



Elder Mistreatment Data From Survey to Surveillance

Zach Gassoumis, PhD

Research Assistant Professor of Gerontology, USC

<http://secureoldage.usc.edu> | <http://eldermistreatment.usc.edu>

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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
- **Design:** Longitudinal (1957, 1964, 1975, 1992, 2003, & 2011)
- **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



NCVS (National Crime Victimization Survey)

- **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 -
<https://ncea.acl.gov/resources/docs/archive/Availability-Utility-Interdisciplinary-Data-EA-WhitePaper-NCEA-2006.pdf>



Thank you

gassoumi@usc.edu

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