

THE CAMBRIDGE STATISTICS DISCUSSION GROUP

Wednesday 28th November 2007 7:15 for 7:45

The Statistical Laboratory,
Centre for Mathematical Sciences,
Wilberforce Road, Cambridge

The use of NHS data to investigate higher than expected levels of breast cancer in Hertfordshire

David Edwards

Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Public Health Network

Abstract: Hertsmere PCT in Hertfordshire had the highest breast cancer mortality rate in England in 2001. Survival analyses of data from the Thames Cancer Registry (TCR) found Hertsmere PCT was not significantly different to the neighbouring PCTs for breast cancer survival but the first hospital attended at diagnosis was a highly significant predictor.

Speaker: After a few years working in agriculture David graduated from the University of Reading in 1993 with a degree (BSc) in Agriculture and then from the University of Bristol with a Masters (MSc) in Meat Science. In 1994 he started work in the Royal Veterinary College as a research assistant then lecturer where his work was predominantly in the field of veterinary public health. A large proportion of his research was on aspects of farm animal husbandry influencing food safety, along with some work on farm animal welfare. David graduated with a PhD in Veterinary Epidemiology from the University of London in 2000. In 2001 he joined the epidemiology unit at the Animal Health Trust as a companion animal epidemiologist, where research included the safety of canine vaccines, respiratory disease in cats and cat and dog cancers. In 2005 he joined the NHS Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Public Health Intelligence Unit which was responsible for providing public health statistics to the Directors of Public Health within ten of the Eleven Primary Care Trusts within Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire. In April 2007 he joined the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Public Health Network as Research Officer helping in the development of evidence based public health commissioning and promoting evidence based learning amongst the public health staff.

Annual General Meeting: David's talk will be preceded by a brief Annual General Meeting.

Directions: The main entrance is reached from Clarkson Road by going along the footpath to the right of the Newton Institute, and turning left through the gatehouse towards the main building (Pavilion A), which has a glass front and a curved grassed roof. The main entrance is in the middle of the glass front. Coffee before the talk will be in the common room in Pavilion D, and the talk will be in Meeting Room 5 in Pavilion A.. Free Parking is available after 5pm on Clarkson and Wilberforce Roads.

Provisional Next Meetings (2008):

5th February – Richard Gibbens (Computer Laboratory) on 'Road transport data and their uses'.

3rd March – Krys Kelly (MRC Biostatistics).

1st April – Paul Garcia (Hertfordshire County Council).

29th April – Stephen Sharp (MRC Epidemiology).

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

Subscriptions: of 1 pound are now due for attending the 2007-2008 session.

Secretary: Peter Watson, MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit, 15 Chaucer Road, Cambridge CB2 7EF;

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Take a look at our website: <http://www.mrc-cbu.cam.ac.uk/~peterw/csdg.htm>

TURN OVER for the Annual General Meeting agenda

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Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting will be followed immediately by David Edward's talk 'The use of NHS data to investigate higher than expected levels of breast cancer in Hertfordshire'.

Agenda:

0. Approval of Minutes of previous A.G.M.
(http://www.mrc-cbu.cam.ac.uk/~peterw/draft_mins_28-11-2007.htm)
1. Treasurer's Report.
2. Secretary's Report.
3. Election of Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, plus 3 other members of the Committee.
4. Any Other Business.

Rules for Election:

1. FRANCISE: All paid-up members may vote or stand for office.
2. NOMINATIONS: The offices to be filled are Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer and three other members of the Committee.

An outgoing Chairman will be a member of the Committee ex officio. At the end of each year the entire Committee will stand down, but may stand again for the same office as they are leaving without nomination. To be elected to a different office a candidate must be nominated by one person from the paid-up membership, not including himself. Nominations do not require a seconder to be valid, but do require the consent of the nominee. One person can be nominated for more than one office, but hold only one. If a person is elected to a higher office (according to the ordering given below) he or she automatically ceases to be a candidate for a lower office. A candidate for the post of Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer is automatically a candidate for the Committee if he or she fails to gain election to one of these three posts.

TURN OVER for the directions to the Statistical Laboratory and the abstract of David's talk