

SDHI Seminars

Organ Donating Behaviour - Barriers and Possible Solutions

Professor Ronan O'Carroll

Professor of Psychology
University of Stirling

responding to him was

Dr Philip Roscoe

Lecturer in Management
University of St Andrews

Addressing Violence as a Public Health Issue

Professor Peter Donnelly

Professor of Public Health Medicine
University of St Andrews

responding to him was

Nick Fyfe

Professor of Human Geography
University of Dundee
Director, Scottish Institute for Policing Research

Evidence and Nursing: Enabling the Conditions for Nursing Expertise to Flourish

Professor Brendan McCormack

Professor of Nursing Research
University of Ulster

The Impact of Workplace Culture on Nursing Effectiveness - Rethinking Priorities

and

Professor Andree Le May

Professor, School of Health Sciences
University of Southampton

Finding an Evidence Base for Practice

Ethical Issues in Organ Transplantation

Professor Wendy Rogers

Associate Professor of Medical Ethics and Health Law
School of Medicine
Flinders University
Australia

responding to her was

Alasdair Maclean

Senior Lecturer
School of Law
University of Dundee

The impact of the Scottish smoke-free legislation in affluent and deprived communities - a longitudinal qualitative study

Professor Amanda Amos

Professor of Health Promotion
Public Health Sciences
University of Edinburgh

responding to her was

Andrew Radley

Lead Pharmacist, NHS Tayside
Directorate of Public Health

The use of guidelines to estimate optimal utilisation rates for clinical interventions. An example from cancer care - barking up the right tree

Professor Michael Barton

Professor of Radiation Oncology
University of New South Wales
Sydney, Australia

responding to him was

Professor Alastair Munro

Department of Surgery & Molecular Oncology
Ninewells Hospital & Medical School

An Evolutionary in Evaluating Complex Health Interventions

Dr Sanjeev Sridharan

Head of Evaluation,
Research Unit in Health, Behaviour and Change
University of Edinburgh

responding to him was

Dr Brian Williams

Associate Director of Social Dimensions of Health Institute

Patient Involvement: Rhetoric or Reality?

Professor Nora Kearney

Director of Cancer Care Research Centre
Professor of Cancer Care
University of Stirling

responding to her was

Dr Vikki Entwistle

Deputy Director of Social Dimensions of Health Institute

The Biology of Deprivation

Dr Harry Burns

Chief Medical Officer for Scotland
Scottish Executive Health Department

Introduction to Multi-level Modelling (lecture based)

Dr Fiona Steele

Reader
Graduate School of Education
University of Bristol

followed by

Seminar on

"The formation and outcomes of cohabiting and marital partnership in early adulthood"

(which uses multi-level models)

In this recent, well attended SDHI seminar, Fiona Steele provided an interactive and user-friendly introduction to multi-level modelling (also known as random effects and hierarchical linear modelling). Dr Steele provided a clear and simplified overview of this increasingly common set of statistical methods and procedures. Multi-level modelling involves the

analysis of clustered data which has a hierarchical structure and is therefore nested in nature, e.g. child scores nested in school. Dr Steele demonstrated the key characteristics of multi-level models that ranged in terms of complexity from simple two level structures, e.g. of child nested in School, to a repeated measures model of educational attainment enabling the control of autocorrelation effects.

In a stimulating discussion, Dr Steele provided a clear distinction between the use of random effects models and fixed effect approaches such as that seen in ANOVA, and illustrated this with the application of random slope models in a health context. The health related model examples were particularly useful in illustrating the use of multi-level modelling. Dr Steele examined the main characteristics of MLM models examining repeated measures of exam scores nested in students, trends in life expectancy, prenatal care and child immunisation and the duration of hospital stay following stroke.

Dr Steele ended the workshop by providing an online demonstration of MLWin 2.02, which can be downloaded freely from <http://www.cmm.bris.ac.uk> with a discussion group on <http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/multilevel> . Dr Steele recommended the following text, Snijders, T.A., Bosker, R.J. (1999) Multilevel Analysis: An Introduction to Basic and Advanced Multilevel Modeling. Sage, London.

Ethnic group density effects on health

Dr Kate Pickett

Lecturer in Epidemiology
Department of Health Sciences
University of York

responding to her was

Dr Seeromanie Harding

Health of Programme: Ethnicity and Health, Social and Public Health Sciences Unit, MRC
Glasgow

Inequalities in Access to Inpatient Palliative Care

Prof Tony Gatrell

Dean
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Lancaster University

responding to him was

Dr Pamela Levack

MacMillan Consultant in Palliative Care and Co-lead Clinician for Cancer & Palliative Care

Patient Empowerment & Vulnerability: Contrasting Perspectives

Prof Peter Salmon

Department of Clinical Psychology
University of Liverpool

responding to him was

Dr Brian Williams

Associate Director of the SDHI and Senior Lecturer in Behavioural Science within the
Division of Community Health Sciences, University of Dundee

Health inequalities: linking social structure and individual psychosocial risk factors

Prof Richard Wilkinson, Division of Epidemiology & Public Health,
University of Nottingham Medical School will be making a presentation on

responding to him was

Richard Mitchell, Senior Fellow, Research Unit In Health, Behaviour and Change University
of Edinburgh Medical School

Friday 19th February saw the Social Dimensions of Health first seminar take place at the University of St Andrews. An audience of around 50 academics, health and social care staff and other interested parties filled the Old library to hear the UK and world expert on health inequalities, Professor Richard Wilkinson, highlighted his current views and evidence on the cause of health inequalities in the UK and abroad. Professor Wilkinson delivered a fascinating tour of the current explanations of inequalities before highlighting a range of both global mortality and morbidity statistics from around the world to suggest that health inequalities were largely rooted in inequalities in income and status rather than poverty per se. Consequently, he suggested, simply addressing poverty would be unlikely to close the health inequalities gap.

Professor Wilkinson was followed by Dr Richard Mitchell from the Unit for Health, Behaviour and Change at the University of Edinburgh. Dr Mitchell provided an insightful critique of some of Professor Wilkinson's theories and suggested that even if income and status inequalities were a cause of poor health addressing poverty would still play an important part and should not be ignored.

Professor Wilkinson and Dr Mitchell's talks were then followed by questions and points from the floor. The audience were clearly intrigued and fascinated by both the topic and the various explanations that were currently being developed and debated in the field.



Back Row L to R - Karen Munro, Brian Williams, Martyn Jones, Huw Davies

Front Row L to R - Richard Mitchell, Richard Wilkinson

Changing places and changing people: a longitudinal analysis of deprivation, migration and health in England and Wales

Prof Paul Boyle, Director of the SDHI

Responding was

Seeromanie Harding, Head of programme: Ethnicity and Health at the Medical Research Council: Social and Public Health Sciences Unit

The second in the SDHI seminar series took place in the Tower Building, university of Dundee on 14th May. Professor Paul Boyle, Founding Director of the Institute, presented a range of studies exploring the role of immigration in the relationship between areas of poor health and social deprivation.

While it was clear that people who became ill tended to drift towards more deprived localities, Professor Boyle argued that even after this selective migration is accounted for, people's actual geographical location influenced their health status. Presenting data from a number of his recent studies Professor Boyle showed that by looking at individuals who had not moved house (over a 20 year period) the effect of place could be clarified. Individuals whose neighbourhood had become more deprived tended to experience a reduction in health while people in areas where their neighbourhood had become more affluent had improved health.

Dr Seeromanie Harding from the MRC Social and Public Health Research Unit in Glasgow responded to Professor Boyle's talk. She highlighted the limitations of the datasets underpinning the work and that further work and clarification of key issues was required. In particular, there remained debate over the extent to which migration enhanced or mitigated against the development of health inequalities over time.



Paul Boyle and Seeromanie Harding

The Effect of Health Care Supply on Health

Dr Matt Sutton, Senior Research Fellow, General Practice and Primary Care, Community-Based Sciences
University of Glasgow

Responding was

Prof. Frank Sullivan, Research and Development in General Practice and Primary Care, Tayside Centre for General Practice, University of Dundee

Emergency Contraception: What happens when you try to give it away

Prof. Sally Wyke, Director of the Central and North Scotland Research Alliance. (The Nursing, Midwifery and Allied Health Professionals Consortium)

Responding was

Dr Edwin van Teijlingen, Senior Lecturer, Department of Public Health, University of Aberdeen

Understanding the relationship between health inequalities and place - the role of research on lay expertise

Prof. Jennie Popay, Sociology and Public Health, Institute for Health Research, Lancaster University

The fifth SDHI seminar took place on Thursday 10th March 2005. It was led by Prof. Jennie Popay, Sociology and Public Health, Institute for Health Research, Lancaster University on the topic "Understanding the Relationship between Health Inequalities and Place - the role of research on lay expertise."