.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal residence, stress, restoration, telework

**Referens:** Hedman, L., & Sharifi, P. (in press). Early use of Internet based educational resources: Effects on students' engagement modes and flow experience. *Behaviour and Information Technology*.

**Abstract:** This case study explores how educational training and clinical practice that uses personal computers (PCs) and Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs) to access Internet-based medical information, affect students' engagement modes, flow experience components, and IT-competence. A questionnaire assessing these variables was administered before and after a training course. A follow-up interview investigated the contextual factors related to the use of PDAs. There were significant increases in IT-competence and in the positive and negative

modes of engagement except for the Ambition/Curiosity mode. The overall flow experience did not change significantly over time. The PDA users showed an increase in negative modes across time larger than PC users due to technical, emotional, and motivational factors. This study concludes that a student's interaction with PCs and, in particular, PDAs produces positive and negative engagement modes and flow experiences that can be better understood by using the Engagement Modes model (EM-model).

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal engagement mode, IT-competence, PCs, PDAs, training, flow experience

**Referens:** Hellgren, J. (2003). *The times they are a-changing': Job uncertainty and the flexible labor market.* Department of Psychology, Stockholm University (Doctoral dissertation).

**Abstract:** In order to stay vital and competitive in a changing environment, characterized by both external and internal demands, organizations engage in various adaptive strategies such as downsizing, mergers, acquisitions, and frequent use of temporary and subcontracted workers. The adaptation strategies may vary, but they all have one thing in common; they expose the workforce to feelings of uncertainty and job insecurity. The purpose of the present thesis is (1) to give a review of research on job insecurity and its consequences, (2) to investigate whether the various dimensions of job insecurity relate to the different consequences, (3) to investigate plausible directions of relationships between job insecurity and health outcomes, and finally, (4) to see whether union members and non-members differ in their ways of coping with job insecurity. The definition of job insecurity used in this thesis rests on two fundaments: (1) it is a subjective experience and (2) it is an involuntary event. The thesis builds on psychological contract theories and stress theories. Job insecurity perceptions are described as breaches or violations of the mutual existing psychological agreements between the employee and the organization. Job insecurity is also defined as a work stressor given that unwillingness and uncertainty are central to its nature. The studies are based on a literature review, and on one cross-sectional and two longitudinal questionnaire studies. The questionnaire data were collected among employees in organizations undergoing downsizing and organizational change. The results of the empirical studies reveal that different aspects of job insecurity relate to different outcomes over time and that job insecurity may lead to subsequent health complaints rather than the contrary. Finally, the results show that union members and non-members react differently to job insecurity perceptions, but no interaction effects of job insecurity and union membership status were discovered. Recommendations made for future research include identifying moderators and mediators, the use of multidimensional measures, and longitudinal designs.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Dissertation job insecurity, mental health, physical health

**Referens:** Hellgren, J. (2003). Who owns the hospital and does it matter? The impact of different ownership on hospital employees' perceptions of organizational change. Paper presented at the *11th European Congress on Work and Organizational Psychology*, Lisbon, 14-17 May 2003.

**Abstract:** During the last decade's reorganizations in terms of corporatization and privatization of public companies have been frequent. This trend has also affected the health care sector and we now have emergency hospitals with different types of ownership. The question is how these changes affect the individual and what impact different types of ownership have on the employees. This study focuses on change perceptions (e.g., job insecurity, powerlessness, justice, and centralization) and their impact on employee attitudes and mental health. It also tests the mediating role of attitudes towards the change on the relation between change perceptions and attitudinal and health outcomes. The study is a comparison study using questionnaire data from three different emergency hospitals operating in the same area, one that has become a for-profit private stock company, one that has become a non-profit public stock company, and one that has remained a public administration unit. The data collection is not yet finished. Differences between hospitals regarding the impact of change variables on outcomes as well as the mediation role of attitude towards the change are tested using structural equation modelling. In all analysis personality dispositions in terms of positive and negative affectivity and demographics are added as control variables. Practical implications for policy-makers and hospital managers of the effects of different ownership and the role of employees' attitudes towards organizational change will be discussed. The paper also addresses the importance of restoring employees' perceptions of job security and control during and after organizational transition.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings privatization, change, attitudes

**Referens:** Hellgren, J., & Chirumbolo, A. (2003). Can union support reduce the negative effects of job insecurity on well-being? *Economic and Industrial Democracy*, 24, 271-289.

**Abstract:** In the context of rapidly changing environmental conditions, innumerable organizations engage in restructuring activities. As a consequence, many employees feel insecure about the future existence of their jobs. While research suggests that such job insecurity has negative consequences for employee attitudes and well-being, less is known about if and how these negative effects can be alleviated by social support from the union. This study tests for a potential moderator effect of perceived union support in the insecurity-mental health complaints relation using survey data collected among unionized workers in Italy, the Netherlands, and Sweden. The results indicate that job insecurity is associated with mental health complaints in all participating countries and that union support relate negatively to mental health complaints in one of the participating countries. However, no interaction effect was obtained, thus indicating that union support do not reduce the effects of job insecurity on mental health complaints.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal job insecurity, union support, well-being

**Referens:** Hellgren, J., Näswall, K., Sverke, M., & Söderfeldt, M. (Eds.). (2003). *New organizational challenges for human service work*. Munich: Rainer Hampp.

**Abstract:** Gradual economic, political, and social changes have faced organizations with new conditions concerning the co-ordination of internal activities as well as with structural and strategic changes in order to live up to the new conditions. Alternative work and employment relations have become important tools in order to improve effectiveness in an environment characterized by escalating competition and market economy. Reorganization activities aimed to cut costs and increase service quality are today evident not only in the private sector, but also the public sector has witnessed these transformations. Consequently, also the healthcare and human service sectors have been subjected to these changes. Given this, it is important to investigate how human service organizations combine productivity and quality demands and how these issues affect the employees' work environment and thereby also their health and well-being. The present book deals with the changing nature of human service work, quality and production in human service work, and stress and well-being among human service employees. The book also includes a description of an intervention program developed to

improve the supportive structure by implementing team-based stress management.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) human service, organizational change, health, well-being, stress management

**Referens:** Hellgren, J., Näswall, K., Sverke, M., & Söderfeldt, M. (2003). Introduction. In J. Hellgren, K. Näswall, M. Sverke & M. Söderfeldt (Eds.), *New organizational challenges for human service work* (pp. 9-24). München: Rainer Hampp Verlag.

**Abstract:** Gradual economic, political, and social changes have introduced new circumstances for the organization of internal activities. Restructuring aimed at decreasing costs and improving quality has become characteristic both the private and public sector. The restructurings have also affected human service work, and have had implications for the working environment of different professions, as well as for the efficiency of operations. The pressure to maintain high productivity along with a high level of quality is becoming increasingly important to gain a competitive advantage. This actualizes the issue of how the actors in the human service sector deal with the new demands. Knowledge of this issue is of vital importance for the working environment of the employees, as well as their well-being and health. This chapter gives a brief overview of the book, and the different authors participation in the book.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) human service work, restructuring, consequences

**Referens:** Hellgren, J., & Sverke, M. (2003). Does job insecurity lead to impaired well-being or vice versa? Estimation of cross-lagged effects using latent variable modeling. *Journal of Organizational Behavior*, 24, 215-236.

**Abstract:** Although research suggests that job insecurity is associated with impaired employee well-being, there is insufficient empirical evidence to draw any causal inferences since most studies are cross-sectional and thus do not control for previous levels of health symptoms. We used longitudinal questionnaire data to investigate the direction of the relationship between job insecurity and health complaints. After controlling for prior levels of mental and physical health complaints and five other variables that could potentially confound the results (gender, age, organizational tenure, family status, and education), the results of latent variable modeling showed that the cross-lagged effect of job insecurity on mental health complaints, one year later, was significant whereas the reversed effects of mental and physical health complaints on subsequent insecurity were non-significant. However, there was no significant cross-lagged effect of job insecurity on physical health complaints. The results provide empirical support for the theoretical notion that job insecurity leads to health complaints, and imply that prior levels of health should be taken into consideration in order to explain the relative effect of perceived job insecurity on the physical and mental health of the workforce.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal job insecurity, well-being, cross-lagged effects

**Referens:** Hellgren, J., & Sverke, M. (2003). Does job insecurity lead to impaired well-being or vice versa? Estimating cross-lagged effects using latent variable modeling. Paper presented at the *Fifth Interdisciplinary Conference on Occupational Stress and Health - Work, Stress and Health: New Challenges in a Changing Workplace*, Toronto, March 20-22 2003.

**Abstract:** Downsizing and other forms of organizational change involving layoffs have rendered job insecurity a lasting characteristic of working life. Although research suggests that job insecurity is associated with impaired employee well-being, there is insufficient empirical evidence to draw any causal inferences since most studies are cross-sectional and thus unable to control for previous levels of well-being. Although one intuitively would expect that job insecurity have a negative impact on the well-being of those involved, it may also be that employees with poorer health feel less secure in their employment situation. The data used in this study were collected in a Swedish retail company in 1995 and 1996. The company was at the time engaged in large-scale downsizing in terms of personnel reduction. The sample contains white-collar workers and the longitudinal response rate was 55 percent. Internal attrition in the study variables generated an effective sample size of 371 survivors. After controlling for prior levels of well-being, results of latent variable modeling showed that the cross-lagged effect of job insecurity on mental health complaints one year later was significant and larger than the reversed effect of mental health complaints on subsequent insecurity. However, there was no significant cross-lagged effect of job insecurity on physical health complaints. While these results provide partial support for the assumed causal effect of job insecurity on employee well-being, they also imply that prior levels of well-being should be taken into account to give a correct account of the relative effect of perceived job insecurity on the physical and mental health of the workforce.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings job insecurity, health, cross-lagged effects

**Referens:** Hellgren, J., Sverke, M., & Falkenberg, H. (2003). Attitudes towards privatization of emergency hospitals: Who likes it and who doesn't? Paper presented at the *VIIth European Conference on Organizational Psychology and Health Care*, Vienna, 8-11 October 2003.

**Abstract:** During the 1980s and 1990s the health-care sector has been subjected to many changes regarding political influences, work organization and ownership. This trend has also affected the emergency hospitals, which in Sweden, has resulted in a gradual shift from traditional public administration units toward more privatized emergency hospitals. These changes may naturally have an impact on the health-care workers' everyday work environment as well as on their attitudes toward the hospital and the ownership of the hospital. However, little is known about the health-care workers opinion of the transformation towards privatization. This paper focuses on the issue of attitude towards privatization of emergency hospitals. More specifically, the study investigates whether individuals with different demographic attributes hold different attitudes toward privatized emergency health-care. The study also examines if different occupational groups differ in their opinion of private management of hospitals. Finally, the study also compares the attitude toward privatization among staff working at three different hospitals with three different owner structures. Thus, the study employs a comparison design using questionnaire data from three different emergency hospitals operating in the same area, one which has become a for-profit private stock company, one that has become a non-profit public stock company, and one that has remained a public administration unit. The entire staffs of all three hospitals were surveyed during 2001-2002. The results indicate that not only are there differences among the different hospitals, but also that different professional groups as well as individuals with different demographic characteristics hold different attitudes towards privatization (of emergency health-care institutions). Practical implications for policy-makers and hospital managers of the effects of different ownership, occupational status

and personal characteristics in the context of change towards increased privatization are addressed in order to better understand the effects of this kind of organizational restructuring.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings privatization, health-care, attitudes

**Referens:** Hellgren, J., Sverke, M., & van der Vliet, C. (in press). The union side of downsizing: Investigating members' union attitudes. In H. De Witte (Ed.), *Job insecurity and trade union participation in Europe*. Aldershot: Ashgate.

**Abstract:** This chapter focuses on how employees perceive their union during downsizing. The limited interest that has gone into understanding how union attitudes are affected by downsizing is surprising given that most layoffs take place in unionized workplaces. The hypothesis in this study is that members who believe that their union treats them in a just and fair way and represents their interests in a good way, are likely to express positive attitudes towards their unions as opposed to those who perceive union representation in a less positive way. Data presented in this chapter are based on questionnaires from the staff of a Swedish emergency hospital undergoing organizational change. The study concluded that characteristics of organizational downsizing and the way it is implemented have important consequences for members' attitudes towards their union in the hypothesized way.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) union membership, job insecurity, union attitudes, downsizing, global process control

**Referens:** Hellström, B. (2003). *On Pain and Workload in Women. A psychobiological approach*. Department of Psychology, Stockholm University (Doctoral dissertation).

**Abstract:** The overall aim of this thesis was to study how variations in oestrogen levels (anabolic process) affect women's pain perception across the menstrual cycle as well as the relationship between workload in women and their secretion of the stress hormone cortisol (catabolic process). The aim of Study I was to examine how perception of pain, induced by the cold pressor test, was related to gender and phases of the menstrual cycle. A repeated-measures design was used, with 22 female students participating at two different phases of the menstrual cycle (days 2-4 and 20-24), known to differ in terms of oestrogen levels. A control group of 19 male students participated as well. The results showed that men tolerated significantly more pain than did women, whose pain thresholds were significantly higher during the second phase of the menstrual cycle, i.e., when oestrogen levels are high. There was a significant relationship between low pain threshold in women and high frequencies of common symptoms. The aim of Study II was to investigate whether the perception of chronic pain varies with phases of the menstrual cycle. Twenty women with low chronic pain participated and rated their pain in a questionnaire each day during three successive menstrual cycles. Analysis showed that the women rated pain significantly higher in the menstrual and premenstrual phases than they did in the mid-menstrual and ovulatory phases. Thus, pain was higher when circulating levels of oestrogen are generally low. The aim of Study III was to investigate the association between workload and morning cortisol levels in women. Saliva samples were collected from 210 fulltime-employed middle-aged women of the same age (43 years) four times during the first 45 minutes after they awoke in the morning. Participants working excessive overtime had morning cortisol levels on average about twice as high as did women working moderate overtime or normal hours. The women who were prematurely menopausal also had elevated levels of cortisol. Elevated stress levels are known to increase cortisol, as well as suppress oestrogen secretion. In view of the health problems associated with chronic over-activity of the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) axis, highly elevated morning cortisol could be an important risk factor. Possible implications for gender differences in health are discussed on the basis of these findings.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Dissertation oestrogen, HPA axis, health risks

**Referens:** Hellström, Å. (2003). Comparison is not just subtraction: Effects of time- and space-order on subjective stimulus difference. *Perception and Psychophysics*, 65, 1161-1177.

**Abstract:** In five experiments, participants made comparative judgments of paired successive or simultaneous stimuli. Time- or space-order errors were obtained, which varied with the interstimulus interval (ISI) or stimulus duration as well as with the stimulus level. The results, in terms of scaled subjective differences, are well described by Hellström's (1979) sensation-weighting model. With successive presentation, in comparisons of line length and tone loudness, the first stimulus had the greater weight in determining the subjective difference for short ISIs, the second for longer ISIs. In comparisons of duration (auditory and visual) the second stimulus had the greater weight. For simultaneously presented line lengths, the left stimulus had the greater weight.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal stimulus comparison, time-order errors, space-order errors

**Referens:** Hellström, Å. (2003). Word-order effects in preference comparison. In B. Berglund & E. Borg (Eds.), *Fechner Day 2003*. Proceedings of the Nineteenth Annual Meeting of the International Society for Psychophysics, Larnaca Bay, Cyprus, October 19-23, 2003. Stockholm: International Society for Psychophysics.

**Abstract:** Ninety-seven participants chose between six verbal expressions indicating relative preference for 10 pairs of stimuli (e.g., "apple is ... than pear"); they also rated their over-all view of each of the pairs (e.g., apple and pear) on a scale from very bad to very good. There were two groups of participants, for which the words in each pair appeared in opposite left-right orders. A comparison of the results of the two groups showed a positive correlation between high rated overall goodness and a tendency to prefer the first-mentioned (left) stimulus, that is, a positive word-order effect (WOE). In terms of Hellström's sensation-weighting model, this indicates a greater weight for the left stimulus than for the right.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings Book (chapter) word-order effect, preference comparison, sensation weighting, Fechner Day

**Referens:** Hellström, Å., & Rammsayer, T. (in press). Effects of time-order, interstimulus interval, and feedback in duration discrimination of noise bursts in the 50- and 1,000-millisecond ranges. *Acta Psychologica*.

**Abstract:** Participants compared durations of paired white-noise bursts, with interstimulus interval (ISI) 100, 300, 900, or 2700 ms, presented in the order standard (St)-comparison (Co) or Co-St. St was 50 or 1000 ms, and 75% difference thresholds for "longer" and "shorter" judgments were estimated. In Experiment 1 feedback was given; in Experiment 2, with ISIs 900 and 2700 ms, there was no feedback. For St=1000 ms, the just

noticeable difference (JND) in noise duration was generally smaller with the order St-Co than with Co-St; for St=50 ms, the JND relation was the opposite. JNDs increased with shorter ISIs. Time-order errors were positive for St=50 ms and negative for St=1000 ms, and approached zero for longer ISIs. Using Hellström's sensation-weighting (SW) model, the ratio of the stimulus weights for the first and second burst was estimated; this ratio was generally  $>1$  for St=50 ms and  $<1$  for St=1000 ms. JNDs were smaller with feedback than without; the greatest reduction was found for St=1000 ms and an ISI of 2700 ms with the order Co-St, possibly because feedback increased participants' attention to the first stimulus. These results demonstrate the sensitivity of discrimination measures for long as well as brief durations to the factors of ISI, presentation order, and feedback. They also suggest different modes of stimulus processing for short and long durations.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal time perception, perceptual discrimination, psychophysical measurement

**Referens:** Hill, R.D., Nilsson, L.-G., Nyberg, L., & Bäckman, L. (2003). Cigarette smoking as a predictor of cognitive performance in healthy Swedish adults from the Betula prospective cohort study of aging, memory, and health. *Age and Ageing*, 32, 1-4.

**Abstract:** The relationship between cigarette smoking and cognitive function was examined in a sample of healthy Swedish adults who were participants in the Betula Prospective Cohort Study of Aging, Memory, and Health. Participants were taken from the Wave 1 sampling period and were grouped into four age clusters representing the age ranges: 35 to 44 years, 45 to 54 years, 55 to 64 years, and 65 years or older. The study included only those individuals who were self-reported continuous smokers, and they were contrasted to participants who reported never smoking cigarettes. In this study the dependent variables were those tasks from the cognitive battery that provided a maximum contrast with respect to the demand they placed on self-initiated processing resources: (1) unsupported tasks: WMS: block design, a free recall task with a distractor at encoding (2) supported tasks: A general knowledge test, a word comprehension test. After controlling for the effects of demographics, indices of health, and lifestyle activities, smoking status predicted performance on the two most complex (e.g., least supported) cognitive tasks in the battery; namely, WMS: block design and the free recall task that included a distractor task at encoding. On these tasks the never smokers outperformed the current smokers, and this was the case across the four age groupings. There was no relationship between smoking status and performance on the two supported cognitive tasks. These findings were interpreted in light of the theoretical literature that cigarette smoking will exert its greatest deleterious effect on those cognitive tasks that place the heaviest demand on processing resources.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal smoking, memory, aging

**Referens:** Hjortskov, N., Rissén, D., Blangsted, A.K., Fallentin, N., Lundberg, U., & Søgaard, K. (in press). The effect of mental and physical stress on heart rate variability and blood pressure during computer work. *European Journal of Applied Physiology*.

**Abstract:** The aim was to evaluate the cardiovascular and subjective stress response to a combined physical and mental workload, and the effect of restitution. Twelve females without prior experience of laboratory experiments participated in the study. Computer work related mental stressors were either added to or removed from a standardized computer work session in the laboratory. Beat-to-beat blood pressure and electrocardiogram (ECG) were recorded continuously during the experiment. The participants reported subjective experiences of stress on six categories using an 11-point scale before and at the end of the work. Heart rate variability (HRV) variables were calculated from the ECG recordings, and a reduction in the high frequency component of HRV, and an increase in the low to high frequency ratio were observed in the stress situation compared to the control sessions. No changes were seen in the low frequency component of HRV. The stressors induced an increase in blood pressure compared to baseline that persisted – or for the diastolic pressure – even increased in the subsequent control session. No differences were observed for subjective experience of stress with the exception of a time trend in the exhaustion scale i.e. a progression in reported exhaustion with time. The results – and the dissociation between HRV and blood pressure variables – indicate that HRV is a more sensitive and selective measure of mental stress. It could be speculated that HR derived variables reflect central pathway in cardiovascular control mechanisms ("central command"), while the blood pressure response is more influenced by local conditions in the working muscles that partly masks the effect of changes in mental workloads. In the restitution after each work session, HRV and blood pressure variables were partly normalized as expected. However, eight minutes of restitution were insufficient to restore blood pressure to resting values.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal mental stress, heart rate variability, blood pressure

**Referens:** Hummel, T., Damm, M., Vent, J., Schmidt, M., Theissen, P., Larsson, M., & Klussmann, K.-P. (2003). Correlation between depth of olfactory sulcus and olfactory function. *Brain Research*, 975, 85-89.

**Abstract:** The aim of this study was to identify whether the depth of the olfactory sulcus relates to olfactory function in healthy subjects. Forty-four healthy, male volunteers (age range 22-45 years, mean age 28.3 years) were included in this study. Olfactory function was measured for phenyl ethyl alcohol odor thresholds, odor discrimination, and odor identification. Magnetic Resonance Imaging of the olfactory sulcus was performed immediately following olfactometry. Based on previous investigations the depth of the olfactory sulcus was measured in the plane of the posterior tangent through the eyeballs. Olfactory function correlated significantly with left-sided depth of the olfactory sulcus ( $r=0.33$ ,  $p=0.03$ ); no such correlation was seen for the right side. In addition, olfactory sulcus depth was found to be significantly deeper on the right compared to the left side ( $t=5.61$ ,  $p<0.001$ ). The present results suggest that there is small, but significant relation between morphological brain structures and measures of olfactory function. Further, lateralization of olfactory sulcus depth may correlate to functional lateralization in the olfactory system. Thus, it may be speculated that sensory input in the olfactory system results promotes cortical growth in the area of the olfactory sulcus, at least at some developmental stage.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal olfaction, brain, sulcus

**Referens:** Håkansson, J., & Montgomery, H. (2003). Empathy as an interpersonal phenomenon. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 20, 267-284.

**Abstract:** The purpose of this study was to find the constituents of empathizers' and targets' experiences of empathy. We analyzed 28 empathizers' and 28 targets' (all aged 20-64 yrs) narrative accounts of situations when they had experienced empathy. From both perspectives, the constituents of empathy included that (1) the empathizer understands the target's situation and emotions, (2) the target experiences one or more emotions, (3) the empathizer perceives a similarity between what the target is experiencing and something the empathizer has

experienced previously, and (4) the empathizer is concerned for the target's well-being. The data suggested that actions associated with the fourth constituent - concern - make empathy an interpersonal phenomenon.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal empathy

**Referens:** Isaksson, K., Bernhard, C., Claes, R., De Witte, H., Guest, D., Krausz, M., Mohr, G., Peiro, J.M., & Schalk, R. (2003). *Employment contracts and psychological contracts in Europe. Results from a pilot study*. SALTSA Report, 1.

**Abstract:** This report covers results from an exploratory pilot study, made in preparation for a larger European study aiming at the investigation of changing employment patterns and the relation to well-being with a special emphasize on the psychological contract as a possible intervening factor. Six European countries have been involved in this pilot study (Belgium, Britain, Germany, the Netherlands, Spain and Sweden, and for comparative purposes, Israel) and a questionnaire was tested in each country in small samples of employees with a varying degree of contract permanency. The total sample (N=1573 with varying numbers across countries and sectors) had a mean age of 35 years. Women were slightly overrepresented and the sample varied across educational levels. Results showed that those on permanent contracts were generally older, more often male and have longer weekly working hours. They generally perceived a higher workload but also more autonomy than those employed on other contracts. A significantly higher proportion of the permanently employed reported sickness presence compared to employees in various fixed term contracts. Further, those with a very short-term contract more often had a second job. Employees on fixed term contracts of longer duration reported the highest level of perceived insecurity and the lowest level of voluntary choice of contract form. As for psychological contracts, the permanently employed reported higher expectations of influencing decisions and more transactional and career related promises made by their employer. Finally, results in general supported an interacting effect of country and sector on worker's attitudes. The pilot study indicates the necessity for broader samples and refinement of methods for the main study, but supports the conception of the psychological contract as a relevant factor for individual well-being.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Report employment contract, psychological contract, European context

**Referens:** Isaksson, K., Bernhard, C., & Gustafsson, K. (2003). Betydelsen av anställningsform och tillit till ledningen för personalens hälsa inom vården. [The meaning of employment form and trust into managers for employees health in health care work.] *Arbetsmarknad & Arbetsliv*, 9(2), 95-106.

**Abstract:** Increasing sickness absence and impaired health have become major challenges in contemporary working life. The role of work environment has been discussed in this context and the present paper investigates the association between health indicators and employment arrangement, content and breach of the psychological contract and trust into management. The study uses questionnaire data from Swedish health care workers (N=634) working in ongoing, fixed term and hourly based employment arrangements. The results show that health care personal in ongoing employment forms reported highest levels of emotional exhaustion and more general health problems than fixed term employees. Low trust into management and breaches of the psychological contracts had significant negative effects for both health indicators and were found to partly moderate the influence of employment contracts.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal employment contract, psychological contract, health, health care sector

**Referens:** Isaksson, K., & Johansson, G. (2003). Managing older employees after downsizing. *Scandinavian Journal of Management*, 19, 1-15.

**Abstract:** The implementation of a downsizing programme based on an early retirement scheme was investigated and its impact on 144 individuals aged 55+, who remained in the company afterwards ("Stayers"). Special attention was paid to the effects of a rejected application. Two-wave panel data, 18 months apart, were used to explore adjustment in terms of health effects and exit. Levels of distress and somatic complaints proved largely unchanged even though workloads increased and commitment with the organization declined during the 18-month period. A rejected retirement application appeared to have had an indirect effect on distress, expressed in terms of organizational commitment. Both age and perceived role overload were related to exit within 19 months of the downsizing.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal downsizing, older employees

**Referens:** Isaksson, K., Johansson, G., Bellaagh, K., & Sjöberg, A. (in press). Work values among the unemployed: Changes over time and gender differences. *Scandinavian Journal of Psychology*.

**Abstract:** Work involvement (psychological identification with work in general) has generally been considered a stable, dispositional characteristic, although some studies of unemployment have contradicted this view. Using longitudinal data from a Swedish representative sample (n=888), this study examines employment status change (e.g., from work to unemployment) and work values development in a 15-month time period. Furthermore, the relationship between employment status change and well-being was explored, with a special focus on the roles played by work values and gender differences. Results indicated that work values are fairly stable over 15 months. As expected, the long-term unemployed (mostly active job seekers) had higher measures of work involvement after 15 months. Further, no gender difference was found with regard to work involvement but females were more likely to agree than there is an entitlement to work. Becoming unemployed was associated with negative health effects, but only among unemployed men.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal work values, unemployment, self-reported health, gender difference

**Referens:** Johansson, C., Willeit, M., Levitan, R., Partonen, T., Smedh, C., Praschak-Rieder, N., Neumeister, A., Masellis, M., Basile, V., Zill, P., Bondy, B., Paunio, T., Kasper, S., Van Broeckhoven, C., Nilsson, L.-G., Lam, R., Schalling, M., & Adolfsson, R. (2003). The serotonin transporter promoter repeat length polymorphism, seasonal affective disorder and seasonality. *Psychological Medicine*, 33, 785-792.

**Abstract:** Conflicting results have been reported in previous association studies of the serotonin transporter promoter repeat length polymorphism (5-HTTLPR), seasonal affective disorder (SAD) and seasonality (seasonal variations in mood and behaviour). The aim of this study was to test for association in new case-control and

population based materials, and to perform a combined analysis of all published studies of 5-HTTLPR and SAD. One hundred and forty-seven new SAD cases and 115 controls were genotyped for 5-HTTLPR and in total 464 patients and 414 controls were included in the pooled analysis. In addition, 226 individuals selected for unusually high or low seasonality scores from a population based material and 46 patients with non-seasonal depression were analysed. Different genetic models were tested and seasonality was analysed both as a qualitative (high vs. low) and as a quantitative trait in the different sample sets. No association between 5-HTTLPR and SAD was found in the new case-control material, in the combined analysis of all samples, or when only including 316 patients with controls ( $n=298$ ) selected for low seasonality. A difference was detected between the population based high and low seasonality groups, when assuming a recessive effect of short allele (20% and 10% short allele homozygotes, respectively, OR (95%CI):2.24 (1.03-4.91)). Quantitative analysis of seasonality revealed no association with 5-HTTLPR in any sample set. These results do not suggest a major role of the short variant of 5-HTTLPR in susceptibility to SAD, but provide modest evidence for an effect on seasonality.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal polymorphism, seasonal affective disorder, genetics

**Referens:** Johansson, C., Willeit, M., Smedh, C., Ekholm, J., Paunio, T., Kieseppä, T., Licherman, D., Praschak-Rieder, N., Neumeister, A., Nilsson, L.-G., Kasper, S., Peltonen, L., Adolfsson, R., Schalling, M., & Partonen, T. (2003). Circadian clock related polymorphisms in seasonal affective disorder and their relevance to diurnal preference. *Neuropsychopharmacology*, 28, 734-739.

**Abstract:** Disturbed circadian rhythms have been observed in seasonal affective disorder (SAD). The aim of this study was to further investigate this connection, and to test for potential association between polymorphisms in circadian clock related genes and SAD, seasonality (seasonal variations in mood and behavior) or diurnal preference (morningness-eveningness tendencies). One-hundred and fifty-nine European SAD patients and 159 matched controls were included in the genetic analysis, and subsets were screened for seasonality ( $n=177$ ) and diurnal preference ( $n=92$ ). We found that diurnal preference was associated with both SAD and seasonality, supporting the hypothesis of a link between circadian rhythms and seasonal depression. The complete case-control material was genotyped for polymorphisms in the CLOCK, Period2, Period3 and NPAS2 genes. A significant difference between patients and controls was found for NPAS2 471 Leu/Ser ( $\chi^2=9.90$ ,

Bonferroni corrected  $P=0.035$ ), indicating a recessive effect of the leucine allele on disease susceptibility ( $\chi^2=6.61$ , Bonferroni corrected  $P=0.050$ ). Period3 647 Val/Gly was associated with self-reported morningness-eveningness scores ( $n=92$ , one-way ANOVA:  $F=4.99$ , Bonferroni corrected  $P=0.044$ ), with higher scores found in individuals with at least one glycine allele ( $t=3.1$ , Bonferroni corrected  $P=0.013$ ). A second, population-based sample of individuals selected for high ( $n=127$ ) or low ( $n=98$ ) degrees of seasonality, was also genotyped for NPAS2 471 Leu/Ser. There was no significant difference between these seasonality extreme groups, and none of the polymorphisms studied were associated with seasonality in the SAD case-control material ( $n=177$ ). In conclusion, our results suggest involvement of circadian clock related polymorphisms both in susceptibility to SAD and diurnal preference.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal seasonal affective disorder, seasonality, genetics

**Referens:** Johansson, G., Fisher, E., & Nilsson, T. (2003). *Bussförares hälsa och arbetsvillkor – en kunskapsöversikt. [The health and work conditions of bus drivers. A review of empirical research.]* Swedish Government Reports SOU 2003:67.

**Abstract:** This review of empirical research concerning the occupational health of bus drivers was compiled for a Swedish Government Committee on public transportation and published as an Appendix to the Committee Report Public Transport with a Human Focus. The first section reviews a large number of studies that have revealed that urban bus drivers evidence higher morbidity and mortality than other comparable occupational groups and with an important etiologic role of occupational stress. The second section focuses on intervention studies in several countries where scientifically documented and successful organizational and technical interventions were introduced in order to improve working conditions of bus drivers. Finally, the third section is an account of the ways in which deregulation of the public transport sector has influenced bus drivers' work conditions in terms of workload and job satisfaction and in terms of labor relations.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Report bus drivers, psychosocial work conditions health

**Referens:** Johnson, M. (2003). The vulnerability status of neuroticism: Over-reporting or genuine complaints? *Personality and Individual Differences*, 35, 877-887.

**Abstract:** Neuroticism is widely documented to reflect an exaggerated reporting of physical symptoms, due to an over-sensitive focus on internal stimuli in individuals high in this trait. This study scrutinized the responses to 409 retrospective health reports to see if negative affect (NA), indicating neuroticism, was differentially related to different types of physical complaints. The role of other personality risk factors, related to neuroticism, and coping style were also examined. The findings show that high NA was uniquely related only to diseases of tension type, such as high blood pressure, migraine, or neck pain. Of the other factors, which all correlated with NA, hostility, self-critical attitude and coping were uniquely related to these same complaints. It is concluded that neuroticism has a more genuine vulnerability potential to disease.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal neuroticism, hostility, disease type

**Referens:** Johnson, M. (in press). Approaching the salutogenesis of sense of coherence: The role of 'active' self-esteem and coping. *British Journal of Health Psychology*.

**Abstract:** Objectives: The aim of this work was to investigate the health relevant status of sense of coherence (SOC). First, its relation to general health was studied. Second, the importance of self-esteem (SE) type, locus of control, "fighting spirit", and coping style for SOC was explored. It was predicted that, SOC has relevance for good health and that active types of self esteem together with the other adaptive dispositions play a role in SOC.

Design: Cross-sectional, retrospective study.

Methods: The personality and health questionnaires were administered to 409 undergraduates. The data were analysed using correlations and hierarchical multiple regression methods.

**Results:** The correlational and regression analyses indicate that SOC has more importance for health than the other more specific adaptive styles. They further revealed that, although negative affect was a main predictor of SOC and health, an active type of SE (a combination of high basic and high earning SE) and locus of control were associated with a high SOC.

**Conclusions:** It is concluded that SOC has a unique relation to general health, and although SOC strongly reflects affective traits, the concept seems also to mirror more dynamic dispositions, referring to an active self-esteem structure and self-determination.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal active style, self-esteem, health

**Referens:** Johnson, M. (2003). *Självkänsla och anpassning. [Self-esteem and adjustment.]* Lund: Studentlitteratur.

**Abstract:** Self-esteem plays a more important role in people's psychological adjustment to every day life than is commonly recognized. This book presents a dynamic model of 'inner' (basic) and 'outer' (competence related) self-esteem and how their interplay can shed light on many contradictions and paradoxes regarding 'high' self-esteem. After considering the theoretical basis of two main sources of self-esteem and problems with self-ratings the author presents her self-esteem model and an experimental validation of the concepts. The second part of the book gives an empirically based reflection of the importance of self-esteem for health and modern 'welfare syndromes' such as burn-out, fibromyalgia, eating problems, violence and depression.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) self-esteem, dynamics, well-being

**Referens:** Jorfeldt, L., & Borg, G. (2003). Klinisk tillämpning. I K. Brauer, L. Jorfeldt & O. Pahlm (Eds.), *Det kliniska arbetsprovet* (pp. 122-125). Lund: Studentlitteratur.

**Abstract:**

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) bröstmärta, andfåddhet, Borgskala

**Referens:** Kansi, J., Wichström, L., & Bergman, L.R. (2003). Eating problems and the self-concept: Results based on a representative sample of Norwegian adolescent girls. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 32, 325-335.

**Abstract:** The joint role of self-esteem and unstable self-perceptions for eating problems was investigated in a representative Norwegian population sample of girls in 3 age groups (N=5287; aged 12-19 years). Three scales from the 12-item Eating Attitudes Test (EAT-12) measured eating problems: Restriction, Bulimic-food preoccupation, and Diet. Girls low on all EAT scales were most often characterized by high self-esteem combined with stable self-perceptions, whereas girls high on all EAT-scales were characterized by having low self-esteem and unstable self-perceptions. Bulimic tendencies and dieting were more common in older groups, whereas high scores on all EAT-scales simultaneously were equally common in all ages. The findings gave initial support to the continuity hypothesis in indicating that the age trends for eating problems, except for restrictive tendencies, followed those of eating disorders and in that the risk factors found for eating problems parallel those reported for eating disorders.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal eating problems, adolescents, self-concept

**Referens:** Kapeller, P., Barber, R., Vermeulen, R.J., Ader, H., Scheltens, P., Freidl, W., Almkvist, O., Moretti, M., del Ser, T., Vaghfeldt, P., Enzinger, C., Barkhof, F., Inzitari, D., Erkinjunti, T., Schmidt, R., & Fazekas, F. (2003). European Task Force of Age Related White Matter Changes. Visual rating of age-related white matter changes on magnetic resonance imaging: scale comparison, interrater agreement, and correlations with quantitative measurements. *Stroke*, 34, 441-445.

**Abstract:** Background and Purpose: To provide further insight into the MRI assessment of age-related white matter changes (ARWMCs) with visual rating scales, 3 raters with different levels of experience tested the interrater agreement and comparability of 3 widely used rating scales in a cross-sectional and follow-up setting. Furthermore, the correlation between visual ratings and quantitative volumetric measurement was assessed.

Methods: Three raters from different sites using 3 established rating scales (Manolio, Fazekas and Schmidt, Scheltens) evaluated 74 baseline and follow-up scans from 5 European centers. One investigator also rated baseline scans in a set of 255 participants of the Austrian Stroke Prevention Study (ASPS) and measured the volume of ARWMCs.

Results: The interrater agreement for the baseline investigation was fair to good for all scales ( $\kappa$  values, 0.59 to 0.78). On the follow-up scans, all 3 raters depicted significant ARWMC progression; however, the direct interrater agreement for this task was poor ( $\kappa$ , 0.19 to 0.39). Comparison of the interrater reliability between the 3 scales revealed a statistical significant difference between the scale of Manolio and that of Fazekas and Schmidt for the baseline investigation ( $z$  value, -2.9676;  $P=0.003$ ), demonstrating better interrater agreement for the Fazekas and Schmidt scale. The rating results obtained with all 3 scales were highly correlated with each other (Spearman rank correlation, 0.712 to 0.806;  $P<0.01$ ), and there was significant agreement between all 3 visual rating scales and the quantitative volumetric measurement of ARWMC (Kendall  $W$ , 0.37, 0.48, and 0.57;  $P<0.001$ ).

Conclusions: Our data demonstrate that the 3 rating scales studied reflect the actual volume of ARWMCs well. The 2 scales that provide more detailed information on ARWMCs seemed preferential compared with the 1 that yields more global information. The visual assessment of ARWMC progression remains problematic and may require modifications or extensions of existing rating scales.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal magnetic resonance imaging, mri, white matter

**Referens:** Karlsson, I., & Christianson, S.-Å. (2003). The phenomenology of traumatic experiences in police work. *Policing: An International Journal of Police Strategies & Management*, Vol. 26, No. 3, pp. 419-

**Abstract:**

Investigates situations that were perceived as stressful by Swedish police officers and the kind of support and help they had received in connection with that. A total of 162 respondents took part in the study. Results show that most of the traumatic experiences reported by police officers occurred early on in their careers. The traumatic experiences often remained in their memories in the form of visual, tactile, and olfactory sensations. A variety of stress reactions were described in connection with these experiences. As regards ways of working through the traumatic experiences, more than half reported that it helped them to talk about the event with their colleagues. Only a few had been offered debriefing or professional help in connection with the event. A notable finding is that the majority of the officers did not receive any support at all from their superiors in connection with the event.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal police, post-traumatic stress disorders, Sweden

**Referens:**

Karlsson, T., Börjesson, A., Adolfsson, R., & [Nilsson, L.-G.](#) (in press). Multiple memory test performance in normal aging. *Scandinavian Journal of Psychology*.

**Abstract:**

Young and old subjects were investigated to examine whether: a) the effects of priming is influenced by aging; b) there is independence between primed word-fragment completion and recognition performances; and c) the dependence between different tests is influenced by aging. A successive test paradigm, which involved repeated assessment of to-be-remembered words by means of recognition and primed word-fragment completion, was employed. The results show that implicit memory decline with increasing age, and that correlations between different memory tests decrease with age. The outcome suggests that age-related memory decline involves several forms of memory, including primed word-fragment completion and correlations between measures of implicit and explicit memory.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal episodic memory, priming, aging

**Referens:**

Karlsson, T., Johansson, I., Adolfsson, R., [Nilsson, L.-G.](#), & Dubuc, S. (in press). A demonstration of a remarkable memory capacity in Alzheimer's disease. *Dementia and Geriatric Cognitive Disorders*.

**Abstract:**

A compelling feature of human memory is its striking capacity. Under certain circumstances, subjects can remember large amounts of information even with brief exposure at study. This investigation shows that this ability is preserved even in severely impaired Alzheimer's disease patients, and holds implications for the clinical management of amnesic patients. To this date, demonstrations of preserved learning and memory capacity in Alzheimer's disease and amnesia have been confined to implicit memory tasks. Since the present results were obtained in an explicit memory task, the finding also holds implications for the understanding of amnesia.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal Alzheimer's disease, aging, episodic memory

**Referens:**

Karlsson, T., Johansson, I., Adolfsson, R., [Nilsson, L.-G.](#), & Dubuc, S. (2003). Recognition memory in Alzheimer's disease. A demonstration of a remarkable memory capacity in Alzheimer's disease. *Dementia and Geriatric Cognitive Disorders*, 15, 6-9.

**Abstract:**

A compelling feature of human memory is its striking capacity. Under certain circumstances, subjects can remember large amounts of information even with brief exposure at study. This investigation shows that this ability is preserved even in severely impaired Alzheimer's disease patients, and holds implications for the clinical management of amnesic patients. To this date, demonstrations of preserved learning and memory capacity in Alzheimer's disease and amnesia have been confined to implicit memory tasks. Since the present results were obtained in an explicit memory task, the finding also holds implications for the understanding of amnesia.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal Alzheimer's disease, aging, episodic memory

**Referens:**

Kemdal, A.B., & [Montgomery, H.](#) (2003). Attitudes, attributions, and political participation. Paper presented at the *International Society of Political Psychology. 26th Annual Meeting*, Boston, USA.

**Abstract:**

How does politically active, versus politically more passive citizens attribute politicians' behavior? Are "kinder" attributions of politicians' behavior related to a more positive attitude toward democracy and a greater political involvement? Is there any connection between attributions, attitude, and actual political involvement? A questionnaire with questions about attitudes to one controversial and one less controversial issue in the local politics, attitudes toward democracy, attributions of politicians' behavior, and own political behavior (active or passive) is distributed to politicians and students in a small town in Sweden. The participants are invited to participate in a political debate at a later point in time. Answers are compared across different groups and for those who actually will participate in the later event, and those who won't.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings attitudes politicians

**Referens:**

Kjeldahl, L., & [Schenkman, B.](#) (2003). *Color interaction on computer displays - distance and shape effects*. Technical Report TRITA-NA-P0308, IpLab-214, NADA, Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm.

**Abstract:**

The perceived interactions between colors presented on a computer screen were determined for seven observers who gave estimates on the perceived colors. A method based on memory estimation was used. In one experiment a red-green scale was used. In a second experiment a white-green scale was used. The distance between objects, shape of objects and color of objects were varied. A distance effect was found in the red-green experiment. For objects adjacent to each other the interaction effects were statistically significant. For objects not adjacent to each other some smaller effects occurred. No shape effects were found. Assimilation effects was shown for the red-green color combination. A theoretical model for distance effects of color interaction is also discussed.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Report color, induction, perception

**Referens:** Kokko, K., Bergman, L.R., & Pulkkinen, L. (2003). Child personality characteristics and selection into long-term unemployment in Finnish and Swedish longitudinal samples. *International Journal of Behavioral Development*, 27, 134-144.

**Abstract:** The main aim of the present study was to test a model of selection into long-term unemployment obtained for a sample of 36-year-old Finns (Kokko, Pulkkinen, & Puustinen, 2000) to see whether it similarly explained long-term unemployment among 26- to 27-year-old Finns and Swedes. The participants were drawn from two ongoing longitudinal studies: the Jyväskylä Longitudinal Study of Personality and Social Development (conducted in Finland) and the Individual Development and Adaptation study (conducted in Sweden). At both ages, that is 36 and 26-27, low education was related to long-term unemployment, and explained by personality characteristics in middle childhood, such as low self-control of emotions or conduct problems, and behavioural inhibition or timidity. However, while low self-control of emotions additionally explained long-term unemployment among the 36-year-olds directly, in both the young samples personality characteristics showed only indirect effects through poor educational attainment. At age 26-27, childhood personality characteristics explained selection onto an educational track rather than selection into long-term unemployment, and length of education explained duration of unemployment.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal unemployment, longitudinal

**Referens:** Kormi-Nouri, R., Moniri, S., & Nilsson, L.-G. (2003). Episodic and semantic memory in bilingual and monolingual children. *Scandinavian Journal of Psychology*, 44, 47-54.

**Abstract:** Although bilingual advantages for children have been reported for different cognitive abilities, much less is known about the relation between memory and bilingualism. In this study, 60 (30 girls and 30 boys) bilingual and 60 (30 girls and 30 boys) monolingual children in three age groups (8.5, 10.5 and 12.5 years) were compared on episodic memory and semantic memory tasks. In episodic memory, children learned subjectperformed tasks (with real or imaginary objects) and verbal task and retrieved by both free recall and cued recall tests. In semantic memory, word fluency tests were used. Positive effects of bilingualism were found on both episodic memory and semantic memory tasks at all age levels. These findings suggest that bilingual children integrate and/or organize the information of two languages, and so, bilingualism creates advantages for cognitive abilities (including memory). Some sex differences were also found in episodic memory but not in semantic memory. This episodic memory difference was found in children at earlier age level.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal bilingualism, action memory, episodic memory

**Referens:** Krantz, G., Berntsson, L., & Lundberg, U. (in press). Total workload, work stress and perceived symptoms in Swedish male and female white-collar employees. *European Journal of Public Health*.

**Abstract:** Background: The aim in this study was to analyse how paid work, unpaid household tasks, child care, work-childcare interactions and perceived work stress contribute to reported symptoms in male and female white-collar employees.

Methods: A questionnaire was mailed to 1,300 men and 1,300 women belonging to the white-collar sector, with at least 35 hours of regular employment a week and a participant age of 32 to 58 years. It contained items relating to total workload (hours spent on paid work, unpaid household tasks and child care), subjective indices for work stress and symptoms. The response rate was 65% (743 women; 595 men). Gender difference in symptom prevalence was tested by analyses of variance (ANOVA). Odds ratios were used to estimate the bivariate associations between work-related variables and symptom prevalence. A multivariate analysis estimated the effect of paid and unpaid work interaction, work-childcare interplay and possible synergy.

Results: The frequency and severity of symptoms was higher in women than in men ( $p<0.0001$ ). Employed women's health were determined by an interaction between conditions at work and household duties (OR 2.09; 1.06-4.14), whereas men responded more selectively to long working hours, i.e.  $>50\text{h/w}$  (OR 1.61; 1.02-2.54). However, child care ( $<21\text{ h/w}$ ) appeared to have a buffer effect on the risk of a high level of symptoms in men working long hours.

Conclusion: Working life and private circumstances and the interplay between them need to be taken into account to curb stress-related ill health in both men and women.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal total workload, multiple roles, ill-health

**Referens:** Krantz, G., Berntsson, L., & Lundberg, U. (2003). Total workload, work stress and perceived symptoms in Swedish male and female white-collar employees. *Conference on Globalisation and Health in Europe: Harmonising Public Health Practices*. Rome, Italy, 20-22 November, 2003.

**Abstract:** The aim of this cross sectional study was to investigate how paid work, unpaid household tasks, child care and work-childcare interactions, as well as perceived work stress, contribute to reported symptoms in male and female white-collar employees. A Swedish Total Work Load (TWL) instrument was mailed to stratified samples of 1300 men and 1300 women. Response rate 65%. Self-reported health was assessed by a number of common symptoms. Twice as many women as men were suffering from frequent and severe symptoms even among full-time employed white collar employees. Employed women's reported symptoms were determined by an interaction between conditions at work and at home, whereas men responded more selectively to work conditions. It was concluded that men would benefit from a multiple role situation rather than concentrating mainly on the paid employment role.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings total workload, stress, health

**Referens:** Lagerlof, S., & Sigrell, B. (2003). Discussion of Arnold Rothstein's paper in Rothstein, A. (2003). Changing psychoanalytic psychotherapy into psychoanalysis: a trusting model for helping patients begin a trial of analysis. Print panel discussion, *Journal of Clinical Psychoanalysis*, 12, 123-130.

**Abstract:** The concept of "conversion" of a therapy considered psychotherapy to a therapy considered psychoanalysis derives from an evaluative model for beginning a treatment. I (A. Rothstein) pursue my effort to help people begin treatment from a model I label trusting.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal psychotherapy, psychoanalysis, trial of psychoanalysis

- Referens:** Larsson, M. (in press). Människans minne av lukt – Från aversioner till Proustianska luktminnen. [Human memory for odors: From aversions to Proustian memory.] I L. Öberg (Ed) *Näsans Kunskap*. [What the nose knows.] Södertörns Högskolas Förlag.
- Abstract:**
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) luktsinne, minne, aversioner
- Referens:** Larsson, M., & Bäckman, L. (in press). Odor identification in old age: Demographic, sensory, and cognitive correlates. *Aging, Neuropsychology and Cognition*.
- Abstract:** The purpose of this study was to determine correlates of odor identification in old age. One hundred and thirty-two men and women (60-91 years) were assessed in a number of tasks tapping sensory acuity (i.e., odor sensitivity, intensity discrimination, quality discrimination) and different cognitive abilities (i.e., perceptual speed, executive functioning, verbal fluency). Hierarchical regression analyses revealed that age, female sex, olfactory sensitivity, quality discrimination, cognitive speed, and verbal fluency were the most potent correlates of odor identification in general. In addition, the age-related variance in odor identification was eliminated when age-related deficits in odor sensitivity, quality discrimination, and perceptual speed were taken into account. This pattern of outcome suggests that age-related differences in these abilities underlie the well-established age impairment in odor identification.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal olfaction, odor identification, correlates
- Referens:** Larsson, M., Lundström, J., Frasnelli, J., & Hummel, T. (2003). Effects of age, sex, and side of stimulation on chemosensory event-related potentials. *Chemical Senses*, 28, 561.
- Abstract:** The aim of this study was to explore effects of age, sex, and stimulation side on chemosensory event-related potentials [ERP]. Further, we investigated the relationships between ERP measures and cognitive performance. 39 younger adults (19 f, 20 m; range 19-33 years), and 28 older adults (14 f, 14 m; range 52-79 years) participated. Subjects underwent olfactory testing (PEA odor threshold, odor discrimination and identification), and psychological tests tapping various cognitive domains (e.g., cognitive speed, working memory). ERPs were recorded in response to either left- or right-sided stimulation with H<sub>2</sub>S, PEA, and, in younger subjects, also to CO<sub>2</sub>. Older subjects had longer ERP peak latencies [L] and smaller amplitudes [A]; this change was more pronounced in females compared to males. Main effects of sex were seen for trigeminal, but not olfactory ERP with larger A observed in women. Identification correlated with all ERP components, while discrimination typically correlated with later ERP peak L; PEA thresholds and ERP were not correlated. Measures of working memory exhibited a higher degree of correlation with later ERP components whereas attentional measures had a similar degree of correlation with all ERP measures. These results indicate specific roles of earlier and later components, respectively, of chemosensory ERPs in the processing of odorous information.  
Support: Swedish Research Council (F0647/2001) and Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst (A/02/08254) to ML, and the DFG (HU441/2) to TH.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal olfaction, ERP, cognition
- Referens:** Larsson, M., Lövdén, M., & Nilsson, L.-G. (2003). Sex differences in recollective experience for olfactory and verbal information. *Acta Psychologica*, 112, 89-103.
- Abstract:** We examined recollective experience as a function of sex for olfactory and verbal information. In the first study, men and women studied a set of highly familiar odors with incidental or intentional encoding instructions. In the second study, participants were presented with a number of sentences. At recognition, participants indicated whether their positive response was based on conscious recollection (remembering), a feeling of familiarity (knowing), or guessing. The results indicated that recollection was higher among women than men, and that familiarity-based recognition was equally large across sex for both types of information. The finding that the sex related experiential differences disappeared when controlling for verbal proficiency suggests that sex-related differences in activating verbal information play an important role for sex differences in recollective experience.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal recollective experience, sex differences, odor memory, olfaction
- Referens:** Larsson, M., Nyberg, L., Bäckman, L., & Nilsson, L.-G. (2003). Effects on episodic memory of stimulus richness, intention to learn, and extra-study repetition: Similar profiles across the adult life span. *Journal of Adult Development*, 10, 67-73.
- Abstract:** The ability to benefit from various kinds of cognitive support in episodic memory was studied in a population-based sample of healthy adults aged 35 to 80 years (N=1000). The participants studied pictures of faces and names of 10-year old children with instructions to remember the faces and the surnames. After study, an implicit name stem-completion test was administered, followed by face- and name recognition tests. There was a negative age effect across all task variables. Across age, recognition was higher for faces than for names. An age-invariant positive effect of intention to learn was observed. Also, name completion and recognition performance showed a positive relationship across the adult life span. Overall, the results are in agreement with the views that (a) age-related episodic memory deficits are highly generalizable, and (b) effects of cognitive support on memory are typically of equal size across the adult life span.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal episodic memory, recognition, priming, aging
- Referens:** Larsson, M., & Willander, J. (in press). Luktsinnet i äldrevården. [The olfactory sense in the care of elderly.] In H. Wijk (Ed.), *Goda miljöer och aktiviteter för äldre*. [Good Environments and Activities for Elderly.] Studentlitteratur.
- Abstract:**
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) luktsinne, åldrande, terapi

**Referens:** Li, J., Nilsson, L.-G., & Wu, Z. (in press). Effects of age and anxiety on episodic memory: Selectivity and variability. *Scandinavian Journal of Psychology*.

**Abstract:** Selective age-related differences in source memory relative to item memory, and individual differences in memory performance in relation to anxiety were explored with high- and low-anxious subjects screened from normal young and elderly adults. They were read false facts about the locations of well-known and unknown sights in a male or female voice. Intentional and incidental learning instructions were administered for source memory. Selective age-related deficits in source memory were observed under both encoding conditions. Higher level of anxiety was related to lower memory performance only in the old group; this relation was stronger in source recall. The findings suggest that the presence of such selectivity is unrelated to the tradeoff between item encoding and source encoding. Anxiety affects the variability, and mediates the selectivity of age effects on episodic memory.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal source memory, aging, anxiety

**Referens:** Lindau, M., Jelic, V., Johansson, S.E., Andersen, C., Wahlund, L.O., & Almkvist, O. (2003). Quantitative EEG abnormalities and cognitive dysfunctions in frontotemporal dementia and Alzheimer's disease. *Dementia and Geriatric Cognitive Disorders*, 15, 106-114.

**Abstract:** Investigated the relationship between quantitative EEG (qEEG) measurements in frontotemporal dementia (FTD; n=19), Alzheimer's disease (AD; n=16) and healthy controls (n=19) and studied to what extent qEEG in FTD and AD or neuropsychological test results of FTD and AD patients or a combination of both contribute to classification accuracy. Groups were matched on the group level with respect to demographic variables. For qEEG the global field power was calculated for six frequency bands and spectral ratio as the ratio of the sum of fast frequency bands  $\alpha + \beta_1 + \beta_2 + \beta_3$  and slow frequency bands  $\delta + \theta$ . In comparison to controls FTD patients were marked by an absence of an increase in slow qEEG activities and a decrease in fast activities, whereas AD patients were marked by an increase in slow activities and a smaller decrease in fast activities. The best predictors of FTD and AD were in a model using the and activities, and high levels of visuospatial ability and episodic memory. Classification accuracy of the model was 93.3%. It is concluded that FTD patients reveal a different pattern of qEEG changes than AD patients. A combination of qEEG and neuropsychology is recommended for differential diagnoses of FTD and AD.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal quantitative EEG, measurements classification, accuracy frontotemporal dementia, Alzheimer's disease

**Referens:** Lindfors, P., & Lundberg, U. (2003). Psychophysiological aspects of stress, health and well-being in teleworking women and men. *XIth European Congress on Work and Organizational Psychology*, Lisbon, May 14-17, 2003.

**Abstract:** information Research on stress, work overload, overall health, and well-being in teleworkers is still scarce. Focusing on highly educated women and men employed by the same organisation, the aim of this work was to study psychophysiological activity in 26 white-collar workers while (1) working in the office, (2) teleworking at home, and (3) relaxing at home and to explore positive psychological functioning, specifically psychological well-being and related physiological processes. Findings concerning telework showed that blood pressure was higher during work at the office as compared to telework at home and that men had elevated levels of epinephrine in the evening after telework at home. The variation in cardiovascular activity was considered due to the different work-tasks performed during telework and office-work, whereas the elevated neuroendocrine arousal found in men was associated with continued work in the evenings. Considering positive human functioning, a Swedish translation of Ryff's Psychological Well-Being scales that cover self-acceptance, environmental mastery, positive relations with others, personal growth, purpose in life, and autonomy, and have psychometric properties comparable with the original scales was used. Results suggested a link between overall psychological well-being and lowered cortisol release.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings work stress, information technology, field study

**Referens:** Lindholm, T. (in press). Own-age biases in verbal person memory. *Memory*.

**Abstract:** Two experiments examined own-age biases in younger adults', older adults', and children's verbal person memory. In line with findings from face recognition studies, Experiment 1 showed that younger adults had a better recall of own-age than of other-age targets, while older adults were unaffected by target age. Participants' self-reported interest in targets did not predict target memory. Experiment 2, which examined children's and younger adults' memory of own- and other-age targets, showed an own-age advantage in children's but not in younger adults' verbal person memory. Differences in expertise of own-/other-age targets, in combination with a development of expertise throughout lifespan, may account for the findings, although alternative explanations should be considered. Implications for theory and practice are discussed.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal person memory, expertise, own-age bias

**Referens:** Lindqvist, J.K., Däderman, A.M., & Hellström, Å. (2003). Swedish adaptations of the Novaco Anger scale-1998, the Provocation Inventory, and the State-Trait Anger Expression Inventory-2. *Social Behavior and Personality*, 31, 773-788.

**Abstract:** The first Swedish adaptations of the Novaco Anger Scale (R. W. Novaco, personal communication, April 11, 2001), the Provocation Inventory, (R. W. Novaco, personal communication, April 11, 2001) and the State-Trait Anger Expression Inventory-2 (Spilberger, 1999) (named NAS-1998-S, PI-S and STAXI-2-S respectively), were performed in this study. A sample of undergraduate males (N=100) from Stockholm University completed the adaptations. Investigations of factor structures, relationships between scales, reliability, and construct validity of the adaptations were performed and the results were related to previous studies. The hypothesised factor structures were found for NAS-1998-S and PI-S; for STAXI-2-S a modified three-factor solution emerged. The adaptations had appropriate levels of reliability. The obtained model of construct validity revealed substantial similarity to Spilberger's (1999) multidimensional anger model.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal NAS-1998-S, PI-S, STAXI-2-S

**Referens:** Lindqvist, J.K., Däderman, A.M., Hellström, Å., & Lidberg, L. (2003). Juvenile and adult problems in twenty forensic psychiatric rapists in Sweden. *Nordic Journal of Psychiatry*, 57, 429-435.

**Abstract:** The purpose of this study was to assess the pattern of background variables of 20 convicted rapists. The sample comprised two distinct forensic psychiatric subgroups undergoing different treatments. Data were extracted from forensic psychiatric files. The study variables were juvenile and adult problems of the offenders, related by previous research to the occurrence of rape. Records of juvenile problems and juvenile psychological disturbances tended to co-occur with adult problems of aggressiveness, alcoholism, and extensive criminality. The correlation analysis further supports the notion that psychosocial disturbances have a persistent character: in our sample, different problems in young age are linked to each other as well as to adulthood problems. The results are discussed in the light of empirical research and the need for early and proper individual treatment programs.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal aggressiveness, rape, forensic psychiatric files

**Referens:** Lindwall, M. (in press). Factorial structure and invariance across gender of the Swedish Self-Consciousness Scale. *Journal of Personality Assessment*.

**Abstract:** This study tested different factor models and the factorial invariance across gender for the Self-Consciousness Scale (Fenigstein, Scheier and Buss, 1975), using confirmatory factor analyses. 251 female and 259 male university students completed the Swedish version of the scale. A re-specified (item 15 loading on ISA instead of SR) 17 item four-factor model of Burnkrant and Page (1984), including the factors Self-Reflection (SR), Internal State Awareness (ISA), Public Self-Consciousness (PuSC) and Social Anxiety (SA), demonstrated the best fit for both men and women. Factor intercorrelations were overall stronger for women. The re-specified model demonstrated factorial invariance across gender. The strengthening of scale reliability through the expansion of subscale items and invariance testing across groups are discussed.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal factorial invariance, factorial validity, self-consciousness

**Referens:** Lindwall, M., & Hassmén, P. (in press). The Role of Exercise and Gender for Physical Self-Perceptions and Importance Ratings in Swedish University Students. *Scandinavian Journal of Medicine and Science in Sports*.

**Abstract:** The purpose of this study was to investigate how scores on the Physical Self-Perception Profile (PSPP), including scores on the Perceived Importance Profile (PIP), were related to self-reported exercise frequency, duration, and gender in sample of Swedish university students. A total of 164 participants completed the PSPP, PIP, and a questionnaire focusing on frequency and duration of exercise. Exercise frequency, duration, and gender strongest predicted the PSPP sub-domains of Sport Competence and Physical Conditioning. Exercising more frequently, and for a longer time on each occasion was associated with higher PSPP and PIP scores. Women generally displayed lower PSPP scores than men. These results suggest that exercise professionals need to master a range of appropriate exercise strategies, since doubts concerning self-presentation may work against establishing a regular exercise routine.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal exercise, gender, physical self-perception

**Referens:** Longato-Stadler, E., af Klinteberg, B., Garpenstrand, H., Orelund, L., & Hallman, J. (2003). Presentation 'Personality traits and platelet MAO activity in a Swedish male criminal population. *The Third Annual International Association of Forensic Mental Health Services (IAFMHS) Conference 'From Institutions to the Community'*, Miami Beach, Florida, April 9-12.

**Abstract:** In a Swedish male criminal population (1) group differences were studied between personality disorder cluster groups according to DSM-IV and non-criminal controls; and (2) the possible existence of a risk factor combination in the individual by having low platelet MAO activity as well as belonging to a certain diagnostic DSM IV Axis I and/or Axis II subgroup was elucidated.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings personality disorders, criminality, Karolinska Scales of Personality (KSP), MAO activity

**Referens:** Lundberg, C., Caneman, G., Samuelsson, S.M., Hakamies-Blomqvist, L., & Almkvist, O. (2003). The assessment of fitness to drive after a stroke: the Nordic Stroke Driver Screening Assessment. *Scandinavian Journal of Psychology*, 44, 23-30.

**Abstract:** The British Stroke Driver Screening Assessment (SDSA) is a set of four simple cognitive tests to evaluate driving fitness in stroke patients. To evaluate its usefulness in a Scandinavian context, the authors adapted the tests and assessed a group of 97 stroke patients (aged 29-85 yrs) from Sweden and Norway, using a driving test as the criterion. When results were calculated according to the original method, based on a discriminant function, less than 70% of the participants were correctly classified. To improve the predictive potential, a new discriminant analysis was performed, using the scores of a subsample of 49 patients, and validated on the remaining 48 participants. In total, 78% of the patients were correctly classified, but specificity was superior to sensitivity. It is concluded that the Nordic version of the SDSA is a useful instrument, provided that test scores are interpreted in a balanced manner, taking into account the possibility of compensatory traffic behavior.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal Nordic Stroke Driver Screening Assessment, driving fitness, cognitive assessment

**Referens:** Lundberg, U. (2003). Muscle tension. SES and Health The Allostatic Notebook (websida): [www.macses.ucsf.edu/Research/overview.htm](http://www.macses.ucsf.edu/Research/overview.htm)

**Abstract:** This paper summarizes the evidence and mechanisms assumed to explain the relationship between mental stress and musculoskeletal disorders.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Report stress, EMG, pain

**Referens:** Lundberg, U. (2003). Catecholamines. SES and Health The Allostatic Notebook (websida): [www.macses.ucsf.edu/Research/overview.htm](http://www.macses.ucsf.edu/Research/overview.htm)

**Abstract:** This paper describes the role played by the two catecholamines, adrenaline and noradrenaline, in health and disease and their role as indicators of stress. Advantages and disadvantages of measurements of catecholamines in urine and plasma are summarized.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Report adrenaline, noradrenaline, assessment

**Referens:** Lundberg, U. (2003). Psykisk stress och muskuloskeletala besvär: psykobiologiska mekanismer. [Mental stress and musculoskeletal disorders: Psychobiological mechanisms.] *Läkartidningen*, vol. 100, nr. 21, 1892-1895.

**Abstract:** Psychosocial stress is assumed to contribute to musculoskeletal disorders, particularly neck and shoulder pain. Experimental studies show that mental stress induces a significant increase in muscle tension in the trapezius muscle and several explanatory models have been proposed in order to understand the mechanisms linking low sustained muscle tension to musculoskeletal disorders. Recently, it has been demonstrated that the same motor units are activated by mental stress as by physical demands, which means that mental stress may keep low threshold motor units active also during breaks at work and off the job. In the modern society, lack of rest and recovery seems even more important for health than the magnitude of stress and physical demands during work.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal muscle pain, stress, mechanisms

**Referens:** Lundberg, U., Krantz, G., & Berntsson, L. (2003). Total arbetsbördar, stress och muskelbesvär i ett genusperspektiv. [Total workload, stress and musculoskeletal disorders in a gender perspective.] *Socialmedicinsk tidskrift*, 80, 245-254.

**Abstract:** The total workload and the distribution of responsibility for unpaid work (household tasks, child care) were investigated in Swedish full-time male and female white-collar workers with approximately the same educational and occupational background in relation to age, occupational status and number of children. Furthermore, subjective ratings of perceived total workload, stress and conflict between demands, as well as the degree of feeling in control of household tasks, were explored. Women had a greater total workload, devoted more time to household work and child care, perceived more stress from paid work and conflict between demands than men. They also felt more in control of household tasks. On the other hand, women spent somewhat fewer hours doing paid work. These gender differences were found, irrespective of occupational status and in households with or without children at home. The gender differences in total workload were used to discuss the possible role of lack of rest and recovery for women's higher prevalence of musculoskeletal disorders compared with men.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal total workload, stress, musculoskeletal disorders

**Referens:** Lundberg, U., & Wentz, G. (in press). *Stressad hjärna, stressad kropp. Om sambanden mellan psykisk stress och kroppslig ohälsa* [Stressed brain, stressed body. About the relation between mental stress and somatic illness.] Wahlström och Widstrand.

**Abstract:** The book reviews the evidence and psychobiological mechanisms explaining the relationships between psychosocial stress and various bodily symptoms.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) review, mental stress, somatic health

**Referens:** Lövdén, M., Rönnlund, M., Wahlin, Å., Bäckman, L., Nyberg, L., & Nilsson, L.-G. (in press). Stability and change in episodic and semantic memory in old age. *Journal of Gerontology: Psychological Sciences*.

**Abstract:** Structural stability and change in semantic and episodic memory performance as well as interindividual differences in five-year changes in these constructs are examined within a sample of older adults (age range T1=60-80; n=361). The interindividual differences in change were limited but significant. Stability coefficients were higher for semantic (.95) than for episodic memory (.87). Changes in episodic and semantic memory performance were strongly associated ( $r=.68$ ). Across time, variances and covariances increased, and a tendency towards dedifferentiation in terms of increasing correlations was found. Collectively, these results depict relatively high degrees of structural stability and stability of interindividual differences in declarative memory in old age.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal cognitive aging, declarative memory, dedifferentiation

**Referens:** Lövdén, M., & Wahlin, Å. (in press). The sensory-cognition association in adulthood: Different magnitudes in processing resources, episodic memory, and false memory. *Scandinavian Journal of Psychology*.

**Abstract:** One hundred and forty-six participants (age range=20-80) completed a battery of tests designed to measure visual acuity, processing speed, inhibition, episodic memory, and false memory. The relations between visual acuity and general cognitive ability, as well as between visual acuity and the indicators of this construct, were evaluated with structural equation modeling. The measurement model confirmed that the indicators of the individual cognitive abilities could be grouped into a general cognitive functioning factor. However, the relation between episodic and false memory was not completely explained by the shared association with this general factor. Furthermore, visual acuity predicted approximately half of the age-related variance in the general cognition factor. Also, the proportion of age-related variance shared with vision was highest in inhibition and lowest in false memory. The results are discussed in the light of common cause accounts of cognitive aging.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal cognitive aging, sensory, episodic memory

**Referens:** Magnusson, C. (2003). Adolescents' sexual well-being. *XIth European Conference on Developmental Psychology*, Milan, august 27-31.

**Abstract:** The aim of this study is to obtain more knowledge of adolescents' development of a sexual self and sexual well-being in a context of relationships, well-being, self-perception and social adjustment. The project is a

community based survey. Data has been collected in a mid-sized community in Sweden. The project includes all adolescents who attended the first year in higher secondary school (16 years of age) and a follow-up study at the age of 18. 208 girls and 261 boys have participated. Data was collected by questionnaires. This is an ongoing study.

Results showed that the majority of the adolescents had a positive attitude towards sexuality and experienced that their parents wanted them to have a good sexual life. Girls and boys had different constructions of sexual self and sexual self-esteem. At the age of 16, 21% of the girls and 16% of the boys had had no partner of opposite sex. 55% girls and 51% boys had had sexual intercourse and one out of five before the age of 15. At the age of 18, 14% of the girls and 16% of the boys had had no partner of opposite-sex. 72.8% of the girls and 64.6% of the boys had had intercourse.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings adolescence, sexuality, self-esteem

**Referens:** [Magnusson, D.](#) (2003). The person approach: Concepts, measurement models, and research strategy. Special Issue of *New Directions for Child and Adolescent Development*, 101, 3-23.

**Abstract:** In recent days, what has been designated the person approach has been increasingly applied in developmental research. The overriding purpose of the article is to discuss the person approach and what distinguishes it from what has become designated the variable approach. Based on a descriptive analysis of basic characteristics of developmental processes, it is argued that the person approach rests on two interdependent fundaments: (1) the holistic-interactionistic framework for developmental processes and the individuality of these processes, and (2) the application of a research strategy that includes a measurement model, appropriate for the study of integrated, holistic processes in terms of patterns of working components, at all levels of the individual and of the person-environment system in which the individual is an acting participant. The complementarity of the person approach and the variable approach, respectively, is emphasized.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal person approach, transformation, integration, ISSN: 1520-3247

**Referens:** Maitland, S.B., Herlitz, A., Nyberg, L., Bäckman, L., & [Nilsson, L.-G.](#) (in press). Selective sex differences in declarative memory. *Memory & Cognition*.

**Abstract:** Sex invariance of a six-factor, higher order model of declarative memory (two second-order factors: episodic and semantic memory, and four first-order factors: recall, recognition; fluency, knowledge) was established for 1796 participants (35-85 years). Metric invariance of first and second-order factor loadings across sex was demonstrated. At the second-order level, a female advantage was observed for both episodic and semantic memory. At the first-order level, sex differences in episodic memory were apparent for both recall and recognition, whereas the differences in semantic memory were driven by a female superiority in fluency. Additional tests of sex differences in three age groups (35-50, 55-65, and 70-85 years of age) indicated that the female superiority in declarative memory diminished with advancing age. The factor-specific sex differences are discussed in relation to sex differences in hippocampal function.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal episodic memory, semantic memory, gender

**Referens:** Melke, J., Westberg, L., Nilsson, S., Landén, M., Söderström, H., Baghaei, F., Rosmond, R., Holm, G., Björntorp, P., [Nilsson, L.-G.](#), Adolfsson, R., & Eriksson, E. (2003). A polymorphism in the serotonin receptor 3A (HTR3A) gene and its association with harm avoidance in women. *Archives of General Psychiatry*, 60, 1017-1023.

**Abstract:** The brain neurotransmitter serotonin is known to affect various aspects of human behavior, including personality traits. Serotonin receptor type 3 is a ligand-gated channel encoded by 2 different subunit genes, HTR3A and HTR3B. A polymorphism (C178T) in the 5' region of the HTR3A gene has recently been identified and suggested to be of functional importance. The objective was to elucidate the possible association between the C178T polymorphism in the HTR3A gene and personality traits in women. Two independent samples of 35- to 45-year-old Swedish women were recruited using the population register. Sample 1 (n=195) was assessed via the Karolinska Scales of Personality and the Temperament and Character Inventory; sample 2 (n=175) was assessed using the latter only. Both samples were genotyped with respect to the C178T polymorphism in the HTR3A gene. The A1596G polymorphism in the same gene was also investigated. A significant association between C178T genotype and the Temperament and Character Inventory factor harm avoidance was observed in sample 1 (corrected for multiple comparisons P=.04); this finding was subsequently replicated in sample 2 (P=.004) (pooled populations: P<.001). In the pooled sample, all harmed avoidance subscales were found to be significantly associated with the C178T polymorphism: anticipatory worry (P=.001), fear of uncertainty (P<.001), shyness (P<.001), and fatigability and asthenia (P=.008). In addition, a significant association was found in sample 1 between the C178T polymorphism and the Karolinska Scales of Personality nonconformity factor (corrected P=.002), including the subscales of social desirability (P<.001), indirect aggression (P=.002), verbal aggression (P=.05), and irritability (P<.001). Participants homozygous for the less common T allele (<4%) differed from the remaining women by displaying lower ratings on harm avoidance and nonconformity. It was concluded that the C178T polymorphism in the HTR3A gene may affect the personality trait of harm avoidance in women.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal serotonin, personality, genetics

**Referens:** Mellner, C., & Lundberg, U. (2003). Self- and physician-rated general health in relation to symptoms and diseases among women. *Psychology, Health and Medicine*, 8, 123-134.

**Abstract:** Self-rated general health has been demonstrated as an important predictor of future morbidity and mortality, but the determinants of perceived good or poor general health are less clear. The aim of the present study was to investigate self- and physician-rated general health status in relation to self-reported symptoms and diseases (n=488) as well as to physician-reported health problems based on medical examinations (n=369) among 43-year-old women representing the general population of a Swedish community. Although most women had good general health as reflected by their own as well as by the physicians' ratings, the physicians rated about twice as many women (12%) to have poor health compared to the women themselves (6%). The agreement between the women's self-reported general health and the physicians' ratings was significant but low (22%). Bivariate correlations showed that many of the symptoms and diseases in the present sample were significantly associated with both self- and physician-rated general health, but the explained variance was low, varying from 1 to 12%. The exception was for a self-reported sense of powerlessness that explained 20% of the variance in self-rated general health. When taken together and analysed by multivariate logistic regression, it was found that only self-reported symptoms predicted the self-rated general health of the women,

contributing to 24% of the variance ( $p<0.001$ ). In contrast, both physician-reports of health problems (11%) and self-reports of symptoms (13%), respectively, significantly predicted the physician-rated general health of the women, together contributing to 24% of the variance ( $p<0.001$ ). Self-reported diseases did not predict either the self-rated or the physician-rated general health of the women. The findings from the present study support the notion that general health status, when rated by a physician or by the woman herself, is a complex and multidimensional concept that is only partly predicted by symptoms and conditions. Thus, future studies should focus on additional tentative factors in determining self-rated health, as well as on how evaluations of health are communicated to, and interpreted by physicians.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal females, medical examination, health

**Referens:** [Montgomery, H.](#) (2003). Hinder och möjligheter för det goda samtalet – Den auktoritära och den demokratiska gruppen. [Obstacles and possibilities for the good discussion. The authoritarian and the democratic group.] In M. Gilljam, & J. Hermansson (Eds.), *Demokratins mekanismar [The mechanisms of democracy]* (pp. 247-266). Stockholm: Liber.

**Abstract:** This paper elaborates on the idea that a good group discussion is prevented by an authoritarian social pressure and promoted by a democratic atmosphere characterized by reciprocity and a shared reality, where participants contribute with their own pieces to a common jigsaw-puzzle. The paper is based on research from the "golden age" of social psychology, in which dramatic effects of social pressure were demonstrated, as well as on more modern research showing the role of reciprocity, shared reality and perspective taking as group uniting factors.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) authoritarian, discussion, democratic

**Referens:** [Montgomery, H., Sharifi, P., & Hedman L.](#) (in press). Engaging in activities involving information technology: Dimensions, modes and flow. *Human Factors*.

**Abstract:** An engagement mode involves a subject (e.g., a user of Information Technology) who is engaged in an activity with an object in a certain manner (the mode). A questionnaire involving items on IT engagement and the experience of flow was administered to 300 participants. The results supported a model of engagement modes (the EM model) involving five different engagement modes (Enjoying/Acceptance, Ambition/Curiosity, Avoidance/Hesitation, Frustration/Anxiety, and Efficiency/Productivity) characterized on three dimensions (Evaluation of object, Locus of control between subject and object, and intrinsic or extrinsic Focus of motivation). The flow experience follows from a balance between Enjoying/Acceptance and Efficiency/Productivity propelled by Ambition/Curiosity. It is concluded that the EM model could give a platform for considering how IT users, IT applications and IT environments should work together to yield both enjoyment and efficiency. Furthermore, the EM model could lead to IT training programs on different levels of specificity.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal engagement mode, flow, evaluation control, motivation, information technology

**Referens:** [Montgomery, H., & Törngren, G.](#) (2003). The psychology of economic forecasting: What can be seen in public data? Paper presented at the 19th bi-annual conference on *Subjective Probability Utility and Decision making*. Zürich, Switzerland.

**Abstract:** Annual data on actual and forecasted GNPs (starting in 1971) made by professional economists (OECD) for 13 European countries were analyzed with respect to accuracy and psychological mechanisms underlying the forecasts. Correlations between actual and forecasted GNPs (computed across successive countries and across successive years, respectively) were moderately high ( $r=.40 - .70$ ). Using regression and correlation analyses test were made for the existence of the following judgmental biases in the forecasts: Availability bias (too strong impact of current growth data for particular countries). Anchoring and adjustment bias (insufficient adjustment of overall growth in relation to particular countries). Base rate neglect /(two wide range between highest and lowest forecasts across countries for a given year). Optimism or pessimism bias (general tendency to positive or negative difference between forecasted and actual growth data). Support has been found for three biases: availability bias, neglect of base rates for specific countries, and regression fallacy (only for older data). We will discuss possibilities to formulate a model for how judgmental biases and heuristics influence economic forecasts and how such a model could be used to correct economic forecasts for judgmental biases.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings economic forecasting

**Referens:** [Nilsson, L.-G.](#) (2003). Memory function in normal aging. *Acta Neurologica Scandinavica*, 107 (suppl. 179), 7-13.

**Abstract:** Basic findings obtained on memory functions in normal aging are presented and discussed with respect to five separate but interacting memory systems. These systems are: episodic memory, semantic memory, short-term memory, perceptual representation system, and procedural memory. All available evidence from cross-sectional research shows that there is a linear, decreasing memory performance as a function of age for episodic memory. Longitudinal studies suggest, however, that this age deficit may be an overestimation by showing a relatively stable performance level up to middle age, followed by a sharp decline. Studies on semantic memory, short-term memory, perceptual representation system, and procedural memory show a relatively constant performance level across the adult life span although some tasks used to assess short-term memory and procedural memory have revealed an age deficit. Disregarding the mixed results for these latter two memory systems, it can be concluded that episodic memory is unique in showing an age deficit. Episodic memory is also unique in the sense that it is the only memory system showing gender difference in performance throughout the adult life span with a significantly higher performance for women.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal episodic memory, semantic memory, short-term memory

**Referens:** [Nilsson, L.-G.](#) (2003). The Sveriges Riksbank (Bank of Sweden) prize in economic sciences in memory of Alfred Nobel. In T. Frängsmyr (Ed.), *Les Prix Nobel: The Nobel Prizes 2002*. Stockholm: Nobel Foundation.

**Abstract:** This chapter is the text presented at the Nobel ceremony on December 10, 2002, in the Concert Hall of Stockholm, when Professor Daniel Kahneman and Professor Vernon Smith were awarded the Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) Nobel Prize, economics

**Referens:** Nilsson, L.-G., Adolfsson, R., Bäckman, L., de Frias, C., Molander, B., & Nyberg, L. (in press). Betula: A prospective cohort study on memory, health and aging. *Aging, Neuropsychology and Cognition*.

**Abstract:** This article describes the Betula Study with respect to objectives, design, participants, and assessment instruments for health and cognition. Three waves of data collection have been completed in five-year intervals since 1988-90. A fourth wave started in 2003 and will be completed in 2005. An overview of research is presented on memory and cognition, gender, genetics, white-matter lesions and brain atrophy, and personality. Ongoing research and future prospects of the Betula Study are then described under three rubrics relating to the overall objectives of the study: development of memory and health, early cognitive signs and risk factors of dementia, and premorbid measurement of memory function. New data are presented on the association between dementia and blood pressure. The new fourth wave of data collection will, in addition to enriching the Betula database, permit revisiting and reanalyzing the existing data from new perspectives.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal memory, health, aging

**Referens:** Nilsson, L.-G., Söderlund, H., Berger, K., Breteler, M., de Ridder, M., Dufouil, C., Fuhrer, R., Giampoli, S., Hofman, A., Pajak, A., Sans, S., Schmidt, R., & Launer, L.J. (in press). Cognitive test battery of CASCADE: Tasks and data. *Aging, Neuropsychology and Cognition*.

**Abstract:** This paper presents the cognitive test battery used in the CASCADE Study (Cardiovascular Determinants of Dementia) for examining the consequences of cerebral white matter lesions and atrophy. The test battery includes nine different tasks assessing memory, executive function, and global cognitive function. Three episodic memory tasks were used in combinations to assess the role of attention and speed on encoding. Estimates of short- and long-term memory capacity were also derived from these three memory tasks. Semantic memory production / frontal lobe functions were assessed by means of a word fluency test. The Letter Digit Substitution test and the Stroop test were used to assess speed of processing and attention. Motor speed was measured with the Purdue Pegboard test, and global cognitive function was assessed by the Mini Mental State Examination. Overall performance data for the whole CASCADE sample and for each of eight study centers are presented for each test. Possible reasons for performance differences among study centers are discussed.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal memory, executive function, cognition

**Referens:** Nilsson, M.E., Axelsson, Ö., & Berglund, B. (2003). Children's and adults' perception of soundscapes at school. In G. Brambilla, C. Ianiello & L. Maffei, *Proceedings of the 5th European Conference on Noise Control (Euronoise 2003)*. Roma, Italian Association of Acoustics (AIA) [Available on CD, ISBN: 88-88942-00-9].

**Abstract:** Methods were developed for measuring 40 children's (10-11 years old) and their main carers' perception of 34 soundscapes (10-s excerpts), which were selected from a large set of 45-min binaural recordings at schools around a major airport. Perceived loudness was master scaled, based on tape-measure matches of perceived length to perceived loudness of soundscapes and reference sounds. As expected, three emotional attribute scales (pleasantness, arousal, and control assessed by visual analogue scales) showed weaker relationships to sound level than the perceived loudness scale. Children's and parents' scales of perceived loudness and emotional attributes agreed well, although the children found the loudest outdoor sounds (aircraft sounds dominated) less loud than the parents. No difference was found between children attending schools with high aircraft noise exposures and children attending schools with low or no aircraft exposures. This suggests that prior contextual experience of noise does not affect soundscape perception. At equal sound levels (dBA), children and parents consider indoor soundscapes to be distinctly less pleasant than outdoor soundscapes. This supports the view that acoustical scales based on A-weighted sound level are inappropriate for comparative evaluations of indoor and outdoor soundscapes.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings Book (chapter) soundscape, children, traffic noise

**Referens:** Nilsson, M.E., & Berglund, B. (2003). Evaluation of a road-traffic noise barrier: An intervention study. In A. Nilsson & H. Bodén (Eds.), *International Congress on Sounds and Vibration* (vol. 7, pp. 3767-3774). Auburn, AL: International Institute of Acoustics and Vibration.

**Abstract:** Questionnaire studies were conducted before and 2 years after the construction of a 2.25-m high noise barrier along a heavily trafficked road (>19,000 vehicles/24h weekdays). Houses closest to the barrier received on average a sound-level reduction of 7.5 dB LDEN at the most exposed facades 22 m from center of road (from approx. 70.0 to 62.5 dB LDEN). The sound-level reduction decreased with distance to the road, and was negligible for buildings at more than 100 m distance. Correspondingly, the noise barrier reduced distinctly residents' noise annoyance outdoors and indoors as well as improved speech communication outdoors. Only small improvements were observed indoors in speech communication and sleep disturbance. Despite the protecting barrier, serious noise problems prevailed. For instance, after the barrier was built, still, 46% of the residents living closest to the main road (<25 m) often or very often experienced noise interference with speech communication outdoors in their gardens, and 20% were often or very often awakened too early in the morning by road-traffic noise. These results confirm that reflecting noise barriers of conventional type insufficiently protect against exposures of high sound levels of road-traffic noise (>70 LDEN).

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings Book (chapter) noise annoyance, noise barrier, noise exposure

**Referens:** Nilsson, M.E., Berglund, B., & Axelsson, Ö. (2003). Soundscapes perceived by children and adults. In B. Berglund & E. Borg (Eds.), *Fechner Day 2003* (pp. 199-204). Stockholm: International Society for Psychophysics.

**Abstract:** Different groups of children and adults (N=19-21) scaled loudness and emotional attributes (pleasantness, arousal, and control) of soundscapes recorded indoors and outdoors in the children's home environment. Children and adults performed equally well in cross-modal matching of tape-measure-length to loudness. Their loudness relationships for reference sound levels (pink noise) and soundscapes also agreed well. Master scaled loudness of soundscapes was well predicted by average A-weighted sound level (LAeq,10s) for both children

and adults. A weaker relationship was found between sound level and perceived pleasantness, supporting the view that A-weighted sound level is less meaningful as predictor of positive soundscape attributes. Moreover, children's scale values of perceived pleasantness were significantly greater than the adult's. This agrees with previous questionnaire and experimental studies showing that children have a higher tolerance than adults of soundscapes with traffic noise. Traffic noise exposures below 55 dBA over the 24 hours are needed in order to provide restorative soundscapes for children and adults in evening and night.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings Book (chapter) soundscape, noise sensitivity, noise annoyance, Fechner Day

**Referens:** Nilsson, M.E., & Nougo, A. (2003). Noise sensitivity and soundscape perception. In B. Berglund & E. Borg (Eds.), *Fechner Day 2003* (pp. 205-210). Stockholm: International Society for Psychophysics.

**Abstract:** In this psychoacoustical experiment, noise sensitive ( $N=13$ ) and noise-insensitive ( $N=13$ ) participants scaled 24 recorded soundscapes with respect to 12 perceptual attributes. On average, noise sensitive participants produced higher scale values on negative attributes than noise insensitive participants, but equal or lower values on neutral and positive attributes. Analysis of specific attributes showed a significant between-group difference for the attributes "loud", "annoying" and "stressful". For loudness, noise sensitive participants produced higher scale values than insensitive participants for high sound-level soundscapes ( $>40$  dBA), but not for low sound-level soundscapes. For annoyance (and stressfulness), noise sensitive participants produced higher scale values than noise insensitive participants for all soundscapes, independent of sound level. Taken together, the results may be explained in terms of between-group differences in sound perception or in response style. Differences in sound perception would agree with a sensory sensitivity hypothesis. An explanation in terms of response style would require a statement that different perceptual attributes have different response functions.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings Book (chapter) soundscape, noise sensitivity, noise annoyance, Fechner Day

**Referens:** Nordqvist, S., Hovmark, S., & Zika-Viktorsson, A. (in press). Perceived time pressure and social processes in project teams. *International Journal of Project management*.

**Abstract:** This study addresses the issue of perceived time pressure in project teams. The first purpose was to investigate how time pressure relates to job satisfaction and estimated goal achievement. A second purpose was to investigate how team processes [team support for the goal, cooperation and collective ability] affect the potential effect of time pressure. The study includes members [ $n=110$ ] of twelve projects [six construction projects, five product development projects and one organizational development project] from four Swedish companies. Data was collected by means of a questionnaire and the response rate was 76%. Time pressure was negatively related, although slightly, to both estimated goal fulfillment and job satisfaction. The negative effect of time pressure was moderated by team support for the goal and collective ability in such a way that the negative effect disappeared. The findings remained after controlling for task complexity.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal time pressure, project work, team processes

**Referens:** Nyberg, L., Maitland, S.B., Rönnlund, M., Bäckman, L., Dixon, R.A., Wahlin, Å., & Nilsson, L.-G. (2003). Selective adult age differences in an age-invariant multi-factor model of declarative memory. *Psychology and Aging*, 18, 149-160.

**Abstract:** Confirmatory factor analysis was used to test competing models of declarative memory. Data from 377 middle-aged participants (35-50 years) provided support for a model comprised of two second-order factors (episodic and semantic memory) and four first-order factors (recall, recognition; fluency, knowledge). Extending this model across two older age groups (young-old, 55-65 years,  $N=283$ ; old-old, 70-80 years,  $N=265$ ) established support for age invariance of both first- and second-order factor loadings. Tests of age-group differences in memory performance at the factor level showed a significant age deficit for episodic memory. The age-related differences were more pronounced for recall than for recognition. Whereas all three age groups differed in recall, the old-old but not the young-old were outperformed by the middle-aged in recognition. For semantic memory, the young-old outperformed the middle-aged and old-old groups. This effect reflected an increase in knowledge from middle to young-old age, and thereafter a decrease to about the same level as in middle age. Overall, in the context of an age-invariant model, the results support the view that episodic memory is more age sensitive than semantic memory, but also indicate that aging has differential effects within these two forms of memory.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal episodic memory, semantic memory, declarative memory, SEM, aging

**Referens:** Näswall, K. (2003). Lean on me: The moderating effect of social support on the consequences of job insecurity. Paper presented at the 11th European Congress on Work and Organizational Psychology, Lisbon, 14-17 May 2003.

**Abstract:** During the last decades organizations have had to respond to demands of more flexibility by decreasing the size of their workforce, or conducting large reorganizations in order to stay on the market. This has resulted in unpredictable conditions and job insecurity for employees. Job insecurity can be defined as the worry a person feels about the future of her or his employment situation, as well as a fear of losing valued job features. The experience of job insecurity has been linked to several different negative outcomes, such as negative work attitudes and adverse health symptoms. Because of these negative consequences it is important to look at how the effects of job insecurity can be decreased. Certain factors have been proposed to moderate this relation between job insecurity and negative well-being, because of their function as coping resources. One such coping resource is social support. The present study investigates how work-based support moderates the effect of job insecurity on well-being, operationalized as mental health and job satisfaction. We also test the possibility that the two dimensions of job insecurity are differently related to the outcome variables, and whether the relations between the dimensions and the outcome variables are affected differently by social support. Questionnaire data were collected in a large Swedish public administration. The results show that after controlling for demographic variables there are indeed main effects of both job insecurity and social support on both outcome variables, and that emotional support moderated the relation between both dimensions of job insecurity and mental health complaints.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings job insecurity, social support, well-being

**Referens:** Näswall, K., & De Witte, H. (2003). Who feels insecure in Europe? Predicting job insecurity from background variables. *Economic and Industrial Democracy*, 24, 189-216.

**Abstract:** Along with the increased flexibilization of the labor market in Europe there has been a change in the permanence and security of employment. Job insecurity is constituted by a subjectively experienced threat of having to give up one's job sooner than one would like. The experience of job insecurity has been linked to decreasing well-being, negative attitudes towards one's job and organization, and reluctance to stay with the organization. The present study investigates what groups experience higher levels of job insecurity than others. Survey data from four European countries (Belgium, Italy, the Netherlands, and Sweden) were used to determine what characterizes individuals who experience high levels of job insecurity. The results show that employees in jobs characterized by manual labor, contingent workers, and to some extent older workers and those with lower levels of education, experience higher levels of job insecurity.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal job insecurity, demographics, predictors

**Referens:** Näswall, K., Hellgren, J., & Sverke, M. (2003). *Anställningsotrygghet: Individen på den flexibla arbetsmarknaden. [Job insecurity: The individual on the flexible labour market.]* Lund: Studentlitteratur.

**Abstract:** As organizational restructuring becomes more frequent, often with reduction of personnel as one consequence, the labor situation for the employees becomes less predictable. The increased uncertainty is manifested among employees as job insecurity, a phenomenon receiving greater research attention during the years prior to as well as after the turn of the century. This book compiles the knowledge gained from research during the last 30 years. The book describes the definitions of job insecurity in terms of a stressor, as well as a breach of the psychological contract. The antecedents and consequences of this experience are discussed. Two chapters are dedicated to coping strategies, attempting to describe how the negative consequences of job insecurity may be dealt with. Individual coping strategies are discussed followed by how the organization and the union may alleviate the stress of job insecurity in the individual. The book is written for university students and practitioners.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) job insecurity, psychological contract, stress reactions, coping strategies

**Referens:** Näswall, K., Sverke, M., & Hellgren, J. (2003). The moderating role of core self-evaluations on the relation between job insecurity and well-being among nurses. Poster presented at the VIIth European Conference on Organizational Psychology and Health Care, Vienna, 8-11 October 2003.

**Abstract:** Organizations in the human service sector have during the last decades been forced to respond to increased demands of flexibility by reducing their workforce or conducting large reorganizations in order to remain competitive. As a consequence, job insecurity has become more common among health-care workers, and increasingly the focus for research. Job insecurity can be defined as the worry a person feels about the future of her or his employment situation. The experience of job insecurity has been linked to several different negative outcomes, such as negative attitudes toward work and the organization, wishes to leave the organization, as well as symptoms of ill-health. These outcomes have also been found to vary between different groups of employees. It is therefore vital to understand factors that could influence the relation between job insecurity and its consequences, such as how personality characteristics moderate the impact of job insecurity on well-being. Those characteristics that most readily come in to play are those having to do with the individuals' perceptions of ability to counteract a threat, namely self-esteem, locus of control, affectivity, and self-efficacy. These variables have been incorporated in previous research in the higher-order construct of core self-evaluations, which represents a positive self-concept. The present study investigates the moderating effect of core self-evaluations on the relation between job insecurity and well-being. A sample of 281 nurses at a major Swedish emergency hospital participated. The direct and interactive effects of job insecurity and core self-evaluations on well-being (mental health complaints, job satisfaction, job induced tension) were tested with structural equation modeling. Preliminary results show that those with more positive self-evaluations do not experience the negative consequences of job insecurity to the same extent as those with a more negative view of themselves.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings job insecurity, personality characteristics, moderators

**Referens:** Näswall, K., Sverke, M., & Hellgren, J. (2003). Effects of job insecurity and core self-evaluations on subsequent well-being. Paper presented at the Fifth Interdisciplinary Conference on Occupational Stress and Health - Work, Stress and Health: New Challenges in a Changing Workplace, Toronto, March 20-22 2003.

**Abstract:** During the last decades employment has become more dynamic. Organizations have had to respond to demands of more flexibility by decreasing the size of their workforce, or conducting large reorganizations in order to stay on the market. As a consequence, job insecurity has been an increasing concern for researchers during the last decades, as it may have detrimental consequences for both the individual and the organization. Job insecurity can be defined as the worry a person feels about the future of her or his employment situation. The feeling of job insecurity is a subjective experience, differing among employees in the same objective work situation. The experience of job insecurity has been linked to several different negative outcomes, such as negative attitudes toward work and the organization, wishes to leave the organization, as well as symptoms of ill-health. As job insecurity has been documented to relate to detrimental consequences for both the individual and the organization, it is vital that we understand how this experience can be moderated. Despite some earlier research studies including personality, we know little of how personality characteristics moderate the impact of job insecurity on well-being. Those characteristics that most readily come in to play are those having to do with the individuals' feeling of ability to counteract a threat, namely self-esteem, locus of control, affectivity, and self-efficacy. These variables have been incorporated in previous research in a higher order construct named core self-evaluations, which implies a positive self-concept. The present study investigates the moderating effect of core self-evaluations on the relation between job insecurity and well-being. Job insecurity and core self-evaluations were measured at in order to predict well-being (mentures of physical and mental health were obtained at both Time 1 and 2, to control for initial levels of well-being. The direct and interactive effects of job insecurity and core self-evaluations on subsequent physical and mental health were tested, with demographics used as control variables. Preliminary results show that those with more positive self-evaluations do not experience the negative consequences of job insecurity to the same degree as those with a more negative view of themselves.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings job insecurity, personality characteristics, interaction effect

- Referens:** Patten, C.J.D., Kircher, A., Östlund, J., & Nilsson, L. (in press). Using mobile telephones: cognitive workload and attention resource allocation. *Accident Analysis and Prevention*.
- Abstract:** Driver distraction is recognized as being one of the central causes of road traffic incidents and mobile telephones are tangible devices (among many other electronic devices) that can distract the driver through changes in workload. Forty participants completed a motorway route characterized by a low level of road complexity in the form of vehicle handling and information processing. A peripheral detection task (PDT) was employed to gauge mental workload. We compared effects of conversation type (simple versus complex) and telephone mode (hands-free versus handheld) to baseline conditions. The participants' reaction times increased significantly when conversing but no benefit of hands-free units over handheld units on rural road/motorways was found. Thus, in regard to mobile telephones, the content of the conversation was far more important for driving and driver distraction than the type of telephone when driving on a motorway or similar type of road. The more difficult and complex the conversation, the greater the possible negative effect on driver distraction.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal attention resource allocation, mobile telephones, hands-free and hand-held
- Referens:** Paunovic, N., & Öst, L.-G. (in press). Clinical validation of the Swedish version of the quality of life inventory in crime victims with posttraumatic stress disorder and a nonclinical sample. *Journal of Psychopathology and Behavioral Assessment*.
- Abstract:** The Swedish version of the Quality of Life Inventory (QOLI) was cross-culturally validated with a crime victim sample (N=53) with posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and a non-clinical group (N=100) with no lifetime and current psychiatric disorder from the general population in the Stockholm county of Sweden. The QOLI showed excellent internal consistencies in the clinical and the non-clinical sample. In addition, PTSD participants displayed a significantly lower self-perceived quality of life in 13 out of 16 domains of life than the non-clinical individuals. Furthermore, the QOLI was inversely correlated with interview and self-report measures of PTSD symptoms, depression and anxiety. Overall, the results support the utility of the Swedish QOLI version as a potentially useful measure of self-perceived quality of life in Swedish clinical and non-clinical samples. The results are discussed in relation to the Swedish cross-cultural validation of the QOLI, methodological limitations and future directions.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal PTSD, Quality of life inventory, crime victims
- Referens:** Persson, J., Bringlöv, E., Nilsson, L.-G., & Nyberg, L. (in press). The memory enhancing effects of ginseng and ginkgo biloba in healthy volunteers. *Psychopharmacology*.
- Abstract:** The use of herbal remedies, such as Ginkgo biloba and Ginseng, for improving cognitive performance has become increasingly popular during recent years. Several previous studies have indicated that administration of Ginkgo biloba and Ginseng may improve aspects of learning and memory in healthy volunteers. These results, however, are generally not supported by well-controlled clinical studies. Also, positive results have often been reported from studies investigating effects related to short-term, chronic administration of the extract. Nonetheless, both Ginkgo biloba and Ginseng are marketed as having the capacity to enhance cognitive functions, such as memory and learning, in the long-term. This study aimed at investigating whether the use of Ginkgo biloba and Ginseng for a long period of time has positive effects on performance on learning and memory. Community-dwelling volunteers (N=3500) from The Betula prospective cohort study: Memory, health, and aging were included in the study.
- Results: It was found that the use of neither Ginkgo biloba (N=40) nor Ginseng (N=86) was associated with enhanced memory performance in any of the eight memory tests examined, compared to control groups either using or not using nutritional supplements. These findings indicate that use of Ginkgo biloba or Ginseng does not provide any quantifiable beneficial effects on memory performance in the long-term in healthy adult volunteers.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal memory, Betula
- Referens:** Preisler, G., Tvingstedt, A.-L., & Ahlström, M. (2003). *Skolsituationen för barn med cochlea implantat - ur föräldrars, lärares och assistenters perspektiv. [The school situation for children with cochlear implants - from the perspective of parents, teachers and personal assistants.]* Rapporter nr 116. Stockholms universitet: Psykologiska institutionen.
- Abstract:** The aim of this study was to explore the psycho-social situation for 20 deaf school children with cochlear implants, from the perspective of parents, teachers and personal assistants by means of personal interviews. Half of the children attended special schools and the other half regular schools. The adults maintained that the children enjoyed their school situation, independent of school placement, but the support required for the children in regular schools were not always considered to be at hand. The role as personal assistant turned out to be complicated. The children in the special schools were considered to have good learning opportunities, but too few instances of speech training sessions. Peer interaction between the children and their hearing classmates in regular schools was mainly based on actions and nonverbal means of communication. The children in the special schools had friends in the school setting, but had few, if any, friends at home. The children in regular classes were considered to be doing well academically during the first 2-3 years, but problems arose as the children grew older. The children in the special schools were considered to perform academically as well as other deaf children in this school setting.
- Typ och Nyckelord:** Report cochlear-implant, psycho-social, schoolchildren
- Referens:** Rönnlund, M., Nyberg, L., Bäckman, L., & Nilsson, L.-G. (2003) Recall of subject-performed tasks, verbal tasks, and cognitive activities across the adult life span: Parallel age-related deficits. *Aging, Neuropsychology and Cognition*, 10, 182-201.
- Abstract:** Motor activity during encoding of verbal information has been suggested to reduce age differences in episodic memory. Here we examined memory for sentences encoded with enactment (SPTs, subject-performed tasks) or without enactment (VTs, verbal tasks) in a population-based sample consisting of 10 groups ranging in age from 35 to 80 years (N=1000). Memory performance was assessed by immediate free- and category-cued

recall. Degree of clustering was measured by the adjusted ratio of clustering score. Recall of cognitive activities served as complementary measure of memory for performed tasks. Sentence recall showed a gradual decline across age, of about the same magnitude for SPTs and VTs, in both free and cued recall. Clustering in free recall was higher for SPTs than for VTs, but there were no age differences in clustering. A pattern of gradual decline from age 35 was observed also in activity recall, regardless of whether the activities involved motor activity or not. Across the memory measures, differences in education accounted for all of the age-related variance in performance among the younger (35-55 years) but not the older groups (60-80 years), suggesting that genuine aging effects in these measures are more prominent in old age. Together, the results indicate that age differences in episodic memory, in line with most, if not all, types of encoding support, generalize across the performed/non-performed distinction.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal enactment, episodic memory, Betula

**Referens:** Rönnlund, M., Nyberg, L., Bäckman, L., & Nilsson, L.-G. (in press). Stability, improvement, and decline in adult life-span development of declarative memory: Cross-sectional and longitudinal data from a population-based sample. *Psychology and Aging*.

**Abstract:** Five-year changes in episodic and semantic memory performance were examined in a sample of 829 participants from 10 age cohorts (35-80 years). A second, cohort-matched, sample (n=959) was assessed at Time 2 to control for practice effects. Longitudinal changes indicated improved episodic memory performance for the younger cohorts, in contrast with the gradual age-related decrements depicted by cross-sectional data. For groups 60 years or older performance declined substantially. Practice effects were observed for the episodic measure, but even when these were adjusted for results were consistent with a late onset (>60 years) of decline. Semantic memory showed minor improvements until age 55, with less steep decrements in old age as compared with episodic memory. Cohort differences in educational attainment appear to account for discrepancies between cross-sectional and practice-adjusted longitudinal data, both for episodic and semantic memory. Collectively, the results show that the age-trajectories for episodic and semantic differ, and underscore the need to control for cohort and retest effects in cross-sectional and longitudinal studies, respectively.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal episodic memory, semantic memory, practice effects

**Referens:** Salo, I., & Svenson, O. (2003). Mental causal models of incidents communicated in licensee event reports of a process industry. *Cognition, Technology and Work*, 5, 211-217.

**Abstract:** The present investigation describes some mental causal models used in incident reports. Some of the models (e.g., single-cause models) are simpler than others (e.g., causal tree models). The models are also associated with different ways of explaining an incident or accident and with different recommendations for increasing the safety of a system. In Study 1 incident reports from Swedish nuclear power plants marked as involving human or organizational factors were analyzed. The analysis showed that the most frequent model was a simple single-cause model and that most of the other models were two-step models leading up to a reported event. Multiple cause and more complex models were less frequent. Study 2 analyzed all licensee event reports (including also other than human organizational factors related reports) from four reactors received by the regulator during a year. The results showed that single-cause and two-step accident models were more frequent than more complex models. The analyses also revealed that different detection modes were related to different models.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal nuclear power, risk analysis, process industry

**Referens:** Schenkman, B.N. Auditiv information för synskadade. *Idékonferens Handikapp 2003*, anordnad av forskningsrådet FAS, 27 maj 2003. [Auditory information for the visually handicapped. Concept conference Handicap 2003, arranged by the Swedish research board FAS, 27 May 2003.]

**Abstract:** Synskadade personers utnyttjande av den akustiska informationen antas bestå av olika psykoakustiska grundfunktioner. De kan vara relaterade till upptäckt av ett mönster, som en "pitch", i den akustiska stimuleringen, eller av upptäckt av en signal i ett starkt brus. En central hypotes är att den synskadade lyssnar efter relevant information, kanske omedvetet. Tidigare har experiment med synskadade varit opraktiska och tröttsamma att genomföra. Ljud kan idag spelas in binauralt med konstnärligt framför reflekterande objekt, som sedan presenteras för försökspersoner i en akustisk miljö som återger den ursprungliga akustiska miljön. Man kan även använda ljud som manipulerar elektroniskt. Ibland kan det dock vara relevant att använda sig av "naturalistiska" rum. Fysikaliska mått och perceptuella variabler bör kunna relateras till varandra. Det är därför viktigt att man mäter både dessa typer av variabler. Svaren på dessa frågor är viktiga för att förstå hur blinda personer använder sig av ljud, relationen mellan rumsakustiska effekter som precedenseffekten, buller och ekolokalisering liksom relationen mellan olika hörsel funktioner och hur blinda använder sig av auditiv information. Skillnader mellan seende och synskadade med avseende på psykoakustiska funktioner och utnyttjande av akustisk information är viktiga att förstå.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings synskadade, hörsel, ekolokalisering

**Referens:** Schmidt, R., Launer, L. J., Nilsson, L.-G., Pajak, A., Sans, S., Beger, K., Breteler, M. M., de Ridder, M., Dufoil, C., Giampaoli, S., & Hofman, A. (in press). MRI of the brain in diabetes mellitus: the cardiovascular determinants of dementia (CASCADE) study. *Diabetes*.

**Abstract:** Diabetics are at increased risk for stroke, but little is known about the presence of other brain lesions. We studied the association of MRI-detected brain lesions to diabetes in 1,252 individuals aged 65-75 years who were randomly selected from eight European populations registries or defined working populations. All scans were centrally read for brain abnormalities including infarcts, white matter lesions and atrophy. We used a 3-point scale to rate periventricular white matter lesions, volume of subcortical lesions was calculated according to their number and size. Subjective grading of cortical atrophy by lobe and summation of the lobar grades resulted in a total cortical atrophy score. The mean of three linear measurements of the ventricular diameter relative to the intracranial cavity defined the severity of subcortical atrophy. After adjustment for possible confounders, diabetes was associated with cortical brain atrophy but not with any focal brain lesions or subcortical atrophy. There existed a strong interaction of diabetes and hypertension, such that the association between diabetes and cortical atrophy existed only in hypertensive but not in the normotensive participants. Cognitive and pathological data are needed to determine the clinical significance of these findings, as well as to understand the mechanisms underlying these associations.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal adult diabetes mellitus, brain, complications

**Referens:** Sharifi, P. (2003). *Engagement Modes and flow experience in human computer interaction.* Department of Psychology, Stockholm University (Doctoral dissertation).

**Abstract:** Research in human computer interaction emphasizes the need for descriptive models that can capture the characteristics of users' emotional, motivational, cognitive abilities, and goal orientated behavior in order to understand the factors that enhance or inhibit computer supported learning, working, and communicating. To fulfill these needs, in Study I the Engagement Mode model (EM-model) was presented, which highlights the users' interaction with IT in terms of positive and negative evaluation, intrinsic/extrinsic motivation, and experience of control. A questionnaire involving items on IT engagement and the experience of flow with five components (Pleasure, Control, Concentration, Exploring, and Challenge) was administered after conducting two pilot studies. The results from multidimensional scaling and factor analysis supported a model with five different engagement modes (Enjoying/Acceptance, Ambition/Curiosity, Avoidance/Hesitation, Frustration/Anxiety, and Efficiency/Productivity). The co-variations among flow components and different engagement modes indicated that the occurrence of flow experience depends on a balance between Enjoying/Acceptance and Efficiency/Productivity propelled by Ambition/Curiosity. Study II extended the empirical support for the EM-model as well as the described relationship to flow components. In addition it was found that users' personality and motivational characteristics in terms of causality orientation (autonomy, controlled and impersonal orientations) and socio-demographic variables can distinguish among different engagement modes and flow experience. The autonomous orientation showed the highest association with flow experience compared to other personality orientations. In both Study I and II, IT-competence was positively related to Ambition/Curiosity, Enjoying/Acceptance, and Efficiency/Productivity modes and to flow experience and negatively related to the Frustration/Anxiety mode. Study III explored how educational training and clinical practice that uses personal computers (PCs) and Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs) affect students' engagement modes, flow experience, and IT-competence. A follow-up interview investigated the contextual factors related to the use of PDAs. Students' positive engagements with IT-system required effort, patience, and practice. It was suggested that, particularly in an early stage of using the IT-system, the proper implementation of a new technology and thorough pre-training should be considered in educational and organizational context. It can be concluded that people's interaction with IT involves a dynamic interplay of person and object characteristics.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Dissertation engagement modes, flow experience, human computer interaction, cognitive ability, motivation, emotion, information technology

**Referens:** Sharifi, P., Hedman, L., & Montgomery, H. (in press). Using information technology: Engagement modes, flow experience, and personality orientations. *Computers in Human Behavior*.

**Abstract:** The Engagement Mode (EM) model describes how an IT user (subject) engages in an activity with an object in a certain mode. The model specifies five engagement modes (Enjoying/Acceptance, Ambition/Curiosity, Avoidance/Hesitation, Frustration/Anxiety, and Efficiency/Productivity), which are characterized on three dimensions (evaluation of object, locus of control between subject and object, and intrinsic or extrinsic focus of motivation). Using questionnaire data from 290 participants, we extended previous empirical support for the model as well as described the model's relationship to flow experience. In addition, it was found that autonomy, controlled and impersonal orientation in conjunction with socio-demographic variables differentiated among specific engagement modes and flow experience. We conclude that the EM-model, flow experience, and causality orientation theories provide a uniform framework for understanding how people adapt to information technology.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal engagement modes, flow experience, motivational and personality orientation, information technology

**Referens:** Sharifi, P., Montgomery, H., & Hedman, L. (in press). Engagement modes, flow experience and personality orientation in use of information technology. *Computers in Human Behavior*.

**Abstract:** The validation and reliability of the Engagement Mode model (EM-model) in interaction with Information Technology (IT) as well as the Engagement Mode scale (EM-scale) were examined by collecting the data from 290 participants. The relationships among participants' engagement modes and socio-demographic characteristics, flow experience and causality orientation (Autonomous, Controlled and Impersonal) of IT users were examined. The results showed high validity and reliability of the EM-model and the EM-scale and the compatibility of proposed constructs and its relationship with flow model. Findings also showed reliable associations between the users motivational and personality orientations with the five engagement modes and flow experience. The importance of individual's behavioral and contextual factors that enhance or thwart the efficient and enjoyable interaction with IT were discussed.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal engagement modes, flow experience, information technology

**Referens:** Sikström, S., & Nilsson, L.-G. (in press). Using the cue elimination technique to derive an equation between performances in episodic tests. *European Journal of Cognitive Psychology*.

**Abstract:** Lawful equations describing relations between empirical measurable variables, that are free of fitted parameters, and that can be derived from simple assumptions, are rare in psychology. However, this paper proposes one such equation that describes the relation between the performances on four different explicit episodic memory tests: free recall, cued recall, recognition, and cued recognition. The performance on each test is determined by the strength of three different and independent cues: the event cue, the context cue, and the target cue. The Cue Elimination Technique (CET) is introduced where cues are eliminated so that equations can be rewritten so that performance on three tests can be used to predict performance on the fourth test. Results from five conditions show a non-significant deviation between the predicted and the empirical probabilities of retrieval. Two estimates of each cue strength, which are based on different data sets, can be made so that the cue strengths can be empirically validated. Manipulations of psychological variables produce meaningful effect on the cue strengths so that CET can be used to dissociate cue strengths in episodic memory.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal recall, recognition, lawful

**Referens:** Sjöberg, R.L., & Lindholm, T. (2003). Gender biases in decisions on euthanasia among Swedish

jurors. *Nordic Journal of Psychiatry*, 57, 460-471.

**Abstract:**

The present study set out to investigate whether group-based biases may influence decisions regarding euthanasia in Swedish jurors (Nämndemän). Thirty-eight Swedish jurors were presented with a case description of euthanasia in a severely brain damaged patient. Age and gender of the patient were systematically varied. The jurors were asked to what extent they believed that euthanasia was ethical in the case presented to them and whether they thought that it should be legal. Jurors tended to be supportive of euthanasia and were more so when it was used on patients who belonged to the opposite gender. These results suggest that group-based biases may influence decisions regarding euthanasia in Swedish jurors. The finding has implication for the Swedish debate regarding a possible legalisation of such procedures.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal intergroup relations, euthanasia, gender effects

**Referens:** Sjöberg, R.L., & Lindholm, T. (2003). Decision making and euthanasia. *British Journal of Psychiatry*, 182, 171-173.

**Abstract:**

In a recent editorial Kelly & McLoughlin (2002) highlight the fact that the uncertain prognosis of most psychiatric diagnosis means that the objective accuracy of decisions on 'physician-assisted suicide' and euthanasia in this category of patients cannot be certified. One important psychological issue, which parallels these views but applies to all cases of physician-assisted suicide and active euthanasia, is that decisions on these issues may be influenced by unintentional and even unconscious biases. One example of this phenomenon was presented in a recent study in which Swedish jurors were presented with a case description of a severely brain-damaged patient who was taken out of a respirator in the presence of muscle-relaxing drugs. The jurors were, most likely out of concern for the patient, generally supportive of euthanasia. However, since we varied the gender of the patient, as presented in the case description, we were also able to see that both male and female jurors tended to be most supportive of this kind of euthanasia when it was administered to a patient who belonged to the opposite gender (Sjöberg & Lindholm, 2003). Swedish jurors thus tended to be more impressed by the futility of the life of patients who were in important respects dissimilar to themselves. Not only psychiatric, but almost all clinical decision-making is to a certain extent tentative and subject to the corrective forces of expectation and further empirical observations – but decisions that lead to the active and intentional termination of the life of a patient are not. We believe that this fact, which was also indirectly addressed by Kelly & McLoughlin, is important not only to the discussion of whether physician-assisted suicide should be administered to psychiatric patients but also to the discussion of whether physicians should engage in euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide and whether psychiatrists should take the risk of sanctioning such activities by assessing the mental status of potential subjects of such interventions.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal decision making, euthanasia

**Referens:** Sjölinder, M., Höök, K., & Nilsson, L.-G. (2003). The effect of age-related cognitive differences, task complexity and prior internet experience in the use of an on-line grocery shop. *Spatial Cognition and Computation*, 3, 61-84.

**Abstract:**

This study examined navigation and search in an on-line grocery store, and how solving those tasks was related to subjects' age, spatial ability, working memory, computer- and Internet experience. Task complexity was also included in the design of the experiment. In the study 48 subjects participated, there was one group of elderly and one group of younger subjects. The results showed that the elderly subjects needed more time to complete the tasks. Both age groups spent more time to find the items in the complex task, but there were also age differences for the complex task, where the elderly subjects spent more time with the complex task. It turned out that age, spatial visualisation ability and working memory had the strongest impact on performance for the complex task. For the easy task, on the other hand, Internet experience had the strongest impact on performance. Though this may seem discouraging to elderly users, it was also the case that the elderly, less experienced, subjects underestimated the time they spent performing the tasks. Thus, even if it took long time to solve the tasks, these elderly users did not experience it as such. Finally, implications for interface design of on-line grocery stores are discussed.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal aging, internet use, information search

**Referens:** Skåner, Y., Backlund, L., Bring, J., Montgomery, H., & Strenger, L.E. (2003, June) Diagnosing heart failure. A clinical task studied with two methods: Clinical Judgment Analysis and Think Aloud. Paper presented at *The Sixth International Conference on Naturalistic Decision Making*, Pensacola Beach, FL, USA.

**Abstract:**

The purpose of this study was to study physicians' use of clinical information when diagnosing heart failure. In a Clinical Judgment Analysis (CJA) study, 70 participants (27 general practitioners, 22 cardiologists and 21 medical students) assessed 40 case vignettes regarding the probability of heart failure. The vignettes were based on authentic patients. The importance of different kinds of clinical variables was measured by the regression coefficients in a linear model. The diagnoses made by the attending cardiologists were used as "gold standard" for evaluating the participants' diagnostic accomplishment. In a Think Aloud (TA) study, six cases from the CJA study were presented to 15 general practitioners. The cases were presented on five computer screens with new clinical information added on each screen. The participants were instructed that authentic patients, suspected by general practitioners to have heart failure, would be presented, and that their task was to say aloud all their thoughts about the patient, as new information was presented. On the sixth screen, they were asked to give a comprehensive judgment of the case. After having gone through the six patients, the participants were asked to state what they themselves considered important for diagnosing heart failure. The protocols regarding the case descriptions have been coded for variables speaking for and against the diagnosis of heart failure. The protocols regarding the open question about diagnostics have been coded for causality relations, and cognitive maps have been constructed. The CJA study showed that diagnostic accomplishment and diagnostic strategies differed on the individual level, but were surprisingly similar between groups. Strategies in which relative heart volume on X-ray was the predominating cue led to a higher diagnostic accomplishment; a third of the participants used such strategies. Findings like edema and dispense were less useful.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings heart failure, clinical information, think-aloud

**Referens:** Stefanova, E., Blennow, K., Almkvist, O., Hellstrom-Lindahl, E., & Nordberg, A. (2003). Cerebral glucose metabolism, cerebrospinal fluid- $\beta$ -amyloid<sub>1-42</sub> (CSF-A $\beta$ 42), tau and apolipoprotein E genotype

in long-term rivastigmine and tacrine treated Alzheimer disease (AD) patients. *Neuroscience Letters*, 338, 159-63.

**Abstract:**

We evaluated cerebral glucose metabolism (CMRglc) and cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) levels of tau and  $\beta$ -amyloid<sub>1-42</sub> ( $A\beta$ 42), in relation to apolipoprotein E (ApoE) genotype, in patients with mild Alzheimer disease (AD) treated with rivastigmine ( $n=11$ ) and tacrine ( $n=16$ ) for 1 year; and two untreated AD groups. The rivastigmine-treated AD patients showed a significant increase in CMRglc as compared to both tacrine-treated and untreated AD subjects. The rivastigmine-treated AD group showed no change in CSF-tau levels after 1 year, while in contrast a significant increase as seen in tacrine-treated and untreated AD patients. The CSF-tau changes were mainly seen in ApoE  $\epsilon$ 4 carriers. There was no significant change in  $A\beta$ 42 after 1-year treatment with either rivastigmine or tacrine. This study shows that the two long-term cholinesterase inhibitor treatments exert different effects on biological markers for AD.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal Alzheimer's disease, cholinesterase inhibitors, glucose metabolism

**Referens:**

Sundström, A., Marklund, P., Nilsson, L.-G., Cruts, M., Adolfsson, R., Van Broeckhoven, C., & Nyberg, L. (in press). ApoE influences on neuropsychological function after mild head injury: Within-person comparisons. *Neurology*.

**Abstract:**

The objective of this study was to examine the relationship between neuropsychological outcome following mild head injury (MHI) and APOE genotype. Data from a population-based longitudinal study ( $N=3500$ ) was used to identify 34 adults who suffered MHI during the course of the study. Their pre-injury and post-injury performances on a battery of 9 neuropsychological tests were compared within person, and the post-injury performance was compared to that of age and gender-matched controls. The within-person comparisons showed that participants with at least one APOE  $\epsilon$ 4 allele ( $n=11$ ) had a significantly decreased post-injury performance on three of the tests, whereas the post-injury performance for APOE  $\epsilon$ 4-negative participants ( $n=23$ ) was unchanged. There was no significant difference in post-injury performance between participants with/without the  $\epsilon$ 4 allele, and neither group was impaired relative to controls. It was concluded that APOE genotype may influence the outcome following a MHI. Pre-post injury within-person comparisons seem more sensitive than control-group comparisons for detecting injury-related effects.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal head injury, Apolipoprotein E, memory

**Referens:**

Svedberg, B., Backenroth-Ohsako, G., & Lützen, K. (2003). On the path to recovery: Patients' experiences of treatment with long-acting injections of antipsychotic medication. *International Journal of Mental Health Nursing*, 12, 110-118.

**Abstract:**

The aim of the present study was to explore how patients experience living with long-acting depot antipsychotics given by injection. An interpretive perspective and a qualitative content analysis guided the research process and data analysis. Findings indicate that the participants understood dependency and depot treatment, as "safety-net" protecting from relapses and re-hospitalizations. More "normal lives" became possible despite continuing distress from untoward effects. Participants also expressed favourable attitudes when they suffered from disabling side-effects or when they were committed to psychiatric treatment. Adherence to treatment was understood as crucial for recovering. The recovery process, related to depot treatment, was described as mainly based on the participants' experiential knowledge. This implies the need for exploring, in communication with patients, different kinds of support that might benefit their recovery.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal antipsychotic, depot, recovery

**Referens:**

Svenson, O. (2003). Values, affect and processes in human decision making: a differentiation and consolidation theory perspective. In S.L. Schneider & J. Shanteau (Eds.), *Emerging Perspectives on Judgement and Decision Research* (pp. 287-326). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

**Abstract:**

Differentiation and Consolidation (Diff Con) theory is a descriptive process theory that was created to provide a framework for empirical observations in behavioral decision research. Diff Con theory postulates not only that a decision process is a successful execution of one or several decision rules but also that a decision maker must find or create an alternative that is sufficiently superior in comparison with its competitor(s). This is accomplished in (1) holistic evaluation, (2) alternative and problem restructuring, and (3) applications of one or several decision rules. The stages of a decision process include identification of alternatives, attention to markers guiding the start of the decision process, elicitation of goals, screening and editing of alternatives, selection of references and/or preliminary choice alternatives, and process and structural differentiation to reach a decision. Following the decision process, similar processes are activated in consolidation of the chosen alternative. In the theory, attractiveness consists of affect/emotion and cognitive/value components. The chapter presents a detailed account of Diff Con theory including discussions of what drives differentiation and consolidation.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) decision making, affect, decision processes

**Referens:**

Svenson, O., & Patten, C. (2003). Safety of a Human – Technology – Organization System: Mobile phones and driver cognition disturbance. In G.C. van der Veer & J.F. Horn (Eds.), *Proceedings 9th European Conference on Cognitive Sciences Approaches to Process Control (CSAPC'03)* (pp. 37-43). Amsterdam, Netherlands.

**Abstract:**

Like any human-technology-organization system, the road traffic system includes people as operators, supervisors and regulators. Drivers interact and have to share cognitions, communications and rules of behaviour to achieve safety in traffic. When new effects on the system should be estimated. Rather recently IT systems have been introduced in the private car. The systems are exemplified by navigation systems and mobile phones. The present study reviews research on the effects using one of these systems, the mobile phone when driving. The study starts with a perceptual-motor cognitive model of the driver and continues with an account of the different effects on driving of using a mobile phone. First, it should be pointed out that the emergencies and accidents. However, the result from some 80 impairs driving performance significantly. That is because, a driver's attention to traffic and traffic information is impaired talking over a phone. The conversation in itself and, in particular, demanding communications impair both attention and maneuvering performance significantly as well as the motor activities needed for phoning. This implies that hands-free mobile phones will not solve the safety problem of phoning and driving. Analyses of accidents have shown that the impairment of driving while phoning leads to and increased risk for having an accident for both hand-held

and hands-free phones. One important characteristic of a phone conversation in relation to most other in-car activities is that the pace and content of the phone conversation cannot be controlled as well by the driver. This makes a phone conversation more disturbing than other equally demanding in-car activities that can be distributed in time and adapted to current traffic and driving conditions. General terms: management, performance, security, human factors.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings Book (chapter) human factors, mobile phones, traffic safety

**Referens:** Svenson, O., & Salo, I. (in press). Mental representations of important real-life decisions. *European Journal of Operational Research*.

**Abstract:** Two studies investigated how decisions makers characterize alternatives in important real-life decisions, which they themselves had made (to leave a partner, to choose an education and to choose a home). First, the participants indicated a very high degree of involvement in the decisions studied and about half of the participants gave maximum involvement ratings for the partner decision. Second, the results showed that concepts that are essential in most decision theories, such as, consequence, probability and value were important characteristics of the decision. Third, emotion, positive and negative affect were also important characteristics. Fourth, value and emotion were uncorrelated. Fifth, the patterns of characteristics of decisions made in the past did not differ markedly from the characteristics given to future decisions. Principal component analyses were performed on the ratings of applicability of the different characteristics across participants for each decision situation. Three factors were extracted. There was one factor for positive affect/emotions and another factor for negative affect/emotions verified in oblique solutions. Thusm different scales are needed to represent emotion/affect components (and not bipolar scales) in real-life important decisions. The third factor represented the way in which a decision was represented (moving pictures dialogue etc.). An analysis restricted to the participants who rated 100% involvement showed an additional fourth factor with "what others would think", "similar situations", "values and money" as the most prominent characteristics. This points to the importance of controlling for participants involvement in studies og human decision making to enable generalizations to real-life decisions.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal real-life decisions, mental representation

**Referens:** Sverke, M. (2003). Uncertain employment relations and union membership in Europe: Editorial introduction. *Economic and Industrial Democracy*, 24, 139-148.

**Abstract:** It is well known among most observers of the labor market scene that employment relations have undergone profound transformation over the past decades. A growing body of research suggests that employment uncertainty can be of fundamental importance from both the occupational health and the managerial perspective by affecting employees' work attitudes, well-being, willingness to remain with the organization, and job performance. This special issue focuses on two aspects of employment uncertainty – perceived job insecurity and temporary work – which have been subject to theoretical and empirical scrutiny in an international research project called "European unions in the wake of flexible production: How can the negative consequences of job insecurity for employee attitudes and well-being be mitigated?". While the six articles deal with specific aspects of uncertain employment relationships, they provide a number of general insights. The contributions to this special issue show that employment uncertainty is an issue of major concern in contemporary working life. The articles provide important insights into the nature of job insecurity as well as its antecedents and consequences. Not least importantly, the special issue highlights the intersection between uncertain employment relations and union membership, and indicate that the transformation of employment relations faces trade unions with important challenges to the traditional ways of union organization and interest representation.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal job insecurity, employment, unions

**Referens:** Sverke, M. (2003). Design, urval och analys i kvantitativa undersökningar. [Design, sampling, and analysis in quantitative research.] In B. Gustavsson (Ed.), *Metoder i samhällsvetenskaplig forskning [Research methods in the social sciences]* (pp. 21-45). Lund: Studentlitteratur.

**Abstract:** This chapter aims to illustrate the relation between the objective of the research study, its sample and design, the choice of data analyses, as well as those conclusions that may be drawn. Quantitative research usually has as a goal to generalize the results to a larger population than the group under study, and by doing so achieving more general knowledge. Quantitative methods are often based on theories and the more developed the theories in an area is, the more the research question (the issue of what is the problem) can be of an explanatory nature. The prerequisites for correctly addressing the research question and drawing general conclusions depend on the how the sampling for the study is done (the issue of who should be investigated). Since non-representative samples limit the possibilities of generalizing to groups other than those studied it is important to begin by identifying and delimiting the population one wishes to know more about and proceed by drawing a representative (random) sample from this population. The context of the study (the issue of where) and the aspect of time regarding development of effects (the issue of when) may also affect the conclusions drawn. The chapter gives a review of the most common study designs (the issue of how) and illustrates that for each type of research question there is an optimal research design. Even if the choice of design may be restricted by factors such as economic resources or the time available, it is important to be attentive to those advantages and limitations associated with each design – and that these may affect the validity in the conclusions reached. The chapter also shows that conclusions regarding cause and effect are problematic, even if some designs, more than others, facilitate causal inferences.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) research design, sampling, causal inferences

**Referens:** Sverke, M. (2003). Kvantitativa metoder: Om konsten att mäta det man vill mäta. [Quantitative methods: On the art of measuring what you want to measure.] In B. Gustavsson (Ed.), *Metoder i samhällsvetenskaplig forskning [Research methods in the social sciences]* (pp. 47-69). Lund: Studentlitteratur.

**Abstract:** In a general sense measurement could be described as the assignment of numbers to objects and events according to certain rules. This chapter discusses the problem that the gap between theoretical constructs and empirical indicators presents to measurement. The chapter starts with an overview of data sources in quantitative measurement. This is followed by a section which presents the basics of measurement theory. The discussion is then elaborated in one section about reliability (how accurate are the measurements) and one

about validity (do the empirical measurements capture what they are intended to measure?). The chapter aims to contribute to an increased awareness that observed associations between observed variables cannot be used without caution to draw inferences about relationships between theoretical constructs. The chapter also aims to illustrate that aggregated measures based on multiple indicators of the same theoretical phenomenon may present certain possibilities of avoiding some of the problems of measurement. The discussion is mainly based on reasoning and examples from classical measurement theory, as well as measurement theory adapted to self-reports measures.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) measurement theory, validity, reliability

**Referens:** Sverke, M. (2003). Membership opposition to union mergers: Understanding an unsuccessful merger attempt involving four Swedish white-collar unions. Paper presented at the *11th European Congress on Work and Organizational Psychology*, Lisbon, 14-17 May 2003.

**Abstract:** Union mergers have received increased attention in connection with the rapidly changing industrial relations conditions. In contrast to business organizations, unions tend to merge not so much because their merger partner is attractive but rather because they have encountered difficulties. In ever increasing numbers unions are exploring the option to merge as a remedy for declining membership and financial hardship. However, although union leaders seem to have great expectations when they enter into merger negotiations, it is quite likely that unsuccessful merger attempts outnumber the cases where mergers have been accomplished successfully. One of the most frequently cited reasons for mergers failing to be carried through concerns membership opposition.  
This study describes an unsuccessful merger attempt involving four Swedish white-collar unions. Documents and interviews with central officials indicate that the merger plan, although thoroughly worked out at the national level, was not carefully anchored at the lower levels in all unions. Questionnaire data from members of all four unions show that large groups of members were uninformed of the merger plan, did not care, or expressed negative attitudes towards merger – especially in the case where a top-down approach had been used. The results of the study highlight a tension between the goals of diversifying membership (as a means to counter branch declines) and rationalizing jurisdictions (reducing the overlap between organizing territories). Since mergers involve a loss of the old unions' identity and require an adaptation to the policies and practices of a new organizational entity, members may fear that their special interests will disappear in a new, large union.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings merger, union attitudes, organizational change

**Referens:** Sverke, M., Chaison, G.N., & Sjöberg, A. (in press). Do union mergers affect the members? Short- and long-term effects on attitudes and behavior. *Economic and Industrial Democracy*.

**Abstract:** Although union mergers have occurred since the earliest stages of unionization, few attempts have been made to uncover the psychological effects of merger on member attitudes and behavior. The literature suggests that intended results of a merger (e.g., economies of scale, reduced jurisdictional disputes) can be accompanied by unintended consequences, such as lowered degrees of union commitment and membership participation. This study examined the effects of a union merger on members' attitudes and participation in union activity using questionnaires. Baseline data from two merging unions and a comparison union were collected a year prior to the merger, and longitudinal follow-up surveys were administered twice. Our results suggest that membership commitment, satisfaction, and participation do not necessarily have to be sacrificed for the benefits of building larger, more stable and powerful unions through mergers.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal merger, union attitudes, organizational change

**Referens:** Sverke, M., & Goslinga, S. (2003). The consequences of job insecurity for employers and unions: Exit, voice, and loyalty. *Economic and Industrial Democracy*, 24, 241-270.

**Abstract:** Although job insecurity has received growing recognition in connection with the transformation of working life, little is known about how unionization affects its consequences. This study addresses how unionized workers cope with job insecurity and examines the extent to which they respond with reactions of exit, voice, and loyalty. Of special interest whether such reactions tend to affect primarily the employer or the union. Survey data from four European countries (Belgium, Italy, the Netherlands, and Sweden) suggest that job insecurity is primarily related to exit and loyalty reactions, but not to voice. The results replicate previous findings of adverse effects of job insecurity on organizational loyalty and employees' propensity to turnover from the job. Although the findings were less consistent across countries with respect to union-related outcomes, the study suggests that job insecurity may lead to reduced union loyalty and withdrawal from union membership.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal job insecurity, union attitudes, work attitudes

**Referens:** Sverke, M., Göransson, S., Baraldi, S., & Öhrming, J. (2003). Work attitudes, turnover intention, and well-being in Swedish emergency hospitals: Comparing a public administration unit with a for-profit and a non-profit company. Paper presented at the *VIIth European Conference on Organizational Psychology and Health Care*, Vienna, 8-11 October 2003.

**Abstract:** As markets and market mechanisms are growing more widespread there is also a gradual restructuring of health care. The creation of quasi markets in order to achieve competition, increased cost consciousness, new managerial strategies (e.g., New Public Management), a focus on core processes rather than peripheral functions, and an intense work with the issue of service quality represent some of the characteristics of this trend. In Sweden, like in most European countries, the changes in the health care sector have also concerned the owner structure. Several health care organizations have been privatized (for-profit companies) or formed into municipal corporations (non-profit companies). However, despite a widespread optimism concerning such ownership reforms, there is a lack of research addressing the potential consequences. Against this background, it appears urgent to investigate not only how hospitals with different ownership deal with these changes, but also how this will affect health care personnel. The objective of this study is (1) to investigate if employees at hospitals with different ownership differ with respect to work attitudes, well-being, and willingness to remain with the hospital, and (2) to analyze to what extent differences in such outcomes can be predicted from work climate characteristics. The study is based on questionnaire data collected in 2001/2002 among the staff of three Swedish emergency hospitals – one privatized for-profit company, one corporatized non-profit company, and one that has remained a public administration unit. The differences between hospitals shed light on how ownership changes may affect health care workers, and contribute to the understanding of factors that may lead to impaired work attitudes, turnover, and health problems. They also provide important insights to

politicians, policy makers, and researchers concerning the advantages and disadvantages of transforming public administration hospitals into publicly owned (non-profit) and privatized (for-profit) companies.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings health-care, privatization, work climate

**Referens:** Sverke, M., Hellgren, J., & Näswall, K. (in press). We get by with a little help from our unions: Psychological contract violations and downsizing. In H. De Witte (Ed.), *Job insecurity and trade union participation in Europe*. Aldershot: Ashgate.

**Abstract:** Many research studies have brought up job insecurity as an increasingly serious problem in organizations. Research on job insecurity and psychological contract violations attributes impaired well-being and negative attitudes toward the organization to the fear of job loss. Research efforts have also been directed at identifying how negative consequences of downsizing and job insecurity can be mitigated. Very little is known, however, about how attempts to deal with job insecurity may differ between unionized and non-unionized employees. The present paper, therefore, focuses on the type of social support that is provided by the union, and asks to what extent unionized and non-unionized employees differ with respect to how they deal with experiences of job insecurity. We begin our investigation with a theoretical discussion of job insecurity and how it can be considered a breach of the psychological contract. The exit, voice, and loyalty framework is used in order to understand how union members and non-members may cope with job insecurity. Our empirical investigations are based on data from a sample of nurses in a Swedish health care organization going through downsizing. We relate our results both to the exit, voice, loyalty framework, as well as to theories regarding the psychological contract.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) job insecurity, psychological contract, downsizing

**Referens:** Sverke, M., Hellgren, J., Näswall, K., Chirumbolo, A., De Witte, H., & Goslinga, S. (in press). *Job insecurity and union membership: European unions in the wake of flexible production*. Brussels: P.I.E.-Peter Lang.

**Abstract:** In recent decades profound changes in the nature of employment relations have occurred across Europe and in other economies the world over. Many workers have been involuntarily regulated to part-time employment, hired on temporary employment contracts, or otherwise displaced in some way. Increased flexibility in the staffing of organizations is becoming a cause of discomfort for many employees who are concerned over their future employment. An expanding body of research suggests that such job insecurity can be of essential importance from the occupational health perspective as well as the managerial, due to its effects on employees' work attitudes and well-being. This book addresses the nature of job insecurity and investigates its consequences for individuals, the organizations they work for, as well as their labor unions. It also examines whether factors associated with union membership help employees to cope with employment uncertainty. The book is based on a European project involving Belgium, Italy, the Netherlands, and Sweden. Both individuals and organizations can face consequences from the increased insecurity that is prevailing in working life today. By identifying and explaining those factors which result in job insecurity, and examining how the experience affects individuals, organizations, and unions, the authors wish expand the body of knowledge concerning job insecurity. Such knowledge can lead to a greater focus on this phenomenon within working life, and result in more of an effort being put into realizing how preventive measures can be implemented in the future.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) job insecurity, unions, Europe

**Referens:** Sverke, M., Näswall, K., Hellgren, J., Chirumbolo, A., De Witte, H., & Goslinga, S. (Eds.). (2003). *European unions in the wake of flexible production: Papers presented at the XXVII International Congress of Psychology in Stockholm 2000*. National Institute for Working Life: Working Life Research in Europe, Report No 1:2003.

**Abstract:** This report emanates from a European project ("European unions in the wake of flexible production: How can the negative consequences of job insecurity for employee attitudes and well-being be mitigated?") which is based on questionnaire data from employees in four European countries (Belgium, Italy, the Netherlands, and Sweden). The overall aim of the project is to investigate the role played by labor unions in relation to consequences of the unpredictable and flexible nature of the labor market. More specifically, the project investigates (1) the relation between flexibility factors (job insecurity and contingent work) and their postulated outcomes (e.g., well-being, work attitudes, union participation); (2) the relation between experiences of the union (e.g., union support, attitudes towards the union) and these outcomes; (3) differences between various demographic groups in the experiences of job insecurity; (4) if the negative consequences of flexible employment conditions and job insecurity on individuals' well-being, work related attitudes, and union participation are mitigated by union-related attitudes and experiences, and; (5) the extent to which the results generalize over countries. The papers included in the present report address these research questions, and were all presented at the XXVII International Congress of Psychology in Stockholm, July 23-28, 2000.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Report job insecurity, temporary work, union membership

**Referens:** Sverke, M., Näswall, K., Hellgren, J., & Öhrming, J. (2003). Employee stress and well-being before and after hospital privatization. Paper presented at the *Fifth Interdisciplinary Conference on Occupational Stress and Health - Work, Stress and Health: New Challenges in a Changing Workplace*, Toronto, March 20-22 2003.

**Abstract:** During the past decades, innumerable public sector organizations have implemented a variety of change strategies to cut costs and improve organizational effectiveness. A weakened economy in combination with new political ideas brought on a powerful wave of changes in the mid-1980s, the 'new public management', which swept through the administrations of many OECD countries. In Sweden, new administrative policies were being discussed by all political parties and in a number of public investigations which, in the early 1990s, led to deregulations and the creation of public and private stock companies within the entire public administration. The Swedish healthcare system was characterized by a similar climate with comparable initiatives. This resulted in a series of changes to the overall administrative system, as well as an attempt to create a "market" where different types of healthcare providers (public, private, co-operative) could compete for "customers" (purchasers, prescribing doctors, patients). The ambition was to use these reforms as a means not only to

stimulate the interest of private operators in healthcare, but also to actively assist new entrepreneurs in establishing themselves in this quasi-market. The most important innovation for the healthcare system was that funding, ownership responsibilities, and operations could be handled in many different ways, even in politically controlled organizations.

One of the most dramatic characteristics of this trend in the health care sector concerns the transformation of large emergency hospitals into non-profit public stock companies and, subsequently, for-profit private stock companies. However, very little is known about how such changes in ownership structure affect the work climate and well-being of the hospital staff. Major organizational restructuring, such as the privatization of a hospital, is likely to represent an important change in the daily lives of the employees. Just like any type of organizational change, privatization can represent a critical life-event evoking stress and other negative consequences in employees. Indeed, because organizational privatization involves uncertainty and adjustment to new work practices, it is likely to have implications for the employees' work attitudes and well-being. It is also conceivable that the political wish to rationalize the health care sector and make it more cost-effective is in contradiction to the professional ambitions of the occupational categories to deliver high quality healthcare. The present study was designed to shed more light on how employees may be affected by hospital privatization. The first transformation of a Swedish hospital into a public stock company took place in 1994, and this hospital was privatized in 1999. To get baseline data, we surveyed the total staff of the hospital in 1998. Collection of follow-up data has just been completed. By employing a longitudinal design, the present study investigates if there has been a change in employee work demands, work attitudes, and well-being from pre- to post-privatization. Given the scarcity of research on the psychological consequences of privatization, the study has the potential to provide an important contribution to the field of occupational health.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings health-care, privatization, well-being

**Referens:** Söderlund, H., Nyberg, L., Adolfsson, R., Nilsson, L.-G., & Launer, L.J. (2003). High prevalence of white matter hyperintensities in normal aging: relation to blood pressure and cognition. *Cortex*, 39, 1093-1105.

**Abstract:** The occurrence of cerebral white matter hyperintensities (WMHs), and their associations with blood pressure, episodic memory, and other cognitive tasks, was examined in a population-based sample of 123 individuals between 64 and 74 years old. Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) detected subcortical and periventricular hyperintensities in 90% and 67% of the cases, respectively. Subcortical WMHs were related to elevated diastolic blood pressure measured ten years earlier, and periventricular WMHs were related to elevated diastolic blood pressure measured five and ten years earlier. Subcortical hyperintensities were weakly associated with impaired motor speed, but this association was not significant. Periventricular WMHs had a negative effect on episodic memory, although the relation was not linear. Collectively, the notion that white matter hyperintensities impair cognitive function got weak support in this Swedish sample.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal white matter hyperintensities, aging, MRI, cognition, memory

**Referens:** Söderlund, H., Nyberg, L., & Nilsson, L.-G. (in press). Cerebral atrophy as predictor of cognitive function in old, community-dwelling individuals. *Acta Neurologica Scandinavica*.

**Abstract:** Objectives: The impact of cortical and subcortical atrophy on cognitive function was examined in a sample of older communitydwelling men and women.

Material and methods: Magnetic resonance imaging was performed on a sample of 129 individuals [age: 68.4; 3.6 years (mean; SD), range 64–74 years, 64 women and 65 men, Mini-Mental State Examination scores above 23] to assess cortical and subcortical atrophy. Participants also performed a number of of cognitive tasks, and the measures of atrophy were used to predict performance in these tasks.

Results: In men, frontal cortical atrophy predicted worse performance in word fluency and the Stroop test, and occipital cortical atrophy was associated with poor performance in motor speed. In women, poor performance in motor speed was associated with subcortical atrophy at the level of the caudate nucleus.

Conclusion: Atrophy in certain areas was associated with poor performance in specific cognitive tasks, although the amount of explained variance was rather limited in this quite homogenous sample.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal aging, memory, cerebral atrophy, cognitive function

**Referens:** Tear Fahnehjelm, K., Wide, K., Flodmark, O., Ek, U., & Hellstrom, A. (2003). Posterior ocular malformations in children: somatic, neuroradiological and cognitive aspects. *Acta Paediatrica Scandinavica*, 92(3), 301-308.

**Abstract:** Aim: To investigate associated neurological, endocrinological and cognitive dysfunctions in children with visual impairment caused by optic nerve hypoplasia or optic nerve/fundus coloboma and/or microphthalmus.

Methods: Forty children born between 1990 and 1998 were assessed by neurological examination, re-evaluation of neuroradiological investigations, review of medical records and examination of cognitive levels.

Results: Neurological dysfunctions (epilepsy and/or motor impairment) were found in 13/28 children with optic nerve hypoplasia and in 3/12 children with coloboma/microphthalmus. The optic pathways were thin in 22/24, an abnormal posterior pituitary gland and/or thin infundibulum was found in 16/22 and absence of septum pellucidum in 14/27 children with optic nerve hypoplasia. Other types of cerebral abnormalities occurred in 9/26 children. Among children with coloboma/microphthalmus, the optic pathways were thin in 4/8 children but none had pituitary or cerebral midline abnormalities. Sixteen children with optic nerve hypoplasia were receiving hormone substitution but none of the children with coloboma/microphthalmus. Thirteen of the 16 children with optic nerve hypoplasia and with an abnormal pituitary region had endocrinological deficiencies. Mental retardation was found in 9/24 of the children with optic nerve hypoplasia and in 5/10 of the children with coloboma/microphthalmus.

Conclusion: Endocrinological, neurological and neuroradiological defects seem more common in children with optic nerve hypoplasia than in children with coloboma. A pituitary region that appears abnormal in magnetic resonance imaging seems to predict endocrinological deficits in children with optic nerve hypoplasia.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal ONH, endocrine, cognitive

**Referens:** Torbiörn, I. (in press). Staffing policies and practices in European MNC's: strategic sophistication, culture-bound policies or ad-hoc reactivity. In H. Scullion & M. Linehan (Eds.), *International Human Resource Management: A critical text*. Chippenham: Palgrave.

**Abstract:** The chapter deals with one of four traditional parameters of International Human Resource Management (IHRM), namely the staffing of international operations. Here IHRM is not, as is often seen, taken to mean staffing, but staffing is used, and discussed, as a criterion indicative of IHRM strategies, as well as of company concern about cultural contexts, organisational needs or situational options. Thus the object of the chapter is not staff as such but what company use of staff may tell, in particular so as regards what may be distinctive of European MNC's. Assuming a particular relevance of staffing for international firm performance, and based on a model explaining staffing patterns at firm levels, MNC's practices are discussed as indicative of, first IHRM-strategies, then of factors commonly held, to be determinants of staffing. It is concluded that variation in staffing is itself a characteristic of European MNC's, reflecting a culturally and structurally varied context of MNC's domiciles and host markets. Staffing patterns are thus taken to reflect configurative strategies and a selective use of staffing policies as well as ad-hoc reactivity. Further, the validity and relevance of a dichotomous criterion as indicative of IHRM or of company strategies in a complex and changing reality is questioned. This may in particular apply to European MNC's.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) IHRM, staffing, strategies

**Referens:** Tuveson, B., Lindblom, U., & Fruhstorfer, H. (2003). Experimental muscle pain provokes long-lasting alterations of thermal sensitivity in the referred pain area. *European Journal of Pain*, 7, 73-79.

**Abstract:** This study explores thermal sensitivity and thermal nociception for signs of central sensitization in the area of referred muscle pain. Two groups of 24 healthy subjects (ss) each, and with mean ages of, respectively, 27 and 55 years, were first trained in quantitative sensory testing and pain rating. Then, in a second session, referred pain was evoked by injection of 6% hypertonic saline into the infraspinatus muscle. Cold and warm thresholds, synthetic heat threshold (SHT-evoked by an alternating pattern of adjacent cold and warmth), and thermal pain thresholds were measured within the referred pain area at a rate of 1/20 min for 60-120 min. All ss of both groups experienced referred pain mostly in the upper arm and of medium intensity. Pain lasted for approximately 12 min with a shorter duration in the older group ( $p<0.02$ ). The cold threshold increased significantly ( $p<0.001$ ), and the warm threshold slightly, after the injection and remained high for the whole observation period (i.e. lower and higher temperatures were necessary to elicit cold and warmth, respectively). Threshold recovery was more delayed in the older age group. Of those 28 ss in whom cold pain threshold could be followed during the whole observation period, 18 ss showed an immediate threshold decrease of average 6 °C which outlasted the observation period. Four ss responded with a threshold increase. Heat pain thresholds were not affected in the referred pain area. Average synthetic heat threshold did not change; there were, however, distinct and lasting individual threshold shifts in either direction. Ss with lowered cold pain thresholds or evident threshold shifts for synthetic heat had also higher pain ratings. The results demonstrate that experimental muscle pain can induce long-lasting changes in thermal sensitivity and nociception. The unexpected cold threshold increase may tentatively be explained as an expression of long-term depression. The decrease of cold pain threshold or SHT in subgroups of ss may indicate central sensitization. However, the observed changes in this experiment do not provide an unambiguous indicator for central sensitization which seems to be rather individual and might depend on pain intensity and proneness to express central mechanisms of sensitization. Therefore in clinical pain states the individual pattern of sensory abnormalities has to be analysed and interpreted in addition to the pain parameters to assess central involvement.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal muscle pain, referred pain, thermal pain

**Referens:** Tvingstedt, A.-L., Preisler, G., & Ahlström, M. (2003). *Skolplacering av barn med cochlea implantat. [School-placement of children with cochlear implants.]* Rapporter, nr 115. Stockholms universitet: Psykologiska institutionen.

**Abstract:** The aim of the study was to describe the parents' choice of school-placement for their child having a CI, the considerations behind it and the views of the parents and staff on the present and future schooling of their children. The parents of 20 children, their teachers, assistants and itinerant teachers for the hard of hearing were interviewed. Half of the children attended schools for the deaf and the other half regular schools. The most influential background factors affecting the choice were the distance to the school for the deaf and the children's preschool placement. Parents of children in regular schools view the school placement in short term perspectives and were prepared to reconsider it if it should not work. Parents of children in the schools for the deaf could also consider a change in schooling although not until their children reached high school. Several of the parents of children in regular classes saw a risk of difficulties in knowledge acquisition as well as in peer relations as their children grew older. Parents who had chosen the school for the deaf considered sign language to be their children's first language and saw the school placement as promoting both knowledge acquisition and social development of their children.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Report cochlear-implant, school-placement, children

**Referens:** Törngren, G., & Montgomery, H. (2003). Perceived and actual accuracy in stock price prediction among professionals and laypeople. Paper presented at the 19th bi-annual conference on Subjective Probability Utility and Decision making. Zürich, Switzerland.

**Abstract:** In two studies stock market professionals (N=22 and 21 respectively) and lay-people N=29 and 34 respectively) gave 30-day forecasts for twenty stocks and estimated the size of their own errors as well as the mean errors for the two respondent groups. Participants also estimated probabilities of their ability to pick the winner out of pairs of stocks. Both professionals and lay-people predicted the errors of professionals as being half the size of those of the lay-people. In reality the errors of both groups were about the size predicted for the lay-people. Overconfidence was shown in the probability estimations, in particular among professionals. However, the professionals performed worse than chance in their predictions (40% correct predictions) whereas the lay-people's performance equaled the 50% chance level. The professionals reported "knowledge" as their main source followed by "intuition". The lay-people reported mainly relying on "guessing" and "previous monthly results" of the stocks. In line with these results, the predictions of the lay-people were more strongly (positively) correlated with price movement of the past month than was true for professionals. In general, it appears that the professionals based their predictions on specific information of the stocks, with insufficient awareness of the unreliability of this information, whereas the lay-people used simple heuristics based on previous price movements.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings stock price prediction

**Referens:** Wahlin, Å. (in press). Health, disease, and cognitive functioning in old age. In R.A. Dixon, L. Bäckman & L.-G. Nilsson (Eds.), *New frontiers in cognitive aging*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.

**Abstract:** The accumulation of multiple chronic illnesses with advancing age is well established, and characterizes a significant proportion of the elderly population. This chapter discusses how that is commonly dealt with in cognitive aging research. The absence of a comprehensive view about cognition-associated diseases may result in failures to take into consideration health conditions that are critical to cognitive functioning, sometimes selectively, and this may be particularly true in the study of old age. Different approaches to the definition of health and disease are discussed, followed by examples of research explicitly focused on the relation between health-related variations and cognitive performance. Finally, possible ways to expand this research are proposed. The main message of the chapter is the need for clarity about what it means that participants in cognitive aging research are rarely free of disease.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) medical health, cognition, old age

**Referens:** Wahlin, Å., Maitland, S. B., Bäckman, L., & Dixon, R.A. (2003). Interrelations between subjective health and episodic memory change in Swedish and Canadian samples of older adults. *International Journal of Aging and Human Development*, 57, 21-35.

**Abstract:** Recent research has documented associations between subjective health ratings and objective indicators of disease and death. Less is known about relations between subjective health ratings and level of cognitive performance in older adults. In this study, we explored whether subjective health ratings are related to episodic memory performance, both concurrently and across a 3-year longitudinal interval. Persons aged 75-84 years, and participating in the Swedish Kungsholmen Project (n=105) or the Canadian Victoria Longitudinal Study (n=71), were examined. Results showed that, in both samples, while the cross-sectional relationship was non-significant, longitudinal change in perceptions of subjective health were related to change in episodic memory performance. Next, the two samples were combined in additional analyses. Here, results further revealed that the associations between longitudinal change in subjective health and memory performance generalized across samples independently of demographic, changing physical health status, and subjective memory decline differences. Thus, the present findings suggest that subjective health may be added to the growing number of individual-difference variables that are predictive of episodic memory change in very old age.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal subjective health, episodic memory, aging, ISSN: 0091-4150

**Referens:** Viitasara, E., Sverke, M., & Menckel, E. (2003). Threats and violence towards different professional groups in the municipal caring sector in Sweden: Individual and work-related risk factors. *Rélations Industrielles/Industrial Relations*, 58, 202-231.

**Abstract:** Violence towards health-care personnel represents an increasing problem, but little is known in terms of how different occupational groups are affected. A questionnaire was sent to a stratified sample of 2,800 of 173,000 employees in the Swedish municipal health and welfare sector. Seven major groups working with the elderly or persons with developmental disabilities were considered: administrators, nursing specialists, supervisors, direct carers, nursing auxiliaries, assistant nurses, and personal assistants. The response rate was 85 percent. Fifty-one percent of respondents reported exposure to violence or threats over one year. The most vulnerable groups were assistant nurses and direct carers (usually of the developmentally disabled). Individual characteristics, such as age and organizational tenure, were related to exposure. Work-related characteristics, such as type of workplace, working full-time with clients, organizational downsizing, and high workload, were also associated with risk. Greater knowledge of impacts on different professional groups and relevant prevention are required.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal violence, caring sector, occupational groups

**Referens:** Willander, J., Kuldkepp, E., & Larsson, M. (2003). Autobiographical memory: Influences of age and cue type. *Chemical Senses*, 28, 562.

**Abstract:** The purpose of this study was to further our understanding regarding odor-cued autobiographical memories (AM). Of particular interest was to determine whether odor evoked memories are older, more emotional and more vivid (i.e., the Proustian hypothesis) than are memories evoked by other sensory stimuli. Also, we wanted to explore whether age influenced AM. Young ( $M=25.5$ ; range 21-36 yrs) and old ( $M=73.1$ ; range 69-78 yrs) adults were presented with verbal and olfactory cues and asked to relate an isolated event in the past history associated with the specific cue. Preliminary results show that olfactory evoked memories were older (Mean age at event=11.7 years,  $SD=6.5$ ) than word-cued memories (Mean age at event=16.5,  $SD=7.4$ ). In contrast, the age of memories did not differ reliably for the odor-evoked ( $M=24.4$ ,  $SD=15.2$ ) and verbally evoked ( $M=29.2$ ,  $SD=23.5$ ) AM among the older adults. Regarding qualitative aspects in AM, participants' ratings' of emotional quality indicated no main effects of age or cue type. Of interest to note, however, was the significant age by cue type interaction reflecting that older adults experienced odor-cued memories as more emotional relative to younger subjects, whereas no age difference was observed in emotional arousal for memories evoked by verbal cues. Likewise, odor-cued memories elicited stronger feelings of being brought back in time among the older adults as compared with the younger participants, whereas no age effect was obtained for the word-cued memories. Finally, older adults rated overall the vividness of evoked AM higher than younger adults for both cue types.

Support: Swedish Research Council (F0647/2001).

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal autobiographical memory, olfaction, cues

**Referens:** Willander, J., & Larsson, M. (2003). Autobiographical odor memory. *ESCOPE-2003*, 333.

**Abstract:** This study explored odor-cued autobiographical memories (AM). Of particular interest was to determine whether odor evoked memories are older, more emotional and more vivid (i.e., the Proustian hypothesis) than memories evoked by other sensory stimuli. Also, we examined whether age influenced AM. Young ( $M=25.5$ ) and old ( $M=73.1$ ) adults were presented with verbal and olfactory cues and asked to recall an isolated event in

the past history associated with the specific cue. Preliminary results show that olfactory evoked memories were older (Mean age at event=11.7) than word-cued memories (Mean age at event=16.5). Regarding qualitative aspects in AM, ratings' of emotional quality indicated no effects of age or cue type. Interestingly, an age by cue type interaction reflected that older experienced odor memories as more emotional relative to younger adults, whereas no age difference was observed in emotional arousal for memories evoked by verbal cues. Likewise, odor memories elicited stronger feelings of being brought back in time among the older adults as compared with the younger participants, whereas no age effect was obtained for the word-cued memories. Finally, older adults rated the vividness of evoked AM higher than younger adults for both cue types.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings olfaction, autobiographical memory, age

**Referens:** von Essen, J.D., & Nilsson, L.-G. (2003). Memory effects of motor activation in subject-performed tasks and sign language. *Psychonomic Bulletin and Review*, 10(2), 445-449.

**Abstract:** The subject performed task (SPT) paradigm has consistently shown that enactment at encoding of verbal materials enhances memory performance, compared to a traditional verbal task (VT). There are some controversies regarding to what extent the motor activation per se is causing this effect, and whether learning SPTs is influenced by memory strategies. The purpose of this study was to contribute to a solution of these questions. The effect of SPT encoding was compared to the effect of encoding by means of a sign language task (SLT). The SLT condition is claimed to be a verbal/linguistic task with a major relevant motor component. The motor activation in SLT is seen as the main difference compared to VT, and the main similarity compared to SPT. Control conditions were tested for evaluating possible effects of translation and imagery in the SLT condition. Subjects in the SLT condition performed similarly to subjects in the SPT condition in free recall. Subjects in both these conditions outperformed subjects in the control conditions. The SPT and SLT superiority is suggested to be caused mainly by relevant motor activation.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal episodic memory, SPT, motor activation, sign language

**Referens:** von Eye, A., & Bergman, L.R. (2003). Research strategies in developmental psychopathology: Dimensional identity and the person-oriented approach. *Development and Psychopathology*, 15, 553-580.

**Abstract:** This article deals with alternative research strategies for developmental psychopathology. It argues that most applications of statistical methods in empirical research are variable centered, not person oriented. As a result, conclusions are often drawn that fail to do justice to the diverse nature of populations. It is recommended that we take seriously the importance of the implications of data aggregation. The difficulties of making inferences from a more aggregated level of analysis to a less aggregated level are explained and exemplified. We explain that a set of variables displays dimensional identity if the variable relationships remain unchanged across the levels or categories of other variables. Data examples of intelligence divergence and of Child Behavior Checklist subpopulation differences show that lack of dimensional identity can lead to incorrect conclusions. Schmitz' theorems on aggregation and the validity of results at the aggregate level for individuals are illustrated using data from a study on the development of alcoholism and discussed from a person-oriented perspective. Statistical methods suitable for person-oriented data analysis are reviewed.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal person-oriented, dimensional, development

**Referens:** Yonker, J.E., Eriksson, E., Nilsson, L.-G., & Herlitz, A. (2003). Sex differences in episodic memory: Minimal influence of estradiol. *Brain and Cognition*, 52, 231-238.

**Abstract:** Sex differences exist for several cognitive tasks and estrogen has been suggested to influence these differences. 18 men and 18 women were matched on age and estradiol level. Potential sex differences were assessed in episodic memory, semantic memory, verbal fluency, problem solving, and visuospatial ability. Significant sex differences, favoring women, were found for tasks assessing episodic memory. Correlations between estradiol level and cognitive performance were significant for face recognition in females. Since sex differences remained in verbal episodic memory tasks and face recognition despite matched levels of estradiol, circulating estradiol does not appear to be of paramount consequence for observed sex differences in episodic memory.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal estrogen, episodic memory, sex differences

**Referens:** Zettergren, P. (2003). School adjustment in adolescence for previously rejected, average and popular children. *British Journal of Educational Psychology*, 73, 207-221.

**Abstract:** Background: Earlier research shows that peer-rejected children are at risk of a wide range of subsequent adjustment difficulties in different social contexts, as, for example, in school.

Aims: This study investigated the academic performance and school adjustment in adolescence of children with different peer status in middle childhood.

Sample: Age 15 boys and girls (N=90), who at age 10 and 11 were sociometrically rejected, popular, or of average popularity in their school class.

Methods: School marks, intelligence scales, and self-reports were used as adjustment measures. School dropout rate for boys was also included.

Results: The academic performance and intelligence level of rejected boys and girls were short of the standards of children from the other status groups, while the scores of popular boys and girls were of superior standard. There were some slight indications that rejected girls (but not rejected boys) had negative attitudes towards school and schoolwork, and that popular girls had positive school attitudes. The school dropout rate of rejected boys was much higher than that of other boys.

Conclusions: The results show that the rejected children are a risk group for school problems also over a long period of time. Considering the important developmental aspects of the adolescence years, there appear to be good reasons, therefore, to worry about the future adulthood adjustment of peer-rejected children.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal peer rejection, adjustment, school

**Referens:** Zika-Viktorsson, A., Hovmark, S., & Nordqvist, S. (2003). Psychosocial aspects of project work: A comparison between product development and construction projects. *International Journal of Project Management*, 21, 563-569.

**Abstract:** Different project goals provide different prerequisites for project work and team processes. Two important aspects of project goals are technological certainty/uncertainty and adequacy of goal definition. Product development projects and construction projects are different in these respects. The study explores differences between the two types of projects with regard to psychosocial aspects of the work situation. Data were collected by means of a questionnaire study (n=98). The items in the questionnaire were designed to investigate social processes, individual work environment, and input/output factors. Results indicate that there were more developed team processes in the product development projects, and that co-workers on such projects experienced development of professional skills to a greater extent. In general, social processes requiring conceptual co-operation and communication were less pronounced in the construction projects investigated. The paper discusses how the differences found between the two kinds of projects can be related to work settings. Possible implications for future research are considered.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal project management, co-operation, team processes

**Referens:** Åberg, C.S., & Nilsson, L.-G. (2003). A strict response criterion yields a mirror effect in the novelty paradigm. *Scandinavian Journal of Psychology*, 44, 425-432.

**Abstract:** According to the novelty/encoding hypothesis (NEH; Tulving & Kroll, 1995), efficacy of encoding information into long-term memory depends on the novelty of the information. Recognition accuracy is higher for novel than for previously familiarized material. This novelty effect is not a mirror effect: the superiority of novel over familiar items is not found in the hit rates but only in the false-alarm rates. The main result in the present replication study was that novel hit rates were higher than familiar ones when the most confident responses were examined separately, and thus a mirror effect could be demonstrated for these data, for both the low- and the high-frequency words. Similarly, the word-frequency effect on hits was stronger when a stricter response criterion was applied. It was concluded that the novelty effect and the word-frequency effect are more similar to one another than has hitherto been thought.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal novelty, recognition, word frequency

**Referens:** Ögren, M.-L., & Jonsson, C.-O. (in press). Supervisees' and supervisors' views on psychotherapeutic skill following group supervision. *The Clinical Supervisor*.

**Abstract:** A modified Swedish version of Buckley's Self-Evaluation Scale for psychotherapeutic skill was used in this study. An extensive sample of students from three universities was investigated. Two types of scale were used, Skill and Change in skill. Skill was rated by the supervisees both before and after supervision. Furthermore, Change after supervision was rated both by supervisees and supervisors. After Principal Component analyses, Varimax rotation, three dimensions (Containing emotionally loaded issues; Psychodynamic understanding; Mastery of working alliance) were interpreted in the supervisee ratings. However, the supervisors differentiated their ratings to a much higher degree than the supervisees. The factor structure of Skill, supervisee ratings before supervision, was used for calculating scales for all four rating formats corresponding to the three factors. There were significant increases in Skill and positive Changes of skill after group supervision. The supervisors evaluated supervisees' changes of skill higher than the students did themselves. Significant correlations of slightly more than medium size between supervisor and supervisee ratings of Change were obtained, and this was interpreted as confirming the validity of the supervisee ratings. Skill, in the dimension Mastery of working alliance, differed between groups depending on the group supervisors according to supervisee ratings after supervision.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal group supervision, psychotherapeutic skill, supervisee

**Referens:** Ögren, M.-L., Jonsson, C.-O., & Sundin, E. (2003). Focus and climate in group supervision of psychotherapy and their relation to attained skill. In *Abstract Book of The 15th International Congress of the International Association of Group Psychotherapy*, p. 289. Istanbul, Turkey.

**Abstract:** This study examined supervisees' and supervisors' view on focus and group climate in group supervision, and their relationship with supervisees' attained skill. After supervision, supervisees completed a revised version of Buckley's measure of psychotherapeutic skill. Supervisees' and supervisors' experience of focus and climate in the supervision was measured with a questionnaire, Topics and Climate (TAC). The results showed that supervisors' ratings of the extent to which different foci were used in the supervision were significantly higher compared to supervisees' ratings. Hierarchical regression analysis showed that differences in supervisor style were related to supervisees' experience of attained skill. Supervisees' experience of the degree to which focus in supervision was on Psychodynamic processes was positively related to perceived attained skill while focus on Theoretical aspects was negatively related. These findings underline the importance of research work with topics and group processes in group supervision.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings group supervision, topics, group climate

**Referens:** Ögren, M.-L., & Sundin, E. (in press). Grupphandledning i psykoterapi inom utbildningsramar. Ett pågående forskningsprojekt, med preliminära resultat från en delstudie. [Group supervision in an academic training context. An on-going research project and preliminary results from one study.] *Matrix*.

**Abstract:** The purpose of this paper was to present: 1) the design of an on-going research study of group supervision in psychotherapy; and 2) preliminary results concerning the usage of the group format in supervision. The study on group supervision is performed in collaboration between five Swedish universities and university affiliated clinics. Data is collected from supervisors and supervisees at different measurement points, levels of training, and psychotherapeutic orientations. The study will explore differences between various training levels and psychotherapeutic orientations with regard to the impact of group supervision, supervisor style, group climate and the learning process on the usage of the group format. The preliminary findings from the study that were summarized in this paper concerns supervisee and supervisor ratings of experienced and ideal usage of the group format. The sample consisted of supervisees and supervisors on the basic training level. Irrespective of

psychotherapy orientation, both supervisors and supervisees emphasized a need for paying more attention to group processes and group interaction in group supervision.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal group supervision, psychotherapy, academic training programmes

**Referens:** Ögren, M.-L., & Sundin, E. (2003). Aspects of the group format in relation to the learning process of psychotherapy supervision. Research design and preliminary results. In *Abstract Book of The 15th International Congress of the International Association of Group Psychotherapy*, p. 265. Istanbul, Turkey and EFPP International Conference, Stockholm, Sweden.

**Abstract:** The aim of this study is to contribute to the development of knowledge about group supervision in psychotherapy. The Project is to be run as a network between several institutes of higher education. Different training levels will be represented as well different psychotherapeutic orientations. The Project aims to study differences between various levels of training and psychotherapeutic orientations with regard to the group supervision format , supervisor styles, group climate and learning. The study will also focus upon how the admission procedure, group supervision format, supervisor styles and group composition affect group climate and learning. Preliminary results concerning the usage of the group format in supervision showed, that both supervisors and supervisees emphasized a need for paying more attention to group processes and group interaction in group supervision.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings group supervision, psychotherapy, academic training programmes

**Referens:** Öhrming, J., & Sverke, M. (2003). Transition into privatization: Uncertainty and sense-making in two Swedish hospitals. In J. Hellgren, K. Näswall, M. Sverke & M. Söderfeldt (Eds.), *New organizational challenges for human service work* (pp. 75-93). Munich: Rainer Hampp.

**Abstract:** The movement that is known under the concept New Public Management has in Sweden been manifested in deregulations, corporatizations, and privatizations in central and local public administration. One of the most spectacular projects was the corporatization and, thereafter, the privatization of S:t Görans Hospital in Stockholm. We use longitudinal data to describe this development and contrast it to that of a public hospital. The objectives of the study was (1) to describe managerial uncertainty in the provision of health care at the corporation and the public hospital, and (2) to analyze how managers and staff have handled uncertainty and how this has influenced the health-care provided. Although questionnaire data on work climate and employee attitudes revealed only minor differences between hospitals, the corporation increased its productivity. Moreover, analyses of qualitative data indicated distinct differences between management teams in the two hospitals, the corporation showing lower uncertainty. This was articulated in (1) investments in knowledge, (2) protection against uncertainty through strategic planning and formalized practices, and (3) a capacity to prosper with uncertainty by collecting resources, creating relations, co-operation, and effective sense-making. Our description of the transition into privatization emphasizes that changes of organizational forms may enable some new means to handle work related uncertainty at the organizational level.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) healthcare, privatization, sensemaking