Elder Mistreatment Data
From Survey to Surveillance

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Data in Elder Mistreatment

- Relationship between development of the field & data has been tenuous
- With increased capability in data systems, hope for increased data on elder mistreatment
  - Reluctance to include questions on mistreatment
- Benefit of secondary data over primary data
- What data sources do we currently have to provide insights into elder mistreatment?
  - Focusing on microdata

- Caveat: Only as comprehensive as my knowledge
Important Attributes

- Type: survey vs. surveillance
- Design: cross-sectional, repeated cross-sectional, longitudinal
- Availability: public vs. restricted
- Presence of mistreatment information
  - Focusing mostly on abuse
  - *Note: neglect & surveillance is tricky*
“Survey”

- NSHAP: National Social Life, Health, and Aging Project
- HRS: Health and Retirement Study
- WLS: Wisconsin Longitudinal Study
- WHI: Women’s Health Initiative
- NCVS: National Crime Victimization Survey
- NEMS: National Elder Mistreatment Study
- NISVS: National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey
**NSHAP** (National Social Life, Health, and Aging Project)

- **Brief Description:** See Melissa’s presentation
- **Design:** Longitudinal (W1 2005/06, W2 2010/11, W3 2015/16 with refresher)
- **Availability:** Available to researchers after application process
- **Mistreatment:** psychological (W1, W2, W3), physical (W1, W3), financial (W1, W3), neglect (W4)
  - W1 & W2: past 12 months
  - W3: since age 60
HRS (Health and Retirement Study)

- **Brief Description:** Health (including biomarkers), economic, & psychosocial status of population aged 50(ish)+
- **Design:** Longitudinal (biennial since 1992, with a refresher sample every 4-6 years)
- **Availability:** Public (requires registration); some data restricted (e.g., biomarkers, Medicare claims)
- **Mistreatment:** Only fraud (2008, 2010, 2012)
WLS (Wisconsin Longitudinal Study)

- **Brief Description:** Cohort of high schoolers graduated in 1957 + siblings + spouses
- **Availability:** Public (requires registration); some data restricted (e.g., genetic info)
- **Mistreatment:** intimate partner physical & sexual abuse (2003 & 2011); physical, psychological, neglect, fraud – single-item (2011)
WHI (Women’s Health Initiative)

- **Brief Description:** Women enrolled in clinical trials (68k) or tracked observationally (93k), recruited from 40 clinical sites nationwide
- **Design:** Longitudinal (every 1-2 years 1993-2005; extension 2005-2010; extension 2010-2020)
- **Availability:** Must have paper idea approved prior to data access
- **Mistreatment:** physical & psychological – every wave for full observational study & at least a sample of clinical trial study
• **Brief Description:** Measures experience of crime (nonfatal personal crimes & household property crimes) in 135k households & 225k individuals annually

• **Design:** Repeated cross-sectional (every year, rolling sample)

• **Availability:** Public since at least 1992, with subnational (e.g., state-level) estimates since ~2012 & only for some states; some data restricted (e.g., state pre-2012)

• **Mistreatment:** Crimes (rape/sexual attack, robbery, aggravated and simple assault, purse-snatching/pocket-picking, burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft, & vandalism) and perpetrator info
NEMS (National Elder Mistreatment Study)

• **Brief Description:** Nationally representative prevalence study
• **Design:** Cross-sectional W1 (6k) + longitudinal W2 for sub-sample (<1k)
• **Availability:** W1 available to researchers after application process
• **Mistreatment:** Physical, psychological, sexual, financial, & neglect
NISVS (National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey)

- **Brief Description:** Nationally representative study of IPV & sexual violence
- **Design:** Cross-sectional (2010): 18k (grouped 55+), including 2k 70+
- **Availability:** Available to researchers after application process
- **Mistreatment:** Physical, sexual, psychological, & IPV concepts (expressive aggression & coercive control)
“Surveillance”

- NAMRS: National Adult Maltreatment Reporting System
  - See Mary & Maria’s presentation
- NIBRS: National Incident-Based Reporting System
  - Policing microdata, replacing the UCR (Uniform Crime Reporting) aggregated data system
- Information about accidental etiology of injury
  - NEDS: Nationwide Emergency Department Sample
  - NEISS: National Electronic Injury Surveillance System
  - NAMCS: National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey
- NVDRS: National Violent Death Reporting System
Tools

- Access to microdata:
  - ICPSR (Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research) data repository
    - NACJD (National Archive of Criminal Justice Data)
    - NACDA (National Archive of Computerized Data on Aging)

- Access to summary data?
  - Only available for some datasets
    - CDC’s WISQARS for NEISS & NVDRS
    - ACL’s AGID for NORS (National Ombudsman Reporting System)

- Pros & cons
Next Steps?

• Inclusion of questions in large existing studies instead of creation of ad hoc datasets
  • Pros & cons
• Integration into more surveillance systems (e.g., MDS)
• Consistency of measurement – movement toward best practices
• What do we do with neglect? Self-neglect?

• NCEA White Paper -
Thank you

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