THE PREVALENCE OF IRON DEFICIENCY ANAEMIA AND A COMPARISON OF THE INTAKE OF IRON AMONG PREGNANT WOMEN WITH THE DIETARY REFERENCE INTAKES FOR JAPANESE

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Introduction In order to determine the prevalence of anaemia and to explore the associations between iron status and intake in the process of pregnancy, we compared the dietary and total intake of iron with the Dietary Reference Intakes (DRIs) for Japanese in a population of pregnant women in the suburbs.

Methods A total of 109 pregnant women participated in the survey and were measured for blood haemoglobin (Hb). For 42 (mean age ±SD: 30.2±4.5) clinically normal pregnant women (Hb concentration >11 g/dl) in the first trimester of pregnancy, we used the iron deficiency criteria for two consecutive weekdays and a weekend day with a handy camera, to examine dietary intake of iron in the second trimester. Dietary intake analysis was performed using Healthy Maker Pro 501 software, Mushroom-soft. Statistical analysis was performed with SPSS for Windows, Version 11.5. Blood haemoglobin, haematocrit, serum iron, and ferritin were measured at the third trimester.

Results At the first trimester, anaemia was diagnosed in 48.6% of the subjects (Hb <11.0 g/dl). At the second trimester, iron intake was lower than the estimated average requirement of DRIs (16.5 mg/day) in 93% of the subjects. The level of latent iron deficiency anaemia (Ferritin <12 ng/dl) was 88.1% and the anaemia (Hb <11.0 g/dl) was 52.4% at the third trimester.

Conclusion The results of our study support that the iron deficiency anaemia is a physiological adaptation for prevention of thrombosis during pregnancy.

MULTIPLE IMPUTATION AND SURVIVAL ANALYSIS: AN EXAMPLE USING CANCER REGISTRY DATA

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Introduction Stage of disease at presentation of cancer is not routinely recorded in medical records, resulting in large amounts of missing data. We investigated survival trends by ethnicity among 0–29 year olds with cancer while using multiple imputation (MI) to impute missing values of stage.

Method Subjects (n=5554) diagnosed with cancer in Yorkshire (1990–2005) were analysed. Individual imputation models were used to assign stage of disease to four main diagnostic groups; leukaemia, lymphoma, central nervous system (CNS) and other solid tumours. Linear regression was used to impute white blood cell count (WCC) for leukaemia as a proxy for stage and ordinal logistic regression was used to impute for the remaining diagnostic groups. The survival analysis was performed using Cox regression.

Results Missing stage data occurred in 66% of cases for lymphoma, 23% for CNS tumours, and 69% for other solid tumours. WCC was missing for 57% of leukaemia cases. Results of the final analysis showed an increased risk of death for south Asians compared to non-south Asians with leukaemia (HR 1.61; 95% CI 1.01 to 2.55) and lymphoma (HR 2.05; 95% CI 1.09 to 3.87), and a decreased risk for south Asians with other solid tumours (HR 0.50; 95% CI 0.28 to 0.89). There was no significant difference by ethnic group for those with CNS tumours (HR 1.51; 95% CI 0.82 to 2.78).

Conclusion Although stage was missing in two-thirds of cases overall, MI was used to minimise bias and enhance the precision of analyses. This technique therefore offers considerable advantages over other approaches such as complete case analysis or coding missing data as a separate category.

DIFFERENCES IN CARDIOVASCULAR RISK FACTORS BY MUNICIPALITY POPULATION SIZE: NATIONAL HEALTH AND NUTRITION SURVEY, JAPAN

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Introduction The National Health and Nutrition Survey (NHNS) has been conducted for more than 60 years in Japan. A total of 300 survey districts are randomly selected from all over Japan, and they can be categorised by population size of municipalities to which they belong. This study aimed to compare cardiovascular risk factors by population size using the NHNS data.

Method Subjects were 5311 men and 3843 women aged 30 years and over of the NHNS in 2006. Survey districts were categorised into three groups by municipality population size: 150 000 and over (large), 50 000–149 999 (medium), and <50 000 (small). As for cardiovascular risk factors, we used body mass index, waist circumference, systolic and diastolic blood pressure, total cholesterol, HDL-cholesterol, HbA1c and current smoking. Age was adjusted using multilevel regression model where individuals at level 1 were nested within survey districts at level 2. Models were fitted by MLwiN 2.02.

Results Compared with survey districts in large municipalities, HbA1c was lower in survey districts in medium municipalities and total and HDL-cholesterol were lower and the percentage of current smokers was higher in survey districts in small municipalities in men, and the percentage of current smokers was lower in survey districts in medium municipalities in women. These differences were statistically significant, but their magnitudes were rather small.

Conclusion No remarkable differences in cardiovascular risk factors were observed by municipality population size in Japan, but their trends should be monitored continually.

STRATEGY FOR THE CARE OF THE ELDERLY WITH LIMITED FUNCTIONAL CAPACITY IN A DEVELOPING COUNTRY

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Background The “Aconchego” Day Center (ADC) aims to care for elderly individuals with limited functional capacity, an unprecedented strategy in a medium-sized city in the State of São Paulo (Brazil). It was created 10 years ago, due to the high degree of emotional burden of elderly caregivers and lack of community care resources for the elderly or support for the families. The ADC is a non-
governmental organisation and offers free space for social interaction, cognitive and physical stimulation, guidance and support to caregivers.

Objective Describe the sociodemographic, cognitive and affective aspects of the elderly (n=46) and their caregivers (n=34) through a cross-sectional descriptive study evaluating cognitive functioning, dementia, depressive symptoms, performance in basic (BADLs) and instrumental (IADLs) activities of daily living, and emotional overload and common mental disorder of the caregiver.

Results The mean age of the elderly individuals was 77 years-old (SD ±9), 76% were women, 67% live without a partner, 95% were retired and 50% had <4 years schooling. Average participation in the ADC was 24 months, 79% presented cognitive impairment and 57% mild, moderate or severe dementia. For BADLs, 94% showed some dependence on caregivers, while for IADLs, 100% were dependent. Among the elderly, 35% presented depressive symptoms that are correlated with the presence of cognitive impairment (p=0.004). Among the caregivers, 47% reported emotional overload, while 41% presented common mental disorders. The relevance of the proposal was verified, considering the fragility of the elderly and the burden and emotional distress of caregivers.

Methods We used interval-censored survival analyses in 3750 boys and 3241 girls (84% follow-up) in a Chinese birth cohort, “Children of 1997”, comprising 58% of births in Hong Kong in April and May 1997, to examine the adjusted associations of birth order, gestational age and birth weight with age at onset of puberty (Tanner stage II). We also examined whether the associations varied with sex or height at 7 years.

Results Birth order and birth weight were unrelated to the age at onset of puberty, adjusted for sex, gestational age and socioeconomic position. Gestational age had a sex-specific association with age at onset of puberty, and was associated with earlier onset among girls (Time Ratio 0.994, 95% CI 0.991 to 0.997) but not boys. None of these associations varied with childhood height.

Conclusion Intrauterine exposures, as proxied by gestational age, birth order and birth weight, had little impact on the timing of the onset of puberty, which was only evident for gestational age among girls. Given that it is unclear whether onset, duration or intensity of puberty is more relevant to the detrimental consequences of early puberty, further studies investigating intrauterine, infant and childhood influences on the duration and intensity of puberty may help unravel the early origins of cardiovascular diseases and breast cancer.

Introduction Asthma prevalence is growing in many countries. The prevalence of asthma is particularly high in developed countries. In Poland asthma morbidity is growing. The aim of this study was to assess the hospital morbidity in Poland and to examine the area-based factors area (socioeconomic, accessibility to the health services and air pollution) that influence morbidity.

Methods We used data from the “Hospitalisation” project in which the National Institute of Health, National Institute of Hygiene collect data on hospital admissions across the country. An asthma hospitalisation was defined as a hospitalisation ICD 10 coded J45 or J46 between 2004 and 2006. Data on the population, healthcare accessibility and the level of air pollution at the voivodship level for the same years was also used.

Results An increase in asthma hospitalisation rates was observed over the study period with regional variation in hospital morbidity. Asthma hospitalisation rates were related to the level of average wage (β=−1.69, p<0.001), physician accessibility (β=1.50, p=0.002), the percentage of young people in population (β=−0.43, p=0.040) and sulphur dioxide air pollution level (β=−0.79; p=0.006).

Conclusions There is high variation in asthma hospital morbidity according to voivodships in Poland which can be partially explained, at the population level, by access to healthcare services and air pollution.

Introduction Intrauterine and pubertal factors are associated with reproductive and cardiovascular health in both sexes. It is unclear how intrauterine exposures, birth order, gestational age and birth weight, also affect the timing of puberty.

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SP1-77 Strategy for the care of the elderly with limited functional capacity in a developing country

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