EFFECTS OF NEW ORGANIZATIONAL OWNERSHIP ON EMPLOYEES' JOB INSECURITY AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING The Danish case

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#### **Effects of Mergers and Acquisitions**

- Descreases in commitment, job satisfaction, trust and career satisfaction, and increase in turnover intention (Armstrong-Stassen et al., 2001)
  - Resources: Organizational support
- Resources related to self-efficacy and stress symptoms (Amiot et al., 2006)
  - Clarity of communication
  - Participation
  - Change management



#### **The Danish Context: The Flexicurity Model**

- Weak employment protection laws easy to hire and fire
- High unemployment benefits up to four years\*
- Active labour market policy
  - Job training
  - Information about job openings
  - Pressure to apply for jobs and accept jobs
- (Generous early retirement scheme)





#### **Restructuring in DK**

- DWECS: 2000 and 2005
- Both questionnaire, web-based questionnaire and interviews
- Sample: 5436 (employed, excluding self-employed)
- Measures
  - New owner (one year prior to questionnaire completion) (N = 256)
  - Psychosocial factors: Task autonomy, social support from colleagues and superiors, effort-reward balance
  - Self-efficacy
  - Job insecurity
  - Health and well-being: Mental health, general health, job satisfaction





### Hypotheses

- New ownership will be related to poor health and well-being, and high job insecurity five years later
- Personal and job ressources at the time of change will protect against these negative effects of new ownership





#### **Longitudinal Results of Change in Ownership**

	N	Scale	Mean 2005	pvalue <sup>a</sup>
Work-related well-being (2000)				
Job satisfaction				
Change in ownership	217		1.4	ns
No change	2890		1.4	
General well-being (2000)				
Mental health				
Change in ownership	253		82.0	ns
No change	3392		81.7	
General health				
Change in ownership	254		1.9	ns
No change	3423		1.9	
Job insecurity (2000)				
Change in ownership	214		20.5	**
No change	2881		15.8	



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ancova adjusted for age, gender, education and baseline (2000) level of outcome: \*\*\* p≤0.001, \*\*p≤0.01, \* p≤0.05, ns=no difference between groups.



#### **Protective Factors: Job Insecurity**

	Job insecurity (2005)	
	B (s.e.)	p value
Task autonomy (2000)	18 (.08)	*
Coworker support (2000)	24 (.09)	**
Supervisor support (2000)	06 (.08)	ns
Effort-reward balance (2000)	28 (.13)	*
Self-efficacy (2000)	47 (.15)	**



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\*\*\* p $\leq$ 0.001, \*\*p $\leq$ 0.01, \* p $\leq$ 0.05, ns=no difference between groups.





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#### Discussion

- Little effect of new owner five years later
  - Five year follow-up too long a period?
  - New owner may not have an effect on working conditions?
  - Flexicurity model plays a role?
- Protective factors: Job insecurity
  - Self-efficacy, autonomy, effort-reward balance and social support from colleagues predict job insecurity
  - Supervisor support no effect





# Thank you for your attention!

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