

What is STREAM?

STREAM is a **longitudinal study** among persons **aged 45+** in the Netherlands. It started with four waves between 2010 and 2013 and will continue with four more waves between 2015 and 2018. Participants fill in an online questionnaire on topics such as: health, work, knowledge and skills, social circumstances, and financial situation.

More than **12,000 employees, 1,000 self-employed persons, and 2,000 non-employed persons** participated at baseline. In the second measurement 82% of the original participants participated, in the third measurement this was 80%, and in the fourth measurement 74%.

For data collection an existing Intomart GfK internet panel is used. For 89% of baseline participants, **data linkage** with information from **Statistics Netherlands** is possible.

To obtain addition insight, **qualitative studies** have been and will be conducted among STREAM participants.

STREAM is being conducted by **TNO**, in collaboration with **NIDI, VU Medical Center** and **Erasmus MC**.



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STREAM Newsletter

Issue 7

Study on Transitions in Employment, Ability and Motivation

STREAM continues!

STREAM will continue with four more measurements between 2015 and 2018! Initially, four measurements between 2010 and 2013 were planned. However, in the autumn of 2015 the first of four new waves will start. In this new wave, we will welcome 5,400 new participants, mainly in the age group 45-49 as well as the loyal participants of the previous waves. More details will follow in the next newsletter. In 2015 we also started two new PhD-projects, one about productive roles in society besides work, such as informal care, and one about multiple job holding.

Dynamics in the working lives of older adults and participation in other productive roles

Vesela Petricheva is one of our two new PhD students. The aim of her project is to gain more insight into the main patterns of work among persons aged 45-69 years, the relation between these patterns and participation in other productive roles such as informal care and voluntary work, and the implications of these patterns for health and well-being. She will use the STREAM data to examine to what extent older adults in working age participate in work and other productive roles and how these patterns can be explained. She will also study how dynamics in work and other productive roles influence health and well-being.

Determinants and effects of multiple job holding

Stef Bouwhuis is our other new PhD student. His project aims to increase our understanding of transitions to multiple job holding among older workers. The focus will be on determinants of transitions to multiple job holding and the effect of these transitions on health and retirement. Using the STREAM data, he will examine the extent to which work characteristics, work history, personal and family characteristics, skills, health, financial factors, work motivation and work ability predict transitions to multiple job holding. Also, he will examine to what extent and how multiple job holding affects health and retirement.

STREAM is interested in (inter)national and **multidisciplinary collaborations** to conduct **innovative research** with practical implications.

Contact us for possible **partnerships!**

More information on STREAM is available at:

www.tno.nl/STREAM

Contact: infostream@tno.nl

Recently published in the *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*:

The influence of chronic health problems and work-related factors on loss of paid employment among older workers

Leijten FR, de Wind A, van den Heuvel SG, Ybema JF, van der Beek AJ, Robroek SJ, Burdorf A.

With an ageing society and increasing retirement ages, it is important to understand how employability can be promoted in older workers with health problems. This study aimed to determine whether 1) different chronic health problems predict transitions from paid employment to disability benefits, unemployment, and early retirement, and 2) how work-related factors modify these associations. The conceptual model is presented in figure 1.

We estimated the influence of baseline chronic health problems and work-related factors on loss of paid employment during follow-up in a competing risk proportional hazards model. The competing risk approach takes into account that the probability of one exit route is dependent on the probability of other exit routes. To determine if work-related factors modified the relation between health and loss of paid employment, we calculated the relative excess risk due to interaction (RERI).

The results showed that all health problems affected disability benefits. Workers with psychological health problems had the largest risk of going on disability benefits during the 3-year follow-up. Psychological health problems also predicted the other exit routes, unemployment and early retirement, while the influence of other health problems was not found or considerably lower. No clear indication was found that work-related factors modify the effects of health on unemployment or early retirement. However, favourable psychosocial work-related factors buffered the adverse effects of health on disability benefits, in particular for those with psychological health problems.

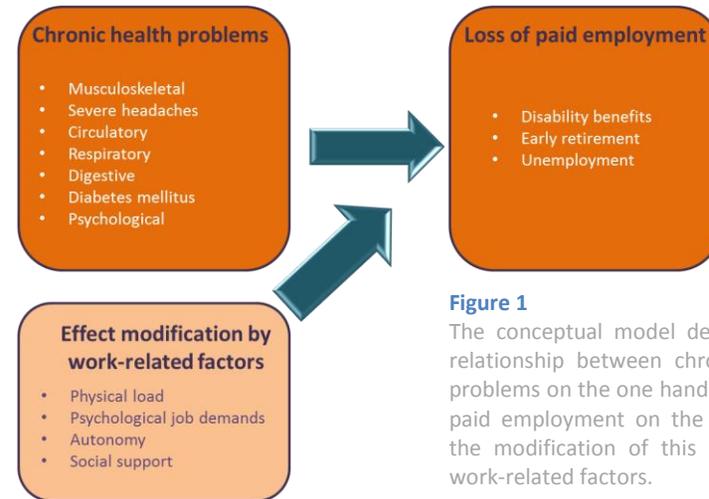


Figure 1

The conceptual model depicting the relationship between chronic health problems on the one hand and loss of paid employment on the other, and the modification of this relation by work-related factors.

Selection of STREAM-publications

- Sanders J, Blonk R, Geuskens G, de Grip A. Learning lags behind events; does training help older employees recover from perceived skills shortages? [Achter de feiten aan leren. Helpt scholing oudere werknemers te herstellen van kennistekorten? Tijdschrift voor Arbeidsvraagstukken 2015;31. [Dutch]* [LINK](#)
- Dorenbosch L, Boneschansker O, Fermin B, Andriessen S, Sanders J, Geuskens G. Multi-jobbing as an employability strategy [Multi-jobbing als employability-strategie]. Tijdschrift voor Arbeidsvraagstukken 2015;31:165-185. [Dutch]* [LINK](#)
- Leijten FR, de Wind A, van den Heuvel SG, Ybema JF, van der Beek AJ, Robroek SJ, Burdorf A. The influence of chronic health problems and work-related factors on loss of paid employment among older workers. *J Epidemiol Community Health*. 2015 Nov;69(11):1058-65. Epub 2015 Jun 25.* [LINK](#)
- Van der Meer L, Leijten FR, Heuvel SG, Ybema JF, de Wind A, Burdorf A, Geuskens GA. Company Policies on Working Hours and Night Work in Relation to Older Workers' Work Ability and Work Engagement: Results From a Dutch Longitudinal Study with 2 Year Follow-Up. *J Occup Rehabil*. 2015 Aug 7. [Epub ahead of print]* [LINK](#)
- de Wind A, Geuskens GA, Ybema JF, Blatter BM, Burdorf A, Bongers PM, van der Beek AJ. "Health, job characteristics, skills, and social and financial factors in relation to early retirement – results from a longitudinal study in the Netherlands". *Scandinavian Journal of Work, Environment & Health*. 2013;40:186-94. [LINK](#)
- Ybema JF, Geuskens GA, van den Heuvel SG, de Wind A, Leijten FRM, Joling C, Blatter BM, Burdorf A, van der Beek AJ, Bongers PM. "Study on Transitions in Employment, Ability and Motivation (STREAM): The Design of a Four-year Longitudinal Cohort Study among 15,118 Persons Aged 45 to 64 Years". *British Journal of Medicine & Medical Research*. 2014;4:1383-99. [LINK](#)

*newly added to the list