over the 10 year period than professional workers. Most of these differences were explained by health status in 2001. For those who stopped work (n=89,330), gender-adjusted mean differences in time from stopping work to death (before aged 85) were greatest for managerial and skilled non-manual groups [0.76 (0.02,1.50) and 1.01 (0.24,1.77)], compared to professional occupations, with no differences seen for lower social groups. This U-shaped relationship was explained by the combination of higher social class occupations staying in work longer but experiencing lower rates of mortality, and lower social class occupations leaving work at earlier ages but experiencing higher rates of mortality.

Conclusion Lower occupational social groups were both more likely to stop work before state pension age and also could expect less years in receipt of state pension.

After adjustment for age, sex, education and wealth, relative to participants in ‘class III’, study members who experienced a sharp deterioration in either measure of functional capabilities or depressive symptoms (‘class II’) were markedly more likely to be classified with dementia four years later (ADL: Odds Ratio (OR)=3.29 (95% Confidence Intervals (CI) 0.37–6.21); IADL: OR=14.59 (95% CI 2.09–26.09) and CES-D: OR=3.94 (95% CI 1.27–6.61)).

Conclusion Our results showed heterogeneity in all measures of functional abilities or depressive symptoms over time, suggesting that a steeper decline in each of these functions is not necessarily a normative process, but could constitute an early indication of neurodegeneration and pre-clinical symptomatology.

Background In older adults evidence showed that subjective wellbeing is associated with reduced risk of mortality and the incidence of chronic conditions. With the dramatic increase in life expectancy, it is important to gain a better understanding of the lives of older individuals. While life expectancy is a useful indicator of health, it is becoming increasingly recognised that health expectancy, which quantifies the quality of remaining years of life, is also crucial. The aim of this study is to estimate health expectancy in men and women according to enjoyment of life.

Methods We used data from a nationally representative sample of 8852 individuals aged 50 and over and participants of the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (ELSA), followed from 2002 to 2013. The main outcome measures are chronic disease-free and disability-free health expectancy, the main exposure is enjoyment of life, adjustment variables are social class, sex and age. Discrete-time multistate life table models were used to estimate health expectancies from the ages of 50 to 100, by age and sex and adjusted for social class.

Results Men and women experiencing high enjoyment of life could expect to live an additional 32 and 34 years of their remaining lives free from disability. Disability-free life expectancy at the age of 50 and 65 was approximately four years shorter for men and women who experienced low enjoyment of life compared to those who experienced high enjoyment of life. At the age of 50 men and women who experienced low enjoyment of life could expect to live an additional 16 years of their lives free from a chronic condition, compared to 20 and 22 additional years for men and women who experienced high enjoyment of life. At the age of 65 chronic disease-free life expectancy is 6 years for men and women experiencing low enjoyment of life and 9 years for those who experienced high enjoyment of life.

Conclusion Our study showed that those who experienced enjoyment of life have higher life expectancy than those who don’t. This study also showed that the quality of remaining life is also important, individuals experiencing high enjoyment of life could expect to live a higher number of years in good health (without disability and chronic conditions) compared to those experiencing low enjoyment of life.
SHOULD THE CURRENT NATIONAL CHILD MEASUREMENT PROGRAMME BE EXTENDED TO INCLUDE YOUNGER CHILDREN?

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Background In 2016 the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP), which measures the height and weight of all 4–5 and 10–11 year-olds in England, reported that 19.8% of 11 year-olds were obese. The parliamentary Health Committee report—‘Childhood obesity – brave and bold action’—recommended evaluating extension of NCMP measurements to include younger children. We used longitudinal data, unavailable from NCMP, from the Millennium Cohort Study (MCS) to evaluate two additions to the current NCMP schedule: a preschool measurement at age three years, and a primary school measurement at age seven years. We hypothesised that these would achieve earlier detection of children at risk of obesity at later ages, and that parental concern about their child’s future risk of overweight would be greatest among parents of obese children.

Methods MCS children’s heights and weights were measured, and their parents interviewed, at ages three, five, seven and 11 years. We included data for 14 789 singletons (51.0% boys) seen at age five whose height, weight and BMI values met NCMP criteria. We imputed missing height and weight measurements, calculated BMI and estimated obesity prevalence using UK90 clinical cut-offs, weighted for survey design (Stata: Release 14). We calculated prevalence rate ratios (PRR) to examine associations between parental concern about their child’s future risk of overweight, reported at the age five interview, and child’s obesity at age five years.

Results At three, five, seven and 11 years respectively, 1009 (6.6%), 1010 (6.4%), 1153 (7.5%) and 1772 (11.8%) children were obese. A preschool measurement would identify 79.6% (95% CI: 76.3, 82.4) of obese five year-olds as overweight (28.6%) or obese (51.0%) at age three, and an additional primary school measurement 68.1% (64.4, 71.4) of newly obese 11 year-olds (i.e. not obese at age five) as overweight (39.0%) or obese (29.1%) at age seven. At the age five interview, 66.6% (63.1, 69.9) of parents of obese five year-olds reported concern about their child’s future overweight risk compared to 22.3% (21.4, 23.2) of parents of healthy-weight five year-olds (PRR: 2.94; 95% CI: 2.69, 3.20).

Conclusion Extension of the current NCMP schedule to include younger children would achieve earlier identification of those at risk of obesity at later ages in primary school. At age five, parental concern about their child’s future overweight risk is strongly related to their child’s current obesity status. Further work is needed to understand parental views about, and to evaluate the cost-effectiveness of, options to extend current programmes.