

Accepted Manuscript

Title: Activation against absenteeism –Evidence from a sickness insurance reform in Norway

Author: Øystein Hernæs

PII: S0167-6296(17)31170-0

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhealeco.2018.09.007>

Reference: JHE 2152

To appear in: *Journal of Health Economics*

Received date: 21-12-2017

Revised date: 19-9-2018

Accepted date: 20-9-2018

Please cite this article as: Øystein H, Activation against absenteeism –Evidence from a sickness insurance reform in Norway, *Journal of Health Economics* (2018), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhealeco.2018.09.007>

This is a PDF file of an unedited manuscript that has been accepted for publication. As a service to our customers we are providing this early version of the manuscript. The manuscript will undergo copyediting, typesetting, and review of the resulting proof before it is published in its final form. Please note that during the production process errors may be discovered which could affect the content, and all legal disclaimers that apply to the journal pertain.



Activation against absenteeism – Evidence from a sickness insurance reform in Norway*

Øystein Hernæs[†]

August 2018

Abstract:

I evaluate a program aimed at strictly enforcing a requirement that people on long-term sick leave be partly back at work unless explicitly defined as an exception. Employing the synthetic control method, I find that the reform reduced work-hours lost due to sickness absenteeism by 12 % in the reform region compared to a comparison unit created by a weighted average of similar regions. The effect is driven by both increased part-time presence of temporary disabled workers and accelerated recovery. Musculoskeletal disorders was the diagnosis group declining the most. The findings imply large savings in social security expenditures.

JEL classification: I18; I38; J48

Keywords: Absenteeism; Disability; Activation; Workfare

* Funding from the Røwde foundation and the project “Explaining social patterns in sickness absence: the influence of values, attitudes and norms” (Norwegian Research Council grant #237993) is gratefully acknowledged. I wish to thank Tarjei Havnes and Knut Røed for valuable comments at earlier stages of the project.

[†] The Ragnar Frisch Centre for Economic Research, Gaustadalleen 21, 0349 Oslo, Norway. E-mail:

ohernaes@gmail.com.

Download English Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/en/article/11023329>

Download Persian Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/article/11023329>

[Daneshyari.com](https://daneshyari.com)