

The Occupational Birth Register

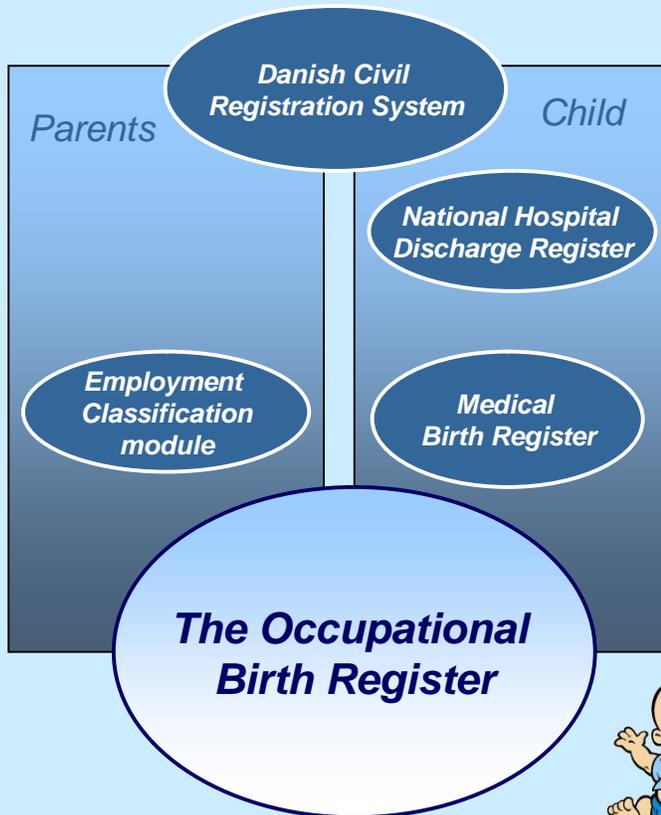
- a novel research tool for studies of reproductive health in Denmark

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Objective: To establish a feasible tool for surveying occupational reproductive health in Denmark containing sufficient number of individuals.



Methods: The register is constructed through record linkage between national registers: Civil Registration System, Employment Classification Module, National Hospital Discharge Register and Medical Birth Register.

Danish Civil Registration System

Information on every person living (or has been living) in Denmark. Every person is given a unique personal identification number of ten digits. Updated every day

Employment Classification module

Information on occupation and trade for all persons in Denmark paying tax. Reflects the primary job position during a calendar year

National Hospital Discharge Register

All discharges from Danish somatic hospitals, date of admission and discharge and procedures performed – classified according to the Danish version of the international Classification of Disease (ICD-8 before 1994 and ICD-10 from 1994 onward)

Medical Birth Register

Information on more than 99% of all deliveries in DK. Information is collected by midwives throughout the pregnancy, delivery and early neonatal period



Results: The Occupational Birth Register contains information on approximately 65,000 yearly births. It enables linking of parental occupations with reproductive outcome. Data may be extracted from 1995 and onwards. Endpoints include e.g. birth weight, malformations, gestational length, and birth complications, as well as hospital contact later in life.

Conclusion: The register offers a unique opportunity to study specific health effects in selected trades due to the large sample size at a low cost and presents a new tool for surveying occupational reproductive health.

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