

# Outline of Workshop on longitudinal data

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# **Longitudinal Data**

Time-series data
Event-history data

# **Time series**

## EXAMPLE Auranon Therapy for Rheumatoid Arthritis (Bombardier et al, Am. J.Med, 1986).

- Randomized, placebo-controlled study of auranon treatment of rheumatoid arthritis.
- Outcome variables: More than 20 measures of pain, function, global health, utility.
- Measurement schedule: Two baseline measurements and monthly measurements for six months.

#### > Sample size:

- > 303 patients with classic/definite rheumatoid arthritis
- > 154 patients on auranon
- > 149 on placebo



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#### Features of time-series data

- Repeated measurements of study participants.
- Various types of measurements
- Correlation between measurements
- Known as
  - cohort studies
  - > panel studies
  - Iongitudinal studies

#### **Previous approach**

Cohort averages at each time BUT > No accounting for individual change > No accounting for the correlation between measurements over time

## 2 questions want to address from time-series data

- How does each person's outcome change over time?
- What predicts differences among people in their changes of outcome over time?

## **MULTI-LEVEL MODELS**

How does each person's outcome change over time?

#### LEVEL 1 OR RANDOM EFFECTS

What predicts differences among people in their changes of outcome over time?

**LEVEL 2 OR FIXED EFFECTS** 

### **MULTI-LEVEL MODELS**

Able to investigate group differences in change of outcome over time

Starting value

rate of change

Final outcome

while adjusting for

> confounders (time varying and time invariant)

> subjects change in outcome over time

> correlation between outcome measurements

#### **EXAMPLE** The Diabetes Pilot Program – I Krass

Comparing effectiveness of a 6 month versus a 12 month service on glycaemic control

<u>Group 2</u>
6 measures of BP and glucose over 12 months

HBA1c – measure of control of diabetes at baseline 6, 12 and 18 months

#### **EXAMPLE** The Diabetes Pilot Program – I Krass

Ist Approach – compare BP, glucose and HBA1c by Group

BUT

- No account for individual change in BP, glucose and BHA1c over time – cohort effect
- No account for variability in BP, glucose and BHA1c between individuals
- > No account for correlation of measurements

#### **EXAMPLE** The Diabetes Pilot Program – I Krass

#### **Multi-level approach**

- Level 1/ Random effects individual's BP, Glucose, HBA1c over time
- Level 2/ Fixed effects group membership and other potential confounders (yrs of diagnosis, physical activity, insulin type)

Able to then say if 12 month service significantly better at glycaemic control than 6 month service

# **Survival or event-history**

## EXAMPLE Patient and Graft Survival After Liver Transplantation: Transplantation, 82,12, 2006

Chart review (1996- 2004) to evaluate the incidence and possible effect on patient and graft survival of new-onset diabetes mellitus (NODM) after liver transplantation (LTX).

 Patient and graft survival compared using Kaplan-Meier methodology of 4 groups

 preLTX diabetes mellitus (DM) (n=159)
 NODM sustained >6 months (n=284)
 temp NODM 1-<6 months (n=108)</li>
 no DM either pre- or postLTX (n=227)



#### **Patient survival**

#### **Graft survival**

preLTX diabetes mellitus (DM)
 NODM sustained >6 months
 temp NODM 1-<6 months</li>
 no DM either pre- or postLTX

## Features of survival data

- > Time to event
  - ➤ death
  - > diagnosis/ treatment
  - remission/ outcome success
- Unlikely to be normally distributed
- 'Censored' subjects

#### Survival analysis

Concerned with studying time between entry to study and a subsequent event

"Whether and When"

#### Cox proportional hazards model - Cox regression

- Enables the difference between event time of groups of subjects, while allowing for other factors
- The outcome is the 'hazard' the probability of experiencing the event, given that they have survived up to that time

Represented as hazard ratios – the ratio of hazard functions that correspond to one unit difference in the predictor

# EXAMPLE Drug adherence – Lipid Lowering What factors predict stopping lipid lowering drugs

- > Age
- Education
- Social Class
- Smoking
- Number of other medications
- > Adverse events
- Depression
- > Biomarkers and Genetics?

