5.6 EXPLORING RISK FACTORS

Chair: Prof. Harry Campbell, UK

IMMUNOLOGICAL RESPONSE TO HEPATITIS B VACCINATION IN HIV INFECTED PATIENTS: ASSOCIATED FACTORS

G Mena,* A Llupià, A García-Basterio, C Díez, F García, J M Bayas. Hospital Clinic of Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain

Background HIV patients are at a higher risk of hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection than general population. The aim of this study is to assess the immunogenicity of inactivated hepatitis B vaccine among HIV infected patients.

Methods A total of 536 HIV infected patients from a university hospital in Barcelona who were vaccinated against HBV between 1996 and 2009 were analysed. Anti-HBs titers were evaluated after the last hepatitis B dose for each patient. Multivariate logistic regression was conducted to identify independent factors (sex, age, hepatitis C coinfection, HIV viral load, CD4 count, type of schedule, dose and number of vaccines) associated with vaccine response.

Results About 71% of the vaccinated HIV population were respondents (Anti-HBs antibodies ≥10 IU/l). Vaccine recipients receiving <3 doses (OR 0.29, 95% CI 0.16 to 0.52) and performing an accelerated schedule (0, 7, 21 days and booster dose at month 6) (OR 2.10, 95% CI 1.02 to 3.22) were factors associated with a decreased likelihood of a positive response. Development of anti-HBs was higher in patients with CD4 count ≥350 cells/μl (OR 1.78, 95% CI 1.37 to 2.94), HIV-RNA <50 copies/ml (OR 2.13, 95% CI 1.41 to 3.22) and 40 μg dose schedule (OR 1.82, 95% CI 1.14 to 2.94).

Conclusions These findings show that a 40 μg dose schedule and earlier vaccination from HIV diagnose may be effective strategies for an increased HBV response among HIV infected patients. Anti-HBs titles should be assessed after an accelerated vaccination schedule and after any schedule in patients who present a viral load <50 copies/ml or CD4 count <350 cells/μl, given the low likelihood of response.

SURGICAL TREATMENT OF ELDERLY BREAST CANCER PATIENTS WITH DISTANT METASTASES AT DIAGNOSIS

1E Bastiaannet,* 1S van de Velde, 1W van de Water, 2M Ernst, 3A Voogd, 1C van der Velde, 4G J Liefers. 1UMC, Leiden, The Netherlands; 2Jeroen Bosch Hospital, Den Bosch, The Netherlands; 3CCONS, Eindhoven, The Netherlands

Introduction Several recent retrospective studies have shown a survival gain for patients who received local surgery for metastatic breast cancer. However, data for elderly are not available; so the aim of this study was to assess survival differences according to local surgery for elderly patients (65 years and older) with metastatic breast cancer.

Methods All adult females diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer between 1990 and 2007 were selected from the Netherlands Cancer Registry. Relative survival was calculated as the ratio of survival observed and expected survival based on the corresponding (age, sex

Epidemiology and policy

SOCIAL CAPITAL AND HEALTH: PURELY A QUESTION OF CONTEXT?

G Giordano,* H Ottilsson, M Lindström. Lund University Medical Faculty, Malmo, Skåne, Sweden

Introduction Despite association between “social capital” and health outcomes having been extensively researched, debate still surrounds which level of analysis is most appropriate to investigate this contextual phenomenon. Traditional contexts such as “neighbourhood” seem only to explain a very small amount (~5%) of total variance in individual health outcomes, often chosen more out of data availability than as representations of individuals’ social interactions and networks. The aims of this United Kingdom study are twofold; to investigate the strength of association between social capital and health at individual- and aggregated-levels; and second, to determine which context (household vs neighbourhood) better explains variation in individual-level health.

Methods Applying multilevel analyses to British Household Panel Survey data (N=10,992), we estimated indicators and general health. We further compared the variance in individual health outcomes, often chosen more out of contextual phenomenon. Traditional contexts such as “neighbourhood” seem only to explain a very small amount (~5%) of total variance in individual health outcomes, often chosen more out of data availability than as representations of individuals’ social interactions and networks. The aims of this United Kingdom study are twofold; to investigate the strength of association between social capital and health at individual- and aggregated-levels; and second, to determine which context (household vs neighbourhood) better explains variation in individual-level health.

Results Association between social capital and health seems to explain variation in individual-level health.

Conclusion Social capital research could be advanced by focusing on indicators and general health. We further compared the variance in individual health outcomes, often chosen more out of contextual phenomenon. Traditional contexts such as “neighbourhood” seem only to explain a very small amount (~5%) of total variance in individual health outcomes, often chosen more out of data availability than as representations of individuals’ social interactions and networks. The aims of this United Kingdom study are twofold; to investigate the strength of association between social capital and health at individual- and aggregated-levels; and second, to determine which context (household vs neighbourhood) better explains variation in individual-level health.

EVALUATION OF THE COMPRESSION EXPANSION AND DYNAMIC EQUILIBRIUM THEORIES USING WESTERN AUSTRALIAN LINKED HOSPITAL MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY DATA

1R Moorin,* 2D Holman, 3Curtin University, Western Australia, Australia; 4University of Western Australia, Western Australia, Australia

Introduction Three hypotheses have been advanced to predict changes in population health in countries experiencing low birth and death rates, and increasing expectation of life. Determining which of these best accounts for changing patterns of illness and death is an important step in understanding both the public health and economic impacts of health intervention in an ageing population. The aim of this study was to evaluate the compression, expansion and dynamic equilibrium theories in Western Australia.

Methods Life tables and survival curves for first-time hospital episodes for chronic disabling and activity limiting conditions and economic impacts of health intervention in an ageing population. The aim of this study was to assess the compression, expansion and dynamic equilibrium theories in Western Australia.

Results Life expectancy increased by 4.0 and 2.6 years over the 24-year study period in males and females respectively. However, average time spent in chronic disabling or activity limiting states were used to evaluate the competing hypotheses.

Conclusion We found evidence to support an expansion of morbidity and some evidence against the dynamic equilibrium theory. This is consistent with population trends towards higher levels of self-reported ill-health in Australia and portends further challenges for the containment of healthcare costs in the future.

DIAGNOSIS

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