

THE CAMBRIDGE STATISTICS DISCUSSION GROUP

Thursday 10th April 2003 7:15 for 7:45

The Large Seminar Room, Institute of Public Health,
University Forvie Site, Robinson Way, Cambridge

The work of regional public health observatories in the NHS

Mike Streater

Eastern Region Public Health Observatory,
Cambridge

Abstract: The functions of regional public health observatories were outlined by the government in the White Paper, *Saving Lives: Our Healthier Nation* in 1999. Eastern Region PHO is one of nine regional observatories in England and is based at the Institute of Public Health in Cambridge. It was established less than three years ago but such is the pace of organisational change in the NHS that it is now longer established than many other NHS organisations in the Eastern Region. The tasks of all PHOs include monitoring health and disease trends and highlighting areas for action and identifying gaps in health information. The Eastern Region PHO has a national lead on primary care (general practice) data and methodologies. The talk will look at some of the work done by the observatory in supporting the new primary care trusts both regionally and nationally.

Speaker: Mike graduated in 1979 in Economics and Statistics from the University of York. Since 1980 he has worked in information analysis and management in health authorities in Devon, Berkshire and Cambridgeshire apart from brief spells teaching mathematics in a school in Stevenage in the 1980s and working for the Local Examinations Syndicate in Cambridge (1989-1991). He obtained an MSc. from City University in Economic & Quantitative Methods in Health Care in 1998. He has been Head of Information at the Public Health Observatory since June last year.

Directions: : (From Central Cambridge) Turn right off Hills Road into the Addenbrooke's site then turn left at the hospital roundabout onto Robinson Way. Follow Robinson Way until you see an access road on the left signed 'Forvie Site' (but note that the sign is on your right). Turn into the access road and follow signs - first to the Institute and then to the Large Seminar Room. There is ample car parking. The front doors will be locked at 7:45.

Provisional Next Meetings:

7th May – Peter Wadhams on 'Statistical Properties of Sea Ice Thickness - is the Arctic Ice Disappearing?'

14th October – Peter Treasure (Strangeways Research Laboratory).

Supper: Some members eat before a talk at the University Centre meeting in the downstairs bar at 6pm. All welcome !

Subscriptions: of 4 pounds per member are now due for the 2002-2003 session.

Secretary: Peter Watson, MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit, 15 Chaucer Road, Cambridge CB2 2EF; telephone 01223 355294 Extension 801; E-mail peter.watson@mrc-cbu.cam.ac.uk