# Fertility among female hairdressers - hairdresser cohort

**SND-ID**: ext0069-1.

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# Creator/Principal investigator(s)

Anna Axmon - Lund University, Laboratory Medicine

### Research principal

Region Skåne - Occupational and Environmental Medicine

### **Description**

The study investigated whether working as a hairdresser has a negative impact on fertility, measured as time to pregnancy and miscarriage risk. Methods: Self-administered questionnaires were sent to 5289 Swedish hairdressers (response rate 50%) and to 5299 age-matched women from the general Swedish population (response rate 54%). Information was collected on time to pregnancy or trying time for women who had tried, but failed, to conceive at the time of the study. The outcome of the pregnancy was determined and categorized as either miscarriage or stillbirth or live birth. The hairdressers were compared with the referents with respect to these two outcomes. Within the hairdresser cohort, the effects of hair treatments, as well as physical workload and stress were investigated. Results: The hairdressers were less successful than the reference cohort in conceiving (fecundability ratio 0.91, 95% confidence interval 0.83-0.99). The effect was reduced after first-month conceptions were excluded, the indication being that the effect may be the result of birth control bias. Within the hairdresser cohort, a selfperceived stressful work situation seemed to prolong the time to pregnancy. No effects were found for the different chemical hair treatments. There was no cohort difference with respect to miscarriage risk (odds ratio 1.12, 95% confidence interval 0.88-1.42), but miscarriage risks were increased for most of the hair treatments and for self-perceived stressful work situations. However, none of these effects were statistically significant. Conclusions: The present study indicates a negative impact on time to pregnancy and miscarriage risk for working as a hairdresser.

#### Purpose:

To investigate whether working as a hairdresser has a negative impact on female fertility

# **Data contains personal data**

Yes

# Sensitive personal data

Yes

### **Unit of analysis**

Individual

#### **Time Method**

Cross-section

# Time period(s) investigated

2000 - 2000

### Number of individuals/objects

2626

### Response rate/participation rate

50%

#### Data format / data structure

Numeric

#### Data collection 1

• Mode of collection: Self-administered questionnaire: paper

• Time period(s) for data collection: 2000 - 2000

Source of the data: Population group

### **Geographic spread**

Geographic description: Sverige

### Responsible department/unit

Occupational and Environmental Medicine

#### Research area

Medical and health sciences (Standard för svensk indelning av forskningsämnen 2011)

Health sciences (Standard för svensk indelning av forskningsämnen 2011)

Occupational health and environmental health (Standard för svensk indelning av forskningsämnen 2011)

**Health** (CESSDA Topic Classification)

### **Keywords**

Reproduction (biological), Cohort studies, Pregnancy, Occupations, Occupational exposure, Chemicals, Fertility (human), Miscarriage, Scania, Epihealth, Epihealth\_skåne

#### **Publications**

Axmon A, Rylander L, Albin M, Hagmar L. Factors affecting time to pregnancy. Hum Reprod. 2006 May;21(5):1279-84. Epub 2006 Jan 12.

Axmon A, Rylander L. No interaction between smoking and working as a hairdresser with respect to reproductive health.

J Occup Environ Med. 2009 Apr;51(4):399; author reply 399-400. doi: 10.1097/JOM.0b013e3181a03aa5.

Axmon A, Rylander L, Lillienberg L, Albin M, Hagmar L. Fertility among female hairdressers. Scand J Work Environ Health. 2006 Feb;32(1):51-60.

Axmon A, Hagmar L. Time to pregnancy and pregnancy outcome. Fertil Steril. 2005 Oct;84(4):966-74.

If you have published anything based on these data, <u>please notify us</u> with a reference to your publication(s). If you are responsible for the catalogue entry, you can update the metadata/data description in DORIS.

# Contact for questions about the data

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# Related research data in SND's catalogue

Fertility among female hairdressers - the reference cohort

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