CHANGE OVER TIME IN THE MORBIDITY PROCESS

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The Morbidity Process



Crimmins et al. 2010. Biodemography: New Approaches to Understanding Trends and Differences in Population Health and Mortality. <u>Demography</u>, 47S: S41-S64.

Death Rates in United States

- High relative to other countries and getting relatively worse
- Relative mortality of females has
 deteriorated more than males
- Female death rates at older ages have not declined much over recent years

Time change in Process Leading to Death

- Prevalence of health problems in each health dimension at multiple time points
- Progression or the link between dimensions at multiple time points
- Differences by gender

Data

- National Health And Nutrition Examination Survey
 - 1989-1994, 1999-2002, 2007-2010
 - 40+ age group fasted, death info
 - N = Time 1- 3,366 Time 2 1,926

N = Time 3 – 2,752 (Death info is not considered)

- Biological Risk Measured high risk levels 9 indicators SBP, DBP, Obese, CRP, Glycosylated Hemoglobin, HDL Cholesterol, Total Cholesterol, LDL, Triglycerides
- Chronic Diseases 5
 - diabetes, stroke, heart disease, heart attack, and cancer (except skin)

Data (con't)

- Frailty <u>ADL disability -</u> 4 items difficulty walking from room to room on same level, difficulty getting in and out of bed, difficulty eating, and difficulty dressing.
- <u>IADL disability -</u> 3 items difficulty doing chores around the house, difficulty preparing own meals, and difficulty managing money.
- <u>Mobility</u> <u>disability</u> 2 items difficulty walking a quarter of a mile, and difficulty walking up 10 steps without rest.
- <u>Functional limitations</u> 3 items difficulty stooping, crouching or kneeling; difficulty lifting or carrying 10 pounds; and difficulty standing from an armless chair.

Death

-4 years after interview for first two cohorts

Biological Risk

- First Date
 - Biological risk was higher among men until old age then equal for men and women at later ages
- Next Date -
 - Some decrease for men Some increase for women –
 - Gender cross over at younger age at subsequent ages risk for women exceeded that of men
- Most recent date
 - Large recent decline in risk for both sexes; all ages except young (40-49) women
- Gender differences in age-specific biological risk largely eliminated

Mean Number of High-Risk Cardiovascular Risk Factors by Sex and Age: NHANES 1988-1994, 1999-2002, 2007-2010



Diseases

Mean Number of Diseases

- Range 0-4
- Increased over time for both men and women
- Difference between men and women widening

Mean Number of Diseases, Females: NHANES 1988-1994, 1999-2002, 2007-2010



Mean Number of Diseases Males: NHANES 1988-1994, 1999-2002, 2007-2010



- Gender Difference - Mean Number of Diseases: NHANES 1988-1994, 2007-2010



Trends in disease presence for specific Diseases

Increase in

- Diabetes Increase
- Cancer Increase women after 60s, Men slight increase up to old age
- Stroke Not much change
- Heart Disease
 - Women, decrease older ages
 - Men, some increase old age

What is link between biological risk score and disease

- Number of diseases
 - OLS Regression at 3 time periods
 - Age, age2, gender, # high risk level biorisk factors

Regression Coefficient: Association of increase of 1 in Biological Risk on Number of diseases: OLS Coefficients 3 time periods (both sexes)



Functioning, Mobility, ADL and IADL ability

- Time trend differs by age
 - Some worsening young
 - Some improvement old
- Time trend by gender
 - More worsening for older men

ADL Difficulty: NHANES



IADL Difficulty



Mobility Difficulty: NHANES



Functional Limitation: NHANES



Association of Disease and Functioning Loss, Disability

- Change over time
 - Generally smaller relative effect

Association # Diseases with ADL and IADL Difficulty: OR 3 time periods



Mortality

- Mortality
 - 4 years after interview
 - 2 time periods 1988-1994, 1999- 2002
 - No mortality for most recent time period
- Lifereg Age, age², sex
 - Presence of disease, bio risk, functioning problems

Relative likelihood of Death for Person with Disease (compared to not having disease): 2 time points



Relative Likelihood of Death (OR) - Number of types of functioning problems, Number of Diseases, Number of Biorisk Factors: 2 time points



Sum: Changes in morbidity process

- Biological Risk declined
- Diseases increased

More functioning problems

- Link of biological risk to disease got stronger, to death stronger
- Diseases less linked to functioning problems, Death rates lower for some diseases
- Not much change in link between functioning problems and death

Changes for males and females - similar