

## **FORSKNINGSPROJEKT – RESEARCH PROJECT**

### In Swedish

#### **Tidig Upptäckt - Tidiga insatser för förskolebarns psykiska hälsa**

Psykisk hälsa är ett prioriterat område i Sverige då barn och ungdomar visat fler tecken på psykisk ohälsa de senaste åren. Socialstyrelsen tog initiativ till denna studie för att studera om psykisk ohälsa kan upptäckas hos förskolebarn. I denna avhandling valideras mätinstrumentet Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ), för psykisk hälsa/ohälsa i förskolan samt kartläggs förskolebarns beteendeproblem och styrkor över tid. Hyperaktivitet och trotsbeteende studeras närmare, samt hur hyperaktivitet påverkar trots över tid. Risk- och skyddsindikatorer hos barnet och i miljön studeras över tid, i relation till barnens engagemang och sociala interaktion samt beteendeproblem.

### In English

#### **Early identification – Early Intervention in Preschool children’s mental health**

Mental health is an highlighted area in Sweden since children and adolescents have shown more symptoms of mental health problems in recent years. The National Board of Health and Welfare initiated this study to find out whether mental health problems can be detected in preschool. In this thesis, Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ), was validated to be used by preschool teachers to screen preschool children's behavioral problems. Hyperactivity and conduct problems are studied as well as how hyperactivity affects conduct problems over time. Risk and protective indicators in the environment and among preschool children are also studied longitudinal, in relation to children's engagement, social interaction and behavioral problems.

#### **Duration of Project**

6 years

#### **Project funding**

Socialstyrelsen, Futurum, FORSS, Sunnerdahls Handikappfond

#### **Doctoral student**

Berit Gustafsson, Linköpings University

#### **Supervisors**

Mats Granlund professor, Jönköping University

Per Gustafsson, Professor, Linköping University

Marie Proszkowska, PhD, Region Jönköping

### Publications within the project

- I. Gustafsson, B. M, Gustafsson, P. A, Proczkowska-Björklund, M. (2016). The Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) for preschool children-a Swedish validation. *Nord J Psychiatry*, 31:1-8. doi:10.1080/08039488.2016.1184309
- II. Gustafsson B. M, Proczkowska-Björklund M, Gustafsson P. A. (2017). Emotional and behavioural problems in Swedish preschool children rated by preschool teachers with the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ). *BMC Pediatrics*, 17(1): 110. doi:10.1186/s12887-017-0864-2
- III. Gustafsson, B. M., Danielsson, H., Granlund, M., Gustafsson, P. A. & Proczkowska, M. (2018). Hyperactivity precedes conduct problems in preschool children: a longitudinal study, *BJPsych Open*, 0, 1–6. doi: 10.1192/bjo.2018.20
- IV. Gustafsson B.M, Gustafsson P.A, Granlund M, Proczkowska M, Almqvist L. (2018) Longitudinal trajectories of engagement, interaction, hyperactivity and conduct problems in preschool children (In manuscript)