



Réseau Espérance de Vie en Santé Network on Health Expectancy and the Disability Process

HISTORY AND OBJECTIVES OF REVES

The network on health expectancy and the disability process / Réseau Espérance de Vie en Santé **REVES** is an international organization that aims to promote the use of health expectancy, a population health indicator. As disability-free expectancy was the first, and remains a major, health expectancy measure for cross-national comparisons, members of REVES are engaged in the definition, measurement, comparison of disability globally.

The **REVES** network was set up in 1989 by the French Institute of Health and Medical Research (INSERM), Montpellier, the Social Affairs Council, Quebec, Canada, and the Center for Demographic Studies, Durham, United States. It is coordinated by JM Robine (INSERM) and his research team "Démographie et santé" in Montpellier, France. It now includes over 150 scientists and policy makers representing more than 30 countries worldwide and a wide range of professional disciplines such as demography, gerontology, epidemiology, sociology, psychology, public health, statistics, health policy, medicine, biology and health economics.

- 1) undertake research and disseminate findings for interpretation of health expectancies both cross-nationally and over time;
- 2) promote the use of health expectancy for public policy and planning and for evaluation of public health programs; and
- 3) research and promote the use of standardized methods for collection of underlying health and disability data and for calculation of health expectancies.

ACTIVITIES OF REVES AND ITS MEMBERS

The research domains of **REVES** are: cross-national comparability, socioeconomic and gender differences, trends overtime, computation methods and softwares, contribution of chronic diseases to health expectancy. Since 1989, **REVES** has developed several activities:

- ✓ collecting bibliographic references from all over the world in order to provide a complete data base on health expectancy research
- ✓ proposing a conceptual framework to organize the domain and classify all the health expectancy estimations
- ✓ assembling studies in order to provide a synthesis of patterns and trends in health expectancy worldwide
- ✓ discussing methodological issues to compute health expectancy
- ✓ organizing annual meeting in order to allow the presentation and discussion on the recent researches

THE ANNUAL REVES MEETINGS

Since 1989 REVES members have met annually to present and discuss current researches. So far 19 meetings were held over the five continents. At least 30 contributions are presented during each meeting. Some were published in proceedings and many finally ended up published in international journals.

THE REVES PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS

So far REVES proposes 2 meeting proceedings; 2 special issues of scientific journals and more than 750 contributions. More than 30 members have contributed to the book dedicated to the first 10 year of activities. This book has put all together the methodological debates, the conceptual issues and evidences about levels, trends and disparities in health expectancies between and within countries.

Robine JM, Jagger C, Mathers CD, Crimmins EM, Suzman RM. Determining Health Expectancies. Willey, 2003, 444p