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IPDLN Workshop: Opportunities for Cross-Country Comparisons of Linked Administrative Education and Health Data

Anne-Marie Nybo Andersen¹, Siddartha Aradhya², Josephine Funck Bilsteen¹, Nick Bowden³, Erin Early⁴, Kathleen Falster⁵, Martin Flatø⁶, Michael Fleming⁷, Rob French⁸, Erika Hagemann⁹, Katie Harron¹⁰, Jen Keating¹¹, Gissler Mika¹², Rebecca Mitchell¹³, Alicia Montgomerie¹⁴, Nathan Nickell¹⁵, Irene Papanicolas¹⁷, Rhiannon Pilkington¹⁴, Paul Romitti¹⁸, Sujitha Ratnasingham¹⁹, Lisa Smithers²⁰, Nieves Valdés²¹, and Ben Wilson²

¹Department of Public Health, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

²Stockholm University Demography Unit, Sweden

³University of Otago, New Zealand

⁴Ulster University, Northern Ireland

⁵School of Population Health, Faculty of Medicine and Health, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia

⁶Norwegian Institute of Public Health, Oslo, Norway

⁷University of Glasgow, Scotland

⁸School of Social Sciences, Cardiff University, Wales

⁹The University of Western Australia, Australia

¹⁰UCL, England

¹¹Cardiff University, Wales

¹²THL Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, Finland

¹³Australian Institute of Health Innovation, Macquarie University, Australia

¹⁴BetterStart Health and Development Research, School of Public Health, Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, The University of Adelaide, Australia

¹⁵Max Rady College of Medicine, Department of Community Health Sciences, University of Manitoba, Canada

¹⁷Brown University, USA

¹⁸Iowa Registry for Congenital and Inherited Disorders, Department of Epidemiology, University of Iowa, USA

¹⁹ICES, University of Toronto, Canada

²⁰School of Public Health, The University of Adelaide

²¹UAI, Chile

Objectives

To understand how we can better initiate and run international collaborations to deliver tangible and impactful findings using population-wide linked health and education data.

Approach

Representatives from 14 countries (America, Australia, Canada, Chile, Denmark, England, Finland, Germany, New Zealand, Northern Ireland, Norway, Scotland, Sweden, Wales) summarised the potential for research using their linked administrative health and education data. The scope for collaboration and comparison of research findings across countries was explored.

Results

Several substantive research themes emerged, including the quantifying of differences in educational outcomes by health

conditions and other early life factors, using health data to better identify and explore the special educational needs identified in educational records, using linked health and education data to identify and explore reasons for absenteeism from school.

Conclusions

The workshop showcased the primary themes for research and the data assets available within each country for comparative work. Further work is required to more robustly document the available detail within these datasets, collaboratively develop protocol templates for comparative studies, and develop pilot, proof of concept, studies.

